



Court hits pause button on OP election

Farr's candidacy will turn on how judge sees property ownership by family trust

By Greg Ellison
Staff Writer

(Aug. 12, 2021) The Ocean Pines Board of Directors election entered unchartered waters on Tuesday when Worcester County Circuit Court

Judge Beau Oglesby issued a temporary restraining order to stay the election until after a hearing on whether disqualified board candidate Rick Farr is a property owner.

This development followed a special board meeting on Monday where a 3-2-1 vote rejected a motion from Director Doug Parks to rescind the election and issue new ballots.

Farr retained attorney Bruce

Bright to file suit after the board voted in closed session last Friday to disqualify his candidacy because his home is owned by a trust, and not by him personally.

"We just filed the case yesterday," he said Tuesday. "We're hoping for quick action from the court."

The 2021 board election ballot deadline had been set for Wednesday of this week, with the Ocean Pines

Elections Committee originally scheduled to count votes on Friday.

Bright said his client sought the temporary restraining order to put the election on hold while a determination on Farr's property ownership status is reached.

"It's really at the judge's discretion as to how to get to an outcome," he said.

"If the votes are counted and the results certified, then it's more difficult to unwind the situation," he said. "Although, it can still be unwound."

Among the actions the judge might take, according to Bright, is that he could schedule a court hearing or hold a telephone conference with involved parties.

Despite being certified as an eligible candidate at the start of the election by board secretary Camilla Rogers, that decision was reversed last Friday after an anonymous tipster brought Farr's property ownership into question.

Under association bylaws, board candidates are required to be an owner of record for Pines property on Jan. 1 of the election year.

As of that date, Farr was a successor trustee and a beneficiary of a family trust, but was not the trustee. Under Maryland law, the trustee manages the trust and holds legal title to the property, while beneficiaries of a trust have what is known as equitable ownership.

"It's important for everybody to understand that my client at all times has acted in good faith and believes himself to be eligible to run for the position and hold a board position," he said. "The board has a different view, but that's why the matter is in court."

Another matter of contention Bright's filing noted was that the board voted in closed session last Friday to continue the election despite the last-second disqualification of Farr.

"What some of the board members say happen, is that the secretary made a decision to disqualify Mr. Farr, but then then a motion was

See FARR's Page 2



GREG ELLISON/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

BACK THE BLUE

Ample crowds descended upon Henry Park on Flower Street for National Night Out hosted by the Berlin Police Department last Tuesday.

County wins tax setoff appeal

(Aug. 12, 2021) The Town of Ocean City's four-year legal battle with Worcester County government over the county's refusal to grant the resort a tax setoff ended last Thursday, when the Maryland Court of Appeals

announced its refusal to overturn the decisions of two lower courts.

The tax setoff, otherwise known as a tax differential, is a lower tax rate for a specific jurisdiction in a county because that jurisdiction provides

many of its own services instead of depending on the county to do it.

Because the Town of Ocean City does provide its residents with numerous services that are also avail-

See COUNTY Page 2

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County prevails in OC tax appeal

Continued from Page 1

able from the county, city officials have long argued that resort property owners shouldn't have to pay taxes for the county services they don't use.

Resort officials have argued since 1999 that Ocean City property owners should pay the county substantially less — millions of dollars less — each year under a separate, Ocean City-only tax rate.

Beginning in October 2018, Ocean City sought a ruling that the Maryland Tax-Property Article that grants certain counties, like Worcester County, the ability to deny municipal tax setoff requests violates the Maryland Constitution.

Ocean City also asked the court to require all Maryland counties to grant tax setoffs to municipalities

within their borders and, specifically, to declare that Worcester County is required to grant tax setoffs to Ocean City or its taxpayers.

Maryland's highest court, however, held that the law is constitutional and that some counties, like Worcester County, may decide not to have tax setoffs.

In lieu of tax differentials or tax setoffs to the four municipalities, county government issues annual grants to Berlin, Ocean City, Ocean Pines, Pocomoke, and Snow Hill.

The commissioners allocate millions of dollars in grant funds annually to Ocean City in the form of an unrestricted grant and restricted grants that are designated to assist with costs for ambulance and fire services, tourism and the convention center, police, and other city serv-

ices.

In recent years, county and Ocean City officials have been working to reach an equitable funding agreement that benefits the city without negatively affecting taxpayers who reside outside of the corporate limits of the town.

The inability to do that, however, is the main point of the high court's opinion, written by Judge Joseph M. Getty.

The tax setoff is permissible only when other jurisdictions in a county suffer no consequences.

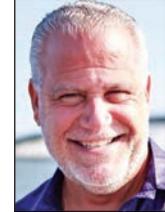
But because taxpayers outside Ocean City would have to pay more to cover the difference in revenue to the county, the court threw out the resort's argument that only the resort, and no other jurisdiction would be affected.

Farr's candidacy qualifications goes to court

Continued from Page 1

made to proceed in the fashion that they decided," he said. "That was voted upon and approved by the full board in closed session.

"That's in violation of statutes governing what can happen and what can be discussed in closed session," he said.



Rick Farr

Bright said the directors could have had discussions with counsel in closed session, but then should have reconvened in open session to conduct the rest of its business.

Bright also took issue with Director Frank Daly, who seeking re-election, participating in the closed session meeting last Friday.

"I don't believe anybody knows at this point whether the incumbent voted on the motion that was made," he said.

Speaking on Tuesday, Bright said his client is yearning for a fast resolution.

"It remains to be seen what the court will do, but we are hoping that the court will act quickly in light of the timing," he said.

Worcester County Fair still on target from Sept. 17-19

(Aug. 12, 2021) Plans are underway for this year's Worcester County Fair, to be held Sept. 17-19 at Byrd Park in Snow Hill.

Vendors are still being accepted and registration forms can be found on the fair website, www.worcester-countyfair.com or by contacting Earl Ludy at 410-057-4079. Nonprofit vendor spaces are free.

Due to covid restrictions, some events usually found at the fair have been eliminated or modified.

Various children's activities are planned as well as the ever popular cake and pie auction to be held on Friday evening. Bid on one or more of the pies and cakes.

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Large Berlin carwash sketch plans unveiled

By Jack Chavez
Staff Writer

(Aug. 12, 2021) The Worcester County Planning Commission looked over sketches for a proposed six-bay automatic and self-serve carwash center at Ocean Landings shopping center last Thursday and saw what its developer is characterizing as one of the largest operations of its kind on the East Coast.

Zoom Car Wash owner Charles Holland and attorney Hugh Cropper laid out plans that place the car wash in front of the Home Depot at the shopping center adjacent to Taylor Bank and abutting Ocean Gateway.

“This would be one of if not maybe the largest carwash on the East Coast,” said Holland. “It would be a great compliment to this town.” The business also would have 33 parking spaces and access to self-service vacuum stations

Holland said he plans to have stormwater quantity and quality managed onsite with outfall diverted into two basins along Samuel Bowen Boulevard, which runs parallel to Route 50.

Cropper described the drainage basins as vegetated swales, or gently sloping, landscaped depressions that collect and convey stormwater runoff. The swales will be located within a 75-foot space off the highway and a

15-foot space off of Samuel Bowen Boulevard.

Holland added that project designers are in the process of forecasting sewer requirements and that they’re projecting around 85 to 90 percent of the water that the carwash will use will be recyclable.

“It’s almost all recycled (save for water used on the final rinse,” he said. “And that’s good for everybody. It’s good for the environment and it’s good for the person who has to buy the EDUs because it keeps the number down as low as possible.”

Potable water would be used in restrooms but will be the only place it is incorporated, he added.

Commission member Ken Church asked how many equivalent dwelling units (EDUs) the property would require.

Cropper said based on square footage estimates, 10.3 EDUs would be needed.

The sketch plans for the carwash indicate it will take up roughly half the lot it would occupy. Currently, the lot is a grassy plot of land with some trees and an encompassing walkway with benches and sidewalk lights.

“(What’s off the first) 75 feet of Route 50 is a landscaped street,” Cropper said. “You’re going to put the (vegetated swales) in that 75 feet ...



JACK CHAVEZ/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

A six-bay automatic and self-serve carwash is planned for a plot of land (pictured) at the front of the Ocean Landings shopping center in Berlin. Its owner said it will be one of the largest carwashes on the East Coast.

There’s a 100-foot setback off Route 50 but everybody is parking (onsite). Everything is pushed back 75 feet. And everything wraps around the back, which is why we have substantial landscape ... on Samuel Bowen Boulevard. It’ll be heavily, heavily landscaped on all sides, really.”

“Other than the (existing pathways) that we’re not going to change, not going to touch, there’s almost no landscaping occurring on the property.”

Charles Holland said that he was

motivated to get into the carwash business after seeing the monthly bills his wife would accrue by getting weekly carwashes. His business model offers carwashes for roughly \$20 individually or a monthly package for \$39 that allows people to get carwashes once a day for every day of the month if they wish.

The next step for the project is to take the carwash plans to the Technical Review Committee, which has not yet been scheduled.

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Pines Board splits vote to continue election

Special meeting held on Monday quickly negated after court intervention

By Greg Ellison
Staff Writer

(Aug. 12, 2021) A motion to rescind the Ocean Pines Association Board of Directors' decisions last week to declare then board candidate Rick Farr ineligible to run but to continue with the nearly completed election's was voted down during a special meeting on Monday.

The directors voted 3-2-1 to stick with their position, with Director Doug Parks absent because of the death of his mother Sunday, and Director Frank Daly abstaining.

Parks had made the motions to retract the July 30 closed session vote and issue new ballots including only eligible candidates.

Opposing Park's motion were association President Larry Perrone, and board members Dr. Colette Horn and Frank Brown. Voting in favor were Directors Tom Janasek and Camilla Rogers. Daly abstained because he is running for reelection.

Perrone opened the meeting by thanking the capacity crowd.

"It's nice to see people are interested," he said.



GREG ELLISON/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Ocean Pines directors, from left, Frank Daly, Larry Perrone and Colette Horn, face a capacity crowd at the Golf Clubhouse during a special meeting on Monday concerning the disqualification of board candidate Rick Farr.

Speaking on behalf of Parks, Janasek read a statement from the board member who said he voted against proceeding with the election last week.

In response to the board decision, Parks called for a special meeting on Monday to address the matter.

"An honest mistake was made," he said.

Rogers, who serves as board secretary, said the onus fell on her shoulders.

"I have been the sought-after culprit in all of this," she said.

Validating board candidate eligibility is the responsibility of the board secretary, with assistance from association staff to confirm assessments fees are paid and individuals running are Pines property owners.

Additionally, Rogers said she examined Maryland Department of Assessments and Taxation for all four 2021 board candidates.

"I saw Farr's property was owned by the Farr Living Trust," she said.

The documents showed Farr's parents purchased the Pines lot in 1999

"Rick Farr's father's name was also Richard Farr [so] when I saw that I thought OK he owned property," she said.

After determining Farr was eligible at the launch of the annual election cycle, additional information came to light in recent weeks.

"Then we received the anonymous tip that Farr didn't own property here," she said.

Rogers proceeded to spend two hours scouring Worcester County Court records to confirm Farr's ownership status.

"I found out Rick Farr was a successor trustee," she said.

Much as a prince is in line for the throne but not yet ruler, Rogers said it is her opinion that being a successor trustee differs from owning property.

"What I learned in law school is that a successor trustee doesn't have ownership of property," she said.

Association attorney Jeremy Tucker said to qualify as a board member, the association bylaws say candidates must be property owners of record by Jan. 1 of the election year.

"That's the crux of the problem, is that the deed does not reflect Mr. Farr," he said.

Tucker said the property deed lists two of Farr's relatives, including his recently deceased mother, as owners of record.

Parks raised issue in his statement with the recent disclosure.

"I'm somewhat suspicious of the anonymous tip that was provided and the timing," he said. "I'm not convinced it was random or coincidental."

Parks questioned why the information was not shared earlier in the election cycle and the need for anonymity.

"My position is by restarting the election, all votes on a ballot will be counted and not discarded due to discovering an ineligibility issue after the fact," he said.

Parks cautioned residents to pay attention to the discussion points during the meeting and how board members voted.

"It will indicate how they perceive the sanctity of the association members' vote," he said.

Perrone said despite talk to the

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Directors vote 3-2 to kill motion from Parks

contrary, the closed session vote last week was not concerning Farr's eligibility.

"The secretary determined that candidate Farr was not eligible," he said. "After that determination was made, a motion was put forward by me, and approved by board, that we would continue with the election process as governed by our bylaws and DRs."

Perrone added that because Farr had been declared ineligible, his votes would not be counted.

Among a host of public comments, related costs to restage the election were questioned.

Perrone said costs could range as high as \$25,000, with another \$20,000 added if a referendum was required.

Public commentary ran the gamut from concerns that discarded Farr votes would only permit supporters to make one selection, to others pinning the blame on the, now former, candidate.

Former board member Cheryl Jacobs said Farr's failure to adhere to election guidelines caused the current dilemma.

"It's the candidates' responsibility to know if they're qualified," she said. "The rules call for the election to move forward."

Horn noted residents shared varying sentiments during the special meeting on Monday.

"There are different ways people could fall out of their candidacy," she said.

Besides death, sudden relocation was another change that would void board candidacy, Horn said.

"The decision we make today will set a precedent," she said. "There are many situations that could arise to put us here year after year."

Horn said short of an act of God, she would oppose making exceptions to bylaw requirements for elections.

"This is not a natural disaster, this is a man-made disaster," she said.

Horn also said during her prior role as board secretary, a comparable situation arose.

"In 2019 the board voted to redo requirements for applicants for the board because we had a similar issue in 2018," she said.

At that time a previous board candidate was claiming non-conventional property ownership through an LLC.

"It took a lot of research to get to the bottom," she said.

In time the research did reveal true ownership status, but also motivated a realignment of responsibilities.

"The board decided at that time it's not our job to do that digging," she said.

Horn said licensing applications in various professional realms typically place the burden for providing proof of qualifications on the applicant.

"We changed our application in that way as well," she said.

Horn said Farr's application did not include the required documentation if the claim of ownership had been based on a trust.

"The claim of ownership was not based on a trust," she said.

Instead, Horn said Farr purported to be a Pines property owner since 1999 when his parents purchased.

"The mistake that was made was an honest mistake made by our secretary based on the fact that the application was not completed correctly," she said. "This could happen any year."

Horn said in light of the recent eligibility reversal, Farr requested the board improve the application process.

"We will no longer make it a suggestion that supporting documents be supplied and ... that you attest to the truth of what you're putting in your application," she said. "We will make that a requirement."

For her part, Rogers professed



GREG ELLISON/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Ocean Pines Director Camilla Rogers explains the "honest mistake," that led to Rick Farr being initially qualified as a board candidate, only to be disqualified later, during a special meeting on Monday at the Golf Clubhouse.

sadness over recent developments.

"I feel horrible about this," she said. "I called Farr and apologized."

The contention also sparked numerous hostile comments towards Rogers and her immediate family.

"My husband and I have gotten death threats [and] threats against our dog," she said. "I'm ashamed to live in Ocean Pines right now."

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Pines Bylaws cmte. vets language changes

By Greg Ellison
Staff Writer

(Aug. 12, 2021) The Ocean Pines Bylaws and Resolutions Committee considered several language changes to association governing documents during its meeting on Friday.

The first matter was related to the percentage of votes required to pass a referendum.

Committee chairman Jim Trummel said the bylaws work group examining potential updates to the rules found a conflict in section 4.08C of the bylaws regarding the referendum process.

Current bylaws language requires only that a majority of the votes cast be in favor of the referendum, regardless of how many people vote.

"Any proposal presented in a referendum represents a majority of affirmative votes for total votes cast in order to become effective."

Trummel said the work group recommended updating requirements to be 25 percent of the total number of votes available to be cast.

The proposed change in the bylaws, however, would require some percentage of the total number of votes to specify that 25 percent, or some percent, of the total number of eligible voters, not just the ballots are recorded.

Committee member Keith Kaiser said referendums provide a procedure for putting a measure proposed by a legislative body or the community to a vote.

"It's been studied by a lot of people," he said. "Is the lack of minimum voter participation required for Ocean Pines referendums a problem that needs a solution?"

Kaiser said Maryland law says a referendum can be initiated through a petition drive signed by 10 percent of residents' casting votes in prior elections.

"The petition is the first step in determining the level of community interest in an issue," he said. "It's kind of a standard practice to put a requirement on petitions to make sure you have a reasonable level of public support."

Maryland is among a majority of states that do not conduct referendums outside the normal election cycle.

"It goes on the next scheduled ballot," he said. "It doesn't come out as a question all by itself."

Kaiser said some states include a minimum vote count to represent a percentage of votes needed to approve a referendum.

On average nationally, 40 percent of eligible votes have to be cast on a



Jim Trummel

specific referendum issue to be counted and validated.

"We average 40 percent voter participation in elections," he said.

Kaiser estimated that roughly 3,000 votes would total 40 percent of eligible Pines ballots.

"A majority vote could be very small resulting in a small minority of Ocean Pines owners driving very large changes," he said.

Kaiser said voter turnout in Ocean Pines for stand-alone referendums has usually been strong.

"Because in Ocean Pines we allow standalone ballots that literally means a small percentage of people with limited interest could cast votes on it," he said. "In the past, we have averaged 57 percent."

Kaiser said statistically referendum questions draw on average 40 percent of eligible votes.

"It's typically a serious question put before the people," he said.

Kaiser recommended the committee consider establishing a threshold of 40 percent of total eligible votes to approve a referendum.

Trummel said the committees' recommendation would be forwarded to the bylaws work group.

"We are obligated to go back to the work group with proposals," he said.

Board liaison Camilla Rogers, who also serves on the bylaws work group, said the topic would be reviewed before the committee's next scheduled meeting.

Committee members also revived discussions surrounding 3.01C and 5.02A, which concern the boards' ability to suspend member's eligibility to vote or use association-owned

facilities if that property owner is not up to date on annual assessment fees or in violation of declarations of restrictions.

The committee suggested adding a reference to 5.13E that grants the board authority to suspend members deemed not in good standing.

"We have two references [in] bylaws and DRs," he said. "5.13E is a summation of what's in the DRs."

Committee consensus sided with referencing the 5.13E section.

Other areas reviewed included bylaws section 6.06A, which outlines duties of the association president.

Proposed language additions for 6.06A include a passage stating the president is responsible for, "keeping all directors informed of all association issues in a timely manner."

"Some people could say it's implied that the president is supposed to do that, but this would make it clearly a duty," Trummel said.

Kaiser said further clarity is needed.

"It's just a fuzzy requirement in general," he said. "It says, 'all issues in a timely manner.'"

Kaiser also suggested changing, "all association issues," to "critical issues."

"All association issues ... that could get pretty busy," he said.

Committee member Lora Pangratz questioned what would qualify as critical issues.

"I think people are trying to be best of their ability," she said.

Trummel said association presidential duties would include promptly apprising directors of breaking issues.

"If the other six members of the board are surprised by something, they need to address that with the president and get it straight right away," he said. "They've got to make sure the people who need to know what's going on know what's going on."

Trummel said committee recommendations would be forwarded to the bylaws work group for further examination.

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Worcester County is saving \$8,100 after the commissioners approved a change order for a rehabilitation project related to a treatment unit at the Ocean Pines wastewater treatment plant (pictured). The contractor said the costs reflect credits for unneeded items and "contingency items not used in the contract." The project now runs \$461,346.12. The commissioners also approved the purchase of a slide pump at the plant for \$19,640.

County trims treatment unit cost

By Jack Chavez
Staff Writer

(Aug. 12, 2021) The Worcester County Commissioners last week approved a request for a change order for a rehabilitation project related to a treatment unit at the Ocean Pines wastewater treatment plant and the purchase of a slide pump for \$19,640.

The change order reduced the project's cost by about \$8,100 to a total cost of \$461,346.12.

According to documents from M2

Construction, the Pennsylvania company heading the rehabilitation project, the \$8,100 represents credit for the cost to install mixers as per the contract between the company and the county.

The documents said that mast has been installed but mixer delivery will "extend beyond reasonable time to avoid additional mob/demob and other general conditions' costs" and specified that additional credit was applied for "contingency items not

used in the contract."

Department of Public Works Director Dallas Baker said that the sludge pump's request is due to the age of the pump currently in use.

"The unit we have in there now has been in there since 1996 and we'd like to get approval to purchase another unit so we have a backup," Baker said.

Baker provided a cost sheet for the commissioners that stated the pump would take 12-14 weeks to deliver from the time it is ordered.

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Berlin Briefs

By Greg Ellison

Staff Writer

(Aug. 12, 2021) Berlin Town Council approved a grant application for basketball court lighting at Henry Park, along with a special use request for a school supply and movie night at the site, as well as reviewing timelines for dispersing federal covid relief funds during its meeting on Monday.

ARPA timelines

Tyndall reviewed proposed target dates for allocating recently awarded American Rescue Plan Act funds totaling \$4.06 million.

“ARPA money is a covid relief package coming down from the federal government,” he said. “We have received payment number one, which is 50 percent of what we are slated to receive.”

Tyndall said the finance department, the mayor’s office, Town Administrator Jeff Fleetwood and department heads are gathering data regarding financial impacts from covid-19.

“The idea of this money is really geared to be covid-centered,” he said.

ARPA funds are required to be allocated by Dec. 2024 and spent by Dec. 2026.

Tyndall said where and how funds could be directed, along with accounting procedures are still being exam-



Berlin Council members, from left, Jack Orris, Jay Knerr, Dean Burrell and Mayor Zach Tyndall mulled approvals for pending projects during its meeting on Monday.

GREG ELLISON/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

ined.

“The goal is to have the information at the department level gathered and vetted for public review by November or December this year,” he said.

ARPA guidelines require elected officials to hold a listening session to solicit public comment on where to direct funding.

“We do want to hear from every resident about how they think that money should be spent,” he said. “Start creating a list because we want to hear what you have to say.”

Tyndall said the public meeting is tentatively scheduled for January 2022.

“Following that, we would have a

work session with council to review planning documents, public input and develop a formal plan for the allocation of that money,” he said.

The goal is having funding earmarked for FY23 budget considerations.

“We are trying to have a solid plan

Continued on Page 9



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Berlin Briefs

Continued from Page 8
together by March or April of 2022," he said.

Court lights

The council voted 4-0, with member Troy Purnell absent, to approve a FY23 Program Open Space grant application to finance installation of overhead lights at the Henry Park basketball courts.

Department of Natural Resources' Program Open Space funding applications are due by Aug. 26

Mayor Zach Tyndall said overall project costs are roughly \$122,000, with all but a \$10,000 town match, financed through a grant request for \$111,000.

Deputy Town Administrator Mary Bohlen is overseeing the grant process.

"The project has been discussed a couple times in recent meetings," she said.

Tyndall asked if the recently approved basketball court painting project would be referenced in grant paperwork.

"Would it help our application?" he said.

Bohlen said mention of the pending painting work could be added.

"I did include the fact that Program Open Space Program monies were used to completely renovate the

courts, so this would be complimentary," she said.

Tyndall noted the grant request would be awarded for FY23, with the current budget reflecting the prior year Program Open Space grant application.

Bohlen acknowledged the grant program involves extended time frames for approval.

"This is the program that we apply for in late summer, but we do not receive notification of award until the following late summer," she said. "It's one of the longest grant processes."

School supplies, movie

The council approved a request from the Briddell Family Foundation to stage a school supplies giveaway and movie night at Henry Park on Sept. 4 from 6-9 p.m.

Bohlen said the request to use park facilities after hours is to distribute academic supplies for students and screen a family-friendly film.

"The Parks Commission did a movie night in the park several years ago," she said.

Council member Jack Orris asked if the event would conflict with an upcoming basketball court painting project.

Bohlen said the court renovations are slated to begin after the date requested.

Worcester GOLD seeking school donations for kids

(Aug. 12, 2021) Worcester County GOLD (Giving Other Lives Dignity), a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, is seeking donors and sponsors for its upcoming School Supplies for Students program.

The program provides backpacks filled with school supplies to K-12 students in Worcester County who, financially, would have a difficult time getting the supplies.

Many students have begun, or will soon begin, the transition from virtual to in-person learning. By providing backpacks filled with grade appropriate supplies, GOLD is seeking to make the transition easier and less stressful on families and students in need.

Last year, GOLD provided filled backpacks to 288 students and is anticipating a greater need this year with students returning to school.

For more information or to donate, visit www.WorcesterGOLD.org. The deadline for donations and sponsorships is Aug. 27.

Worcester County GOLD, Inc.

(Giving Other Lives Dignity) a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, 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 such as 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 or 410-677-6830, visit www.WorcesterGOLD.org, email WorcesterCountyGOLD@gmail.com, or call 410-677-6830.

Visit www.facebook.com/worcestergold on Facebook and www.instagram.com/worcestercountygold/ on Instagram.



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Berlin Community Center cmte. details set

By Greg Ellison
Staff Writer

(Aug. 12, 2021) After opting against paying for a feasibility study for a proposed community center on Flower Street in June, the Berlin Town Council on Monday voted to create a committee to vet the topic.

During the discussions in June, Councilman Jack Orris proposed forming a Community Center Development Committee to sort through the various proposals for the facility.

Seconding Orris' suggestion in June was Councilman Dean Burrell, who said the committee could sample the opinions in various Berlin neighborhoods to help chart a course to replace the aging multi-purpose building on Flower Street.

On Monday, Mayor Zach Tyndall the objective is gathering community input from residents of all ages.

Tyndall said the town would employ focus groups, surveys and town hall meetings to determine an ultimate location and amenities the cen-



Berlin Councilman Dean Burrell, left, discusses details of the yet-to-be-established Community Center Development Committee with Mayor Zach Tyndall on Monday. GREG ELLISON/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

ter should include.

Funding sources, either through grants, donations or backing from nonprofits, will also be explored by the committee.

Economic and Community Development Director Ivy Wells has agreed to serve as liaison for the five-member committee.

Advisory committee membership is limited to Berlin residents.

The group will make recommendations to the mayor and Town Council, and while the term of service was yet to be declared, the committee probably

would be dissolved after the project is completed, Tyndall said.

After some minor discussion, the council agreed to set terms of service at 18 months.

"If we don't know what we want in 18 months than that's a problem to begin with," Wells said.

Public Works flushing water lines in Pines

(Aug. 12, 2021) Worcester County Public Works Water & Wastewater Division crews are responding to recent increased reports of discolored water in Ocean Pines by flushing fire hydrants in the affected areas to clear the water lines.

Residents who experience brown water issues are asked to contact the Water & Waste Water Division at 410-641-5251 (answers 24 hours). County officials ask that callers include the address of the home experiencing the problem to help crews diagnose and correct the problem.

"Water discoloration in Ocean

Pines occurs due to mineral particulates, primarily iron, suspended in the water, not biological contamination," Public Works Director Dallas Baker said. "To combat the issue, we conduct routine water system flushing at the fire hydrants throughout the community. Crews open and close the hydrants to flush out the built-up iron deposits. Sometimes, this can lead to temporary increases in suspended iron, which should settle out within a few hours of the flushing."

Clean Water Act standards allow for 0.3 mg/L of iron in drinking water, as an aesthetic standard. How-

ever, the wells serving Ocean Pines normally contain an average iron concentration below 0.1 mg/l and historically average 0.06 mg/l. of iron.

Ocean Pines wells produce up to 2.5 million gallons of water per day. Over time the small amount of iron in the water builds up. In areas of low water usage, like cul-de-sacs, that iron can settle out and collect.

Deposits will occasionally break up and cause the brown water effect most commonly seen. Occurrences of high water use, like fighting fires and opening fire hydrants, can cause re-suspension of those minerals and

water discoloration.

"To reduce the frequency of iron settling in the bottoms of pipes, we are developing a program to loop the water system that includes tying dead end water mains into nearby mains on adjacent streets wherever possible" Baker said. "In some cases these looped mains may need to be constructed on the five-foot-wide, side-yard utility easements, which are in place on all Ocean Pines properties. The new extensions will be installed via directional drilling, which should not affect any surface structures or landscaping."

Water and Wastewater crews typically flush the Ocean Pines water system twice a year. Flushing during the summer months is minimized because of the seasonally-high water use. This year hydrant flushing will begin in October and move through the various sections of Ocean Pines.

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PARK REFRESH

(Above) Cutting the ribbon for the new concession stand at Showell Park on Friday night, from left, are Worcester County Recreation and Parks staff members Derek Jarmon, Kelly Buchanan, Hunter Nelson, Kelly Rados, Commissioner Chip Bertino, Commissioner Ted Elder and Allen Swiger.

(Left) Families poured into the Showell Park baseball diamond on Friday night for an outdoor movie screening of the "Sandlot" sponsored by Worcester County Recreation and Parks.

GREG ELLISON/
BAYSIDE GAZETTE



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Kennedy sources father for children's book

Authors first youth reader harkens back to memories of yesteryear with parents

By Greg Ellison
Staff Writer

(Aug. 12, 2021) Ocean Pines resident Maureen Kennedy, who operates the My Backyard store in the Manklin Creek Shopping Center, has realized a lifetime goal after recently publishing her first children's book, "A Wonderful Day with Gilly Gilay."

"It was a bucket list thing I decided to do," she said.

The title character, Gilly Gilay, was inspired by tales shared with Kennedy during childhood, with the volume dedicated to her parents.

"It was a character that my dad made up," she said. "It's just a big goofy bird that takes children somewhere that they want to go in their dreams."

Kennedy teamed up with Dean Lo, who produced colorful illustrations, for the magical bird story.

After digesting endless fables centered on the feathered friend from her father, Kennedy's first effort sprang from the seeds planted during

her youth.

"This book happens to be about under the sea," she said.

The story line centers on Mac, an imaginative and energetic youth, who avoids sleep at the risk of missing adventures.

Mirroring Kennedy's formative years, Mac's mother finagles him to sleep by reading a story about a magical bird named Gilly Gilay.

Once sleep is induced, Mac is visited by the friendly bird, who proposes the pair take a trip to any locale imaginable.

After Mac suggests they go "Into the sea," Gilay places the youth into a waterproof capsule strapped on his back and dives into ocean currents.

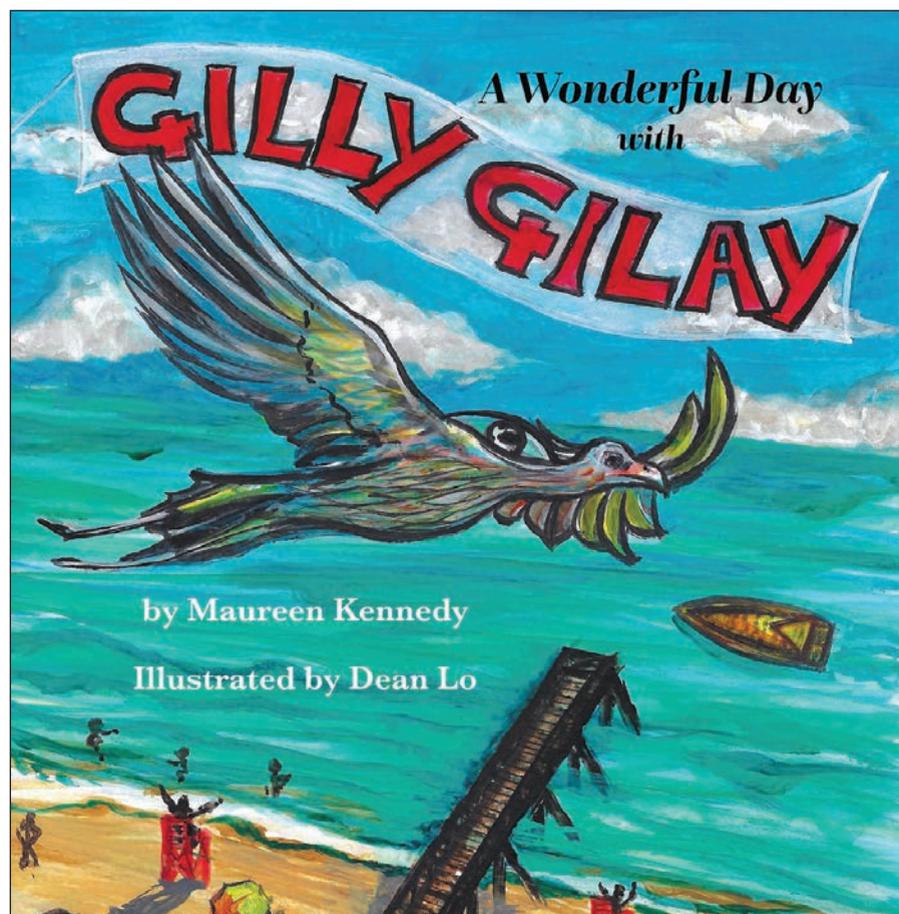
As Mac descends into the underwater universe, Gilay teaches the youngster about various aquatic creatures.

A Wonderful Day with Gilly Gilay is available to purchase for \$15 on Amazon or can be acquired directly from Kennedy by visiting her My Backyard retail location.

"I have it here in the store and I am also having a book signing on Friday," she said.

The book signing begins at 3 p.m. at My Backyard in the Manklin Creek Shopping Center.

"We're having light refreshments,"



she said.

After endless years contemplating the creative venture, Kennedy is enthused the work is finally published.

"It was just one of those things that after twenty-some years of talking about it, I finally made it come to fruition," she said.

*Congratulations,
Alane Capen!*



*Welcome,
Monica Escalante!*

Coastal Hospice congratulates our President, Alane Capen, on her retirement! Her leadership and innovative spirit during the last 16 years have brought new services to our community and greatly expanded the number of patients and families who have been able to receive our services. She will be deeply missed.



While Alane may be a hard act to follow, we have no doubt Monica Escalante, a 20+ year veteran of hospice management, is the person to do it. Monica, we welcome you to our community and look forward to the next chapter of Coastal Hospice under your leadership as President.

Learn more about Coastal Hospice at www.CoastalHospice.org or call 410-742-8732.

Showell Elem. presented LEED certification

(Aug. 12, 2021) Showell Elementary School in Berlin, became Worcester County Public Schools' first LEED certified school upon being awarded LEED Silver certification from the U.S. Green Building Council in July.

LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certification is the recognized standard for measuring a building's sustainability.

Becker Morgan Group led the design team in implementing practical and measurable strategies to improve sustainability and environmental health through the new elementary school's design, construction, and operations.

Students are encouraged to actively participate and ask questions related to sustainable practices throughout the school. Every green practice on display is accompanied by a plaque explaining its intent and functionality. Methods on display include heat island effect reduction, incorporation of native plants, water reduction, water harvesting, and reduction of single-use plastics.

A cistern in the courtyard allows students to play an active role in green practices by utilizing rainwater harvested from roof run-off to irrigate student gardens.

"We are grateful to work with forward-thinking clients, such as



Showell Elementary became first Worcester County Public School to gain status as leadership in Energy and Environmental Design through the U.S. Green Building Council in July.

SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Worcester County Public Schools and are especially proud of the green design practices on display at Showell," Principal Architect Brad A. Hastings, AIA, LEED AP said. "This facility embodies sustainability while inspiring

and teaching future generations how to do the same."

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Coastal Realtors award \$4,750 to local nonprofits

(Aug. 12, 2021) The Coastal Association of Realtors (Coastal) awarded \$4,750 in grants to local charities through the Coastal Realtors Foundation during its latest round of funding.

This year to date the foundation has awarded \$9,000.

The following organizations received grants in the Coastal Realtors Foundation's latest round of funding: Art League of Ocean City, Atlantic Club, Habitat for Humanity of Worcester County, Salisbury Neighborhood Housing Services, and Wicomico Environmental Trust.

The Coastal Realtors Foundation is a charitable fund held by the Community Foundation of the Eastern Shore. The association raises money for the fund through an annual charity golf tournament as well as other efforts throughout the year.

The fund is accessible to members of Coastal through an application process administered by the association and reviewed by a committee of members. Grant recipients must be 501(c)3 organizations and must be located in Somerset, Wicomico or Worcester counties.



Coastal Association of Realtors recently donated \$4,750 in grants to local charities through its Coastal Realtors Foundation.

SUBMITTED PHOTO/
BAYSIDE GAZETTE

"The Realtors are honored to be able to give back to the Lower Shore especially during covid when so many people and organizations are struggling," said Coastal President Joni Williamson.

"We have had some exciting fundraisers and are looking forward to our Golf Tournament in October which is the largest fundraiser of the year for our foundation. We look forward to continuing to support the causes important to our members and the community," she added.

Grants are awarded three times a year, and the next deadline is Oct. 15.

For more information about the Coastal Realtors Foundation, visit www.coastalrealtors.org.

Business Briefs

Recognition

Christopher D. Hoen, CRPC, a financial advisor with Ameriprise Financial in Berlin, has earned the 2020 Ameriprise Client Experience Award.



C. Hoen

This award was given to Hoen because his ability to consistently deliver personalized, goal-based advice and exceptional client service.

Award recipients earned an overall client satisfaction rating equal to or greater than 4.9 out of 5.0* and maintained stellar business results.

The award represents an elite group of Ameriprise advisors recognized as leaders for their commitment to making a difference in the lives of their clients. Less than 15 percent of Ameriprise practices have earned this distinct honor.

Hoen provides financial advice that is anchored in a solid understanding of client needs and expectations and is delivered in one-on-one relationships with his clients.

For more information, contact Hoen at 410-629-0947 or visit the Ameriprise office at 9928 Old Ocean City Blvd., Suite 5, in Berlin.

New positions

The Community Foundation of the Eastern Shore recently announced two promotions and a new addition.

Katerra Marshall has joined the Community Foundation of the Eastern Shore as office coordinator.

Marshall will lead the foundation's front-facing operations, customer service, meeting and conference coordination, and will offer executive office support.

Lauren Zarin has been promoted to program officer. In her new position, Zarin will continue to increase her leadership role with all aspects of the grants, scholarships, and nonprofit capacity building programs.

Pam Heying has been promoted to accounting officer. This new position includes additional involvement in the foundation's finance department and additional support of both the development and programs departments.

"We are so fortunate to have such talented staff at the Community Foundation," said CFES President Erica Joseph.

"We pride ourselves in employing individuals who are experts in their respective fields, allowing us to offer the continued standard of excellence the foundation is known for."



Katerra Marshall



Lauren Zarin



Pam Heying

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SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Romaine Briddell has taken part in the AmeriCorps Seniors Foster Grandparents Program for the past decade, that seeks to bolster educational opportunities for students.

SHORE UP! seeking foster grandparents to aid youth

(Aug. 12, 2021) SHORE UP! Inc. is currently recruiting senior volunteers for the AmeriCorps Seniors Foster Grandparents Program.

Individuals ages 55 and older work as mentors in SHORE UP!'s Early Head Start and Head Start centers and in public schools. They help children to develop the skills essential for future success.

Foster grandparents serve 20 hours per week and receive a tax-free stipend.

Romaine Briddell has served as a foster grandparent in SHORE UP!'s Berlin Center since 2010. After over 10 years of serving in this capacity, Briddell said she still loves working with children.

"They are just my heart," Briddell said. "I had one little child who would not get off the bus unless I was there. I think they all fell in love with me too."

Like Briddell, all foster grandparents work closely with children who have special needs, from shyness to physical disabilities. Mentors work with teachers in providing children with the academic tools needed for Kindergarten readiness.

"Sometimes I will read to them and sit down at the table with them to do puzzles, the alphabet, colors, shapes and sizes," Briddell said.

The work also helps to keep Briddell active. At 81, she still engages in games with the children too.

"We will play Ring around the Roses," Briddell said. "I tell them, if Ms. Romaine falls down, you all will have to help me up, and that would make them laugh."

For more information or to enroll in the AmeriCorps Seniors Foster Grandparents Program, contact Program Director Joyce Farrare at 410-749-1142 ext. 1050.

Foster Grandparents must have a limited income.

SHORE UP! Inc. is a private, non-profit Community Action Partnership located in Salisbury.

Formed in 1965, SHORE UP! serves low-income and disadvantaged persons. SHORE UP! is an acronym for "Self-Help on Rural Economics and Urban Problems." The agency's main focus is to help people reach economic self-sufficiency.

Worcester Youth collecting supplies for new teachers

(Aug. 12, 2021) Worcester Youth & Family Counseling Services will be collecting donation of supplies for new teachers in the county school system.

The 2021-2022 school year will include many changes. New guidelines and restrictions will mean adjustments for the students, teachers and staff.

For a new teacher, having to make sure they have everything needed to

start the school year off can be stressful. Worcester Youth & Family wants to help the new teachers in Worcester County schools get off to a good start.

Together with the Board of Education and local business it will provide each new teacher with a bag filled with supplies. Donations can be brought to the Worcester Youth office, 124 N. Main St., Suite C, Berlin, Maryland, through Aug. 13.

Wor-Wic Community College dean's list approaches 400

(Aug. 12, 2021) A total of 396 Wor-Wic Community College students were named to the dean's list for the recently-completed spring term.

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

Berlin: Nathan Adkins, Bryant Beckett, Jurgita Blake, Nicholas Burak, Mikayla Cantine, Zachary Conway, Benjamin Cooper, Allison Cordial, Kylie Cosman, Brooke Davis,

Hannah Davis, Darrian Day, Michael Delaurentis, Sabrina DiStasio, Robert Dixon, Sawyer Ellis-Gaal, Jordan Ferguson, Leslie Flores, Kevin George Jr., Ramona Gray, Sarah Haskell, Kayla Higgins, Allison Hunter, Amanda Jones, America Juarez-Martinez, Salina Kc, Patrick Keller, Anya Knappenberger, H. Krasner, Samantha Lokey, Brooke Mask, Mihaela Mollichelli, Victoria Mueller, Candice Palmer, Jainita Patel, Conor Perry, Colin Porter, Julia Prokopovich,

See WOR Page 16



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Platform tennis tourney seeks participants

(Aug. 12, 2021) The Ocean Pines Platform Tennis Club will host its third annual benefit tournament on Sept. 25, at the Ocean Pines Racquet Center.

This year, the club has dedicated the tournament to Jim Freeman, a strong supporter of platform tennis who passed away on March 15 after a battle with cancer.

Freeman served the U.S. Marines with honor and later worked for 31 years as a seventh-grade science teacher at Keith Valley Middle School in Horsham, Pennsylvania. He retired to Ocean Pines with his wife, June, and became an active member of the platform tennis community.

The Platform Tennis Club will donate all tournament proceeds to Semper Fi & America's Fund, a nonprofit "dedicated to providing immediate financial assistance and lifetime support to combat wounded, critically ill and catastrophically injured members of all branches of the U.S. Armed Forces and their families."

"Our friend Jim was a proud Marine, and a multi-term president and passionate advocate for our Platform Tennis Club," tournament co-organizer Karen Kaplan said. "He is sorely missed. We respectfully request that all entry fees, donations, and sponsorships be donated in honor of Jim

to the Semper Fi & America's Fund Charity, which provides many vital layers of services to members of all service branches and their families."

All platform tennis clubs in Maryland, Delaware, New Jersey and Pennsylvania may compete. Individual players may also enter.

The entry deadline is Sept. 11, and the entry fee is a \$50 donation, per player.

To download an entry form, visit <https://oceanpines.org/documents/10184/89280/SemperFi.9.25.21.3.pdf>.

Entry checks may be made payable to Semper Fi/America's Fund, "in Memory of Jim Freeman," and mailed with an entry form to Michael Petito, 4 Long Court, Ocean Pines, Maryland, 21811.

The Ocean Pines Platform Tennis Club is also seeking sponsors for the event.

Gold sponsors, \$500, get their names on the event banner, an announcement at the event, a video "thank you" post, and a mention on social media. Silver sponsors, \$250,

get their name on the banner, an announcement at the event, and a mention on social media. Bronze sponsors, \$100, get an announcement at the event and a mention on social media.

Sponsorship checks may also be made payable to Semper Fi/America's Fund, "in Memory of Jim Freeman," and mailed to Michael Petito, 4 Long Court, Ocean Pines, Maryland, 21811.

For questions or more information, email oppaddle2020@gmail.com.

Wor-Wic dean's list for spring term

Continued from Page 15

Brooklynn Pugner, Christina Ramirez, Bradley Schaeffer, Amanda Schmidt, Celina Scott, Deven Scott, Hannah Sherman, Michael Sidell, Alivia Spagnola, Michael Todd, Michaela Vinogradov and Luke Zolenski

Bishopville: Pedro Brown, Caroline Cardamone, Sierra Eisemann, Cole Espy, Thelma Gault Godinez, Sophia Kokkinos, Alora Lockhart, Jenna Shumate and Jamie Walsh

Eden: Seanna Webb

Girdletree: Kellyann Belka

Newark: Zachariah Bowden and Mazie Brinker

Ocean City: Jillian Alascio, MacKenzie Barrett, Megan Card, Jacelyn Clapsadle, Kaitlyn Ewing, Kathleen Ewing, Logan Figs, Jayna Griffith, Emma Hamilton-Blackford, Caroline Herl, Hannah King, Christopher Kotsifakis, Devon Kramer, Kara Mihavetz, Megan Moyer, Amberlee Oertel, Benjamin Panitch, Robert Pellegrin III, Samuel Rakowski, Ilona Randolph, Lauren Rolleston, Alexandria Russell, Yasmeen Sbih, Bethany Scott, Brenda Smith, Nicole Sparagana, Bonnie Stockton, Miles Thompson, Tran Tran, Anna Tribuno, Ryan Walker, Jessica Wieber, Delaney

Williams, Lydia Woodley and Benjamin Wright

Pocomoke City: Bethany Cheeks, Jason Dennis, Samantha Francois, Patrick Giordano, Logan Marsh, Shane Musgrave, Svetlana Sadakbaeva, Hunter Sharp, Bridget Stevens, Brandon Womer and Amanda Wright

Snow Hill: Ashley Brown, Miranda Carter, Benjamin Chase, Julie Fisher, Emelia Goddard, Peyton Goslee, Drew Harper, Yasmine Jenkins, Nikolas Johnson and Kennedy Wooten

Stockton: Brock Payne

Whaleyville: Jane Failla and Alexis McDonough

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Wor. County History Week coming in October

Initially for Ocean City, slate expanded to Berlin, Snow Hill, Pocomoke and Pines

(Aug. 12, 2021) Worcester County communities from Pocomoke to Ocean City will take part in an expanded History Week event from Oct. 10-16.

History Week started in 2017 in Ocean City, with a tour of historic homes presented by the Ocean City Life-Saving Station Museum.

This year, organizer Nancy Howard said representatives from the Calvin B. Taylor House Museum in Berlin approached her about also taking part.

"Of course, we were flattered and encouraged them to proceed," Howard said. "It dawned on me that we could do this for the whole county, and I approached other museums and organizations and now we have Worcester County History Week."

Howard, the former president of the Ocean City Museum Society, said her fascination with history started years ago, when she worked for the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C.

"I saw the impact of what the Smithsonian offered, and I think it is no less true of smaller venues," she said. "I believe the public has a curiosity about what shaped their environment, whether it is where they live

or where they visit.

"Worcester County attracts millions of visitors each year, and History Week will give them an insight into our area and offer curiosity opportunities," she added.

Along with the Life-Saving Station and the Taylor House, History Week participants this year will include the Worcester County Libraries, Ocean Pines Association, the Sturgis One Room Schoolhouse Museum and Delmarva Discovery Museum in Pocomoke, and the Julia A. Purnell Museum in Snow Hill.

Dr. Cindy Byrd, executive director of the Purnell Museum, said the annual "Fiberfest" on Oct. 16 would now become a part of History Week. Along with covering the history of fiber arts, she said the event would highlight the larger history of Worcester County.

"We're going to put a special focus on Worcester County History, so we'll bring out a lot of our maps and original deeds and Worcester County artifacts that are part of our collection," she said. "We have things going back to the 1400s, including Native American artifacts from then all the way through the 20th century.

"We also have historical materials that go across a lot of different ethnic and cultural groups, so we're able to show a lot of that and we're able to engage a lot of different groups," Byrd added.

Also helping to plan History Week is Lisa Challenger, executive director of the Beach to Bay Heritage Area.

"By hosting History Week, we hope it serves up lots of events in an easy to access way, especially for those not familiar with our historic sites and museums," she said. "I love being involved in this since it aligns so well with the mission of the Beach to Bay Heritage Area.

"It's so important to find creative, fun and new ways that allow and encourage people to learn about and appreciate our heritage. It's our hope that this event will do just that," Challenger continued. "I hope people discover something new that makes them want to take another step further into exploring all of our area's heritage."

For more information, including a schedule of upcoming History Week events, visit www.facebook.com/WorcesterCountyHistoryWeek.

Park Service formalizes vital Assateague Seashore plans

(Aug. 12, 2021) The general management plan/environmental impact statement for Assateague Island National Seashore is now official, the National Park Service (NPS) announced this week.

The last step toward the goal was the public recordation of the official decision document referred to in federal government parlance as a "Record of Decision."

"The general management plan will guide Assateague Island National Seashore managers for the next 15 to 20 years in protecting the Seashore's complex resources as well as its popular recreational opportunities," said Seashore Superintendent Hugh

Hawthorne.

The plan recognizes the dynamic coastal processes that influence the barrier island and outlines how the Park Service will make visitor facilities and other seashore infrastructure more sustainable and resilient over time. The Record of Decision was signed by the National Park Service Regional Director on July 26.

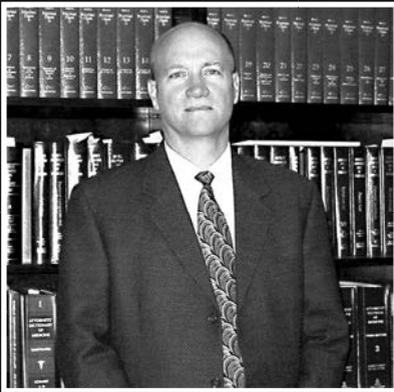
Visit <https://parkplanning.nps.gov/ASISAbbreviatedFinalG> for the Abbreviated General Management Plan).

For general information about the seashore and park activities, access the park's web site at www.nps.gov/asis or call 410-641-1441.

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Snapshots



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KIWANIS GUESTS

Foster Care Supervisor Jennifer Stack, center, and Regional Resource Recruiter for Somerset, Wicomico and Worcester Department of Social Services, Cassidy Spencer, were the guests during the Kiwanis Club of Greater Ocean Pines-Ocean City's weekly meeting on July 28. They are pictured with Kiwanis Club of Greater Ocean Pines-Ocean City President Steve Cohen.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

IN THE CLUB

During the post's monthly membership meeting on June 28, Marie Gilmore was recognized by the First State Marines who presented her with an honorary membership. The membership of First State Marines voted unanimously to recognize Gilmore for her dedicated commitment to veterans and their families living in Worcester County communities.



PHOTO COURTESY D.J. LANDIS, SR.

TRADITION

Several years ago a member of the Kiwanis Club of Greater Ocean Pines-Ocean City started a community service project called "Companion Dolls." The club has continued the program after covid and stuffed dolls at their weekly Wednesday 8 a.m. meeting in the Ocean Pines Community Center. Pictured is Chair Diane Spazak with Roy Foreman, Jim Spicknall and Dick Clagett. Spazak and Co-Chair Kitty Wrench sewed the dolls and members stuffed them.



GREG ELLISON/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

IN BLOOM

Patrons pass by an abundance of sunflowers while perusing the wide array of merchants on hand at the Ocean Pines Farmers and Artisans Market last week.



CLASSIC RIDES

The Kiwanis Club of Ocean Pines-Ocean City welcomed high octane enthusiasts for a peek under the hood of classic rides during its car show recently at Veterans Memorial Park in Ocean Pines.

GREG ELLISON/BAYSIDE GAZETTE



GREG ELLISON/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

SONGBIRDS

The Bilenki Duo, George and Patricia, accompanied by Don Solo on pedal steel, serenade attendees at Berlin's Peach Festival from the Taylor House Museum porch on Saturday.

Diabetic foundation spaghetti dinner in Oct.

Rimel family holds annual event at Decatur Diner to help offset cost of camp

(Aug. 12, 2021) The Rimel family and Eastern Shore T1 Diabetic Support Foundation, Inc. will host the 10th annual spaghetti dinner and ticket drop auction on Oct. 16.

This year the event will be held at Decatur Diner, 9609 Stephen Decatur Hwy, Ocean City, Maryland 21842. It will be held covid-style (take-out). The cost is \$15. Carryout pickup times are 4-5 p.m., 5-6 p.m. and 6-7 p.m.

Ticket drop baskets and gift certificate packages will be on display. Tickets can be purchased in advance or at the door. A silent auction will be held on the event Facebook page at a later date and the items will be on display at the dinner.

Eastern Shore T1 Diabetic Support Foundation, Inc. is a 501 (c)(3) organization formed by the Rimel family and others. Seeing a need for more support of families with T1D and wanting to fill that need, ESTI DSF was formed.

The ESTI DSF's mission is to provide support for individuals living with Type 1 Diabetes and those that may be caring for someone with Type 1 Diabetes by raising funds to send children to camp, as well as a scholarship program for graduating Type 1 diabetic seniors and to create a non-medical support network on the Eastern Shore of Maryland and Southern Sussex County, Delaware.

Diabetes camp can be as high as \$1,600 a week for some to attend. Many offer grants and other financing to bring the cost down to about half, but it still can be a financial burden to attend.

This year the organization has added a high school scholarship program. It will award three \$1,000 scholarships to local graduating seniors.

The dinner raised over \$16,000 in 2019. In 2020, with only the ticket drop and silent auctions online be-

cause of covid, \$4,500 was raised.

Donations of food or money are needed to cover the cost of the dinner and/or items for the ticket drop auction or silent auction. In past years, there has been over 50 baskets or gift certificate packages on the ticket drop with everything from baseball tickets,

dinner gift certificates, teacher's baskets to spa packages.

Donations are due by Aug. 31, to allow time to prepare the baskets, as well as the program acknowledging all supporters.

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GREG ELLISON/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

PEACHY

Damp conditions failed to deter ample crowds drawn to the Taylor House Museum in Berlin for the annual Peach Festival on Saturday.

OP/Berlin Police Briefs

Juvenile car theft

Berlin Police were led on a brief pursuit early Sunday morning after seeing a vehicle doing “doughnuts” near Church Street.

The incident, which took place around 3 a.m., concluded after the 16-year-old behind the wheel of a stolen vehicle wrecked the car in a yard in the 200 block of Main Street.

Berlin Police Chief Arnold Downing issued a statement on Monday reporting the juvenile male allegedly stole the vehicle from outside a residence on Old Ocean City Boulevard.

Police chanced upon the hot ride while investigating a loud noise in the vicinity of Tripoli and Church streets.

In short order, officers witnessed a vehicle with a damaged rear tire driving in circles in the road.

Police reported the driver ignored an attempted traffic stop, opting instead to speed away and blast

through several stop signs.

During the pursuit, the underage driver narrowly missed striking a police cruiser on Main Street, police said.

Eventually, the vehicle went off road and struck a streetlight by Stevenson Church on 123 N. Main Street.

Undeterred, the stolen-car driver navigated back to the street only to proceed to jump a sidewalk and come to a rest in a nearby front yard on Main Street.

The driver, who was unaccompanied and uninjured, was taken into custody without further incident.

Police reported the driver appeared to be under the influence of alcohol.

Investigators subsequently discovered a slew of damaged front yards on Church Street, Gay Street and both North and South Main Street, which were all attributed to the illegal

joyride.

Police advised the Department of Juvenile Justice the 16-year-old is charged with DWI, car theft, fleeing and eluding, reckless driving, negligent driving, driving without a license, driving the wrong way and leaving the scene of a property damage accident.

Juvenile Justice officials subsequently ordered the youth to be released to parental custody.

On Monday morning, Berlin Police were informed that the Maryland State Police were investigating reported property damage on Route 113.

State Police allege the juvenile also damaged two fields and a mailbox at a residence on Route 113.

Berlin Police request residents suffering damage possibly tied to the incident on Sunday night call the department at 410-641-1333

Wedding party knockout

An unidentified male subject was flown by helicopter to Tidal Health in Salisbury on July 31 after being punched and losing consciousness outside the Ocean Pines Yacht Club around 11 p.m.

According to reports, the man attempted to join a wedding party in the midst of sending the bride and groom off from the parking lot.

After being asked to leave the group alone, the man reportedly attempted to take part in the festivities at which point a member of the wedding party punched him in the face.

The Ocean Pines Volunteer Fire Department was summoned for an EMS call at the Yacht Club for a patient with injuries from a fall.

The fire dispatch report said the man was injured after falling and hitting his head on concrete, which allegedly occurred after being punched.

EMS crews took the assaulted

Continued on Page 21

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OBITUARIES

WILLIAM CLAIR SIEFKEN

Berlin
William "Bill" Clair Siefken, age 79, of Berlin, Maryland, passed away peacefully on Saturday, Aug. 7, 2021.



William Siefken

Born in Springfield, Missouri, he was the son of the late William Clair and Velma Louise Siefken.

In 1960, he graduated from North Carolina High School, in Denton, Maryland. Out of high school, he was drafted and served in the army.

He was employed by Purnell Jarvis in Ocean City, Maryland, for many years. He then worked and retired from Tyson Foods in Berlin, Maryland.

In retirement, he worked at Frontier Town in Berlin, Maryland, and for the Worcester County Sheriff's department as a crossing guard for Worcester County Public Schools.

Bill was young at heart, staying very social and active in the community. For several years, he played the role of Santa Claus and the Easter Bunny for the Town of Berlin, as well as at his son-in-law's restaurant, The Kings Pub.

He was a sports enthusiast. Bill was a member of pool and bowling leagues in Ocean City, and enjoyed shuffle board, darts, and any other bar game there was.

His other endeavors included, but are not limited to, golf, football and softball. In addition to being a competitor, Bill was also a devoted fan.

One of his favorite past times was watching local sports, and he was recognized by the Stephen Decatur High School softball team for his unmatched support of their team. Bill never knew a stranger and could always find the good in people. Al-

OP/Berlin Police Briefs

Continued from Page 20
party to the Maryland State Police Aviation Command Trooper 4 helicopter that landed at the South Ocean Pines helipad near Firehouse Lane and Manklin Creek Road.

Nate Passwaters, with the Worcester County Sheriff's Office, said in addition to Maryland State Police, his department assisted Ocean Pines Police with reigning in the large disorderly crowd from the wedding party.

Passwaters said the unidentified assault victim was flown for medical attention for serious injuries and was still hospitalized days after the incident.

Although the Ocean Pines Police said last Tuesday that a statement on the assault would be issued, the department has provided no information on the incident so far.

though he was grandfather of five, he was "Pop Pop" to many.

He was preceded in death by his sister, Barbara Bowden of Berlin, Maryland, and his nephews, Buddy and Michael Post, and Caleb Schmidt.

Bill is survived by his two daughters and their families: Kimberly and Daniel King of Berlin, Maryland, and their children Berkeley, Daniel and Ascher; Tiffany and Jeremy Pedersen and their sons, Hunter Elsner and wife, Crystal, and Christian Smith.

He is also survived by his sisters, Sandra Wood of Denton, Maryland, Judy Post of Berlin, Maryland, and Jane King and her partner, Bobby Elliot, of Berlin, Maryland.

Additional survivors include many loving nieces, nephews, cousins, friends, and extended family.

A celebration of his life will be held on Saturday, Aug. 14, 2021, from 1-4 p.m. at the Berlin Lions Club in Berlin, Maryland.

In lieu of flowers, contributions in memory of Bill may be made to the Stephen Decatur Athletic Boosters at Stephen Decatur High School, 9913 Seahawk Road in Berlin, Maryland, or the charity of your choice.

JACQUELINE DOLORES ALFORD

Ocean City

Jacqueline Dolores Alford, age 86, of Ocean City, Maryland, passed away on Aug. 7, 2021, at her home.



J. Alford

Born in Baltimore, Maryland, she was the daughter of the late Frederick and Annetta, and wife of the late Albert E. Alford, Sr.

She was a homemaker and enjoyed spending time at the beach with her family. She also enjoyed working with her friends as a special events coordinator for the Town of Ocean City.

For over 25 years, she assisted with events such as Springfest, Sunfest, Sundaes in the Park, and the Winterfest of Lights in Northside Park. She especially enjoyed working in the Santa House assisting the children with photos.

Jacqueline is survived by her son, Albert Alford, Jr. and his wife, JoAnn; daughter, Susan Cuomo and her husband, Joseph; grandchildren, Sara Scott and her husband, Nick, Joshua Alford, and David Cuomo and his wife, Allison; and great-grandchildren, Lacey and Amber Scott; and brother, Frederick.

Contributions may be made to: St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, P.O. Box 50, Memphis, Tennessee 38101; or Coastal Hospice, 10441 Racetrack Rd., Ste 6, Berlin, Maryland 21811.

Condolences may be left on the guestbook at mccomasfuneralhome.com.

Worcester seeks Volunteer Spirit award nominees

(Aug. 12, 2021) To honor volunteers whose contributions help improve the quality of life locally, Worcester County residents are invited to nominate individuals, organizations and businesses for the Volunteer Spirit of Worcester County awards.

The nomination period is open now through Friday, Sept. 17, at 11:59 p.m.

"Since we were unable to host the volunteer spirit awards program last year, Worcester County will be recognizing volunteer contributions that took place between March 2020 and June 2021," Human Resources Specialist Kelly Brinkley said. "This year we have also added a special category – pandemic response champion – to honor those who have made extraordinary contributions that have aided in the local response to the covid-19 crisis."

Volunteer Spirit nominations will be accepted for each of the following nine categories, with one winner to be chosen from each: paramedic response champion, emerging leader, faith-based, lifetime achievement, veteran, local business, group/team, individual, and nonprofit volunteer program.

See COUNTY Page 23

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Opinion

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

Resort's court loss a win for everyone else

The question mainland residents might be asking themselves this week following the Town of Ocean City's loss of its tax differential court case against Worcester County is, "So what?"

Whether taxpayers know it or not, the Maryland Court of Appeals' rejection of resort government's attempt to overturn two lower court decisions that went against it is not only a big deal, it's why Ocean City lost the case.

In its original lawsuit in Worcester County Circuit Court in 2018, Ocean City argued that the county real estate tax levied on resort property owners should be less than that charged residents in other jurisdictions because resort taxpayers were paying for county services they did not use.

Instead, they were using similar or identical services the city supplied, and Ocean City officials believed the county should create a separate tax rate for the resort to reflect that difference.

The problem with that, the court found, was that whatever tax cut Ocean City would have received by this tax setoff or tax differential, as it is also known, would have been passed on to all the county's other taxpayers as a major tax increase.

The fact is Ocean City property tax revenue to the county allows the latter to operate more comfortably from a financial standpoint than it would be able to if it was more dependent on revenue generated by mainland properties.

This situation may not be fair to resort taxpayers, but it would be equally unfair to foist that financial burden suddenly on taxpayers in Berlin, Ocean Pines, West Ocean City and points south.

Further, the county commissioners representing the mainland districts would have been hard-pressed to explain to their constituents why their annual tax bills jumped by hundreds and even thousands of dollars from one year to the next.

That's why this ruling by the state's highest court is a significant victory for the county and its mainland communities, even if they were unaware of what was at stake.



"A temporary solution?"

Letters

Parks clarifies vote on election issues

Editor,

I am writing to share my position on the editor comments in this week's edition of the paper.

While the comment "... the board voted to invalidate Rick Farr..." is technically correct, be advised that the motion was passed by a board majority not a unanimous vote.

I did not support the motion and still do not agree that the decision is in the best interest of the association.

I have called for special meeting to consider rescinding the motion that was passed and have submitted a motion to consider starting the election process over to ensure that OPA members can have a valid ballot, can cast a vote that will be representative of their candidates and have all their votes be counted in the election rather than be invalidated and tossed aside.

Doug Parks
Ocean Pines

Argues in favor of unvaccinated

Editor,

This letter is in response to "Bemoans Those Still Unvaccinated" in the Aug. 12, 2021, edition

If you have the vaccine, why would you care if others choose for various good reasons, to skip?

If you are vaccinated, why would you mask up? Meanwhile, science says masks don't work and positivity rates are the same between groups with masks vs no mask.

Do some more homework and stop trying to make good people wrong or shamed for making their own informed decision.

If you're afraid of the virus, stay home. I will leave the "moron" comment alone.

John Fager
Bishopville

Proposes vetting board candidates

Editor,

I'm not quite sure what to make of your editorial on the OP election.

Are you saying that the BOD should just look the other way? Are you feeding the BS of election fraud? In order to stop all of the nonsense, we should have an outside company do a full background check on candidates and publish them.

Then folks would know exactly who they are voting for. That would have stopped us from having the similar situation where we had a candidate who won, was given free rein to get rid of the general manager and other great employees to settle scores from years past.

Eventually it was determined that he was not an eligible resident and should not have been allowed to run because his company actually owned his house.

It was later discovered that this subject tried to force the previous GM to give his company a no-bid exclusive contract to lay fiber optic cable, which the GM denied as it is against our bylaws.

The GM was fired and this subject installed as acting GM. Other key employees were fired because they
Continued on Page 23

BAYSIDE GAZETTE

11934 Ocean Gateway, Suite 6, Ocean City, Md. 21842
Phone: 410-723-6397 / Fax: 410-723-6511.

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Letters

Continued from Page 22

had close associations with the previous GM. He was eventually dismissed from his own company and sued by them for misappropriating funds. He resigned from the BOD.

Folks would be amazed at the criminal and civil records of some of the long-time big mouths in the community who have been in charge of the finances and our \$8 million budgets.

I wouldn't have them in charge of a lemonade stand. But people keep listening to them because they are the loudest. You brought up another candidate and talked about some emails.

Wherever they came from, folks should know what this candidate's exposure is to a substantial monetary claim from the feds against a person close to him, not a company. I have never spoken to this gentleman and only know what I read on a judiciary website about criminal charges and restitution.

I hope his heart is in the right

place and I wish anyone who wins good luck. It's not an easy job. I feel bad for the candidate that was ruled ineligible, as I know it takes money, time and effort to run for the BOD.

The BOD itself has turned into something outside of the bylaws. The BOD should not be running the community. That is the job of the GM, with oversight from the BOD, but not overbearance.

Unfortunately, we have the same people behind the scenes, pushing candidates to run who they then control and push their agenda. If it was up to these folks, we would still be putting coats of paint over the rot on the old Yacht Club and Country Club.

Luckily, we have had folks on the BOD, and 2 of the last several GMs who have said enough is enough and they had the courage to go against those forces and got things done, which have strengthened our community. Unfortunately, it cost some their jobs.

Bill Cordwell
Ocean Pines

Pocomoke brings back Boat Docking Challenge Aug. 21

(Aug. 12, 2021) After almost a two-year of absence, the Pocomoke Boat Docking Challenge is back and will take place on Saturday, Aug. 21, in downtown Pocomoke City on the Pocomoke River.

"We have decided to take advantage of new opportunities to grow this event into a bigger and better one," according to a press release. "You will still see your favorite elements: the introduction of the awesome sponsors that help make this event possible, our national anthem sung on the Pocomoke River, the amazingly skilled captains operating their vessels, and an exclusive view of what small town competition looks like;

but this year, we have revamped our sponsor guidelines, increased the number of captains, increased the event winnings, as well as adding more family fun."

Anyone interested in getting involved as a sponsor, captain, or volunteer in the eighth annual event should contact pvfd57@msn.com or call 410-726-5777. For more information regarding the event, visit www.pocomokeboatdocking.com or on Facebook at Pocomoke Boat Docking Challenge.

Gates open at noon. Practice runs start at 1:30 p.m. Competition kicks off at 3 p.m. followed by music and firework at 9:30 p.m.

County Volunteer Spirit honors

Continued from Page 21

Nominees should reside in and represent the volunteer spirit of Worcester County. Nomination forms may be filled out and submitted online at www.worcestervolunteer.org. Once there, click on "News."

Hard copies will also be available at all five branch libraries, the County Administration Office in the Worcester County Government Center in

Snow Hill, or by contacting Brinkley at 410-632-0090 or kbrinkley@co.worcester.md.us.

To highlight the outstanding services of the volunteers, the Worcester County commissioners will host a recognition ceremony for nominees selected as award winners on Oct. 21. The Volunteer Spirit of Worcester County takes place in cooperation with the annual Governor's Service Awards program.

Have an opinion?

We invite you to share it, but all letters are subject to verification, so please include your name and phone number. All letters are subject to editing for space and to protect the author and this newspaper from legal action. Email letters to editor@baysidegazette.com. For questions, call 410-723-6397.

OPEN HOUSES AUGUST 12 - AUGUST 19

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, 8:30am-5:30pm	1-A E Mallard Dr., Ocean Pines	3BR/2.5BA	Townhome	\$550,000	Karen Oass/Long & Foster
Saturday, 11am-1pm	1089 Puppy Hole Ct. #202, Crisfield	3BR/2BA	Condo	\$239,900	Power of 2/Hileman Real Estate
Saturday, 3-5pm	38414 Walnut Ln., Selbyville, DE	3BR/2BA	Single Family	\$989,900	Lauren Bunting/Atlantic Shores



Cuisine

NY strip steak with garlic compound butter

Years ago, I helped open a new restaurant. On the menu, we offered a dry-aged 10-ounce New York Strip for \$42 and a 12-ounce CAB New York Strip for \$26. We decided on the choice as many people would not want to spend that much on dinner.



By Paul Suplee,
MBA, CEC, PC-3

The soft openings went well, and it was finally time for the grand opening. Excitement was buzzing in the air as the first orders came back to the kitchen, but before I could read the modifiers on the six-top rising out of the printer (which makes an unmistakable noise to any cook), the server came back to the line.

“Chef, don’t yell at me” she said. “This is exactly what the guests wanted.”

Curious by her fevered statement, I read the ticket to find out that they wanted “2 NY Dry Steak” with the modifier “Well, well, well done. Extra crispy.”

Confused I just looked up. The server told me that those were their exact words, and they were very clear about it. She continued, “They said they want the steaks to ‘tink’ when they hit the plate. It’s just how they prefer their steaks.”

I asked the server to convince them to order the CAB steaks and save their money, as this would be a waste of the dry product, but they insisted on the dry-aged beef as they had never had it before.

Begrudgingly, I burnt the hell out of those steaks; it sticks with me to this very day. After I burnt them, I held them in the blue flame of the range top and made them ‘extra crispy’. And, indeed, they did “tink” as they hit the plates.

The dinners were served, and a strange anticipation sat in the air like a thick morning fog. The server rushed back and asked the question that no respectable cook ever wants to hear; “Do we have any A1?”

“No, we do not. You should know that.”

“Then they want ketchup” she lamented.

Our heads hung low, saddened by the sacrifice that we had just made to the cattle gods and the craftsmen who had labored to cure such a fine product.

“Well, you know where that is.”



A few minutes went by, and the server came back to the kitchen, stating that my presence was requested at the table. Incensed at this point, I removed my apron and rolled up my sleeves, fully expecting a battle with our friends whom we could not dissuade from ordering the more affordable steaks.

I approached the table with a smile from ear to ear (my father had taught me to kill ‘em with kindness), and the table started clapping. Confused, I kept up the charade of gracious professionalism, fully expecting a lambasting at the hands of the diners.

But, no, they told me that they were the best steaks that they had ever eaten. They were shocked at how moist and delicious the morsels were, and raved about them as I stood there confused and flummoxed. They even tipped me at the table, slipping an Andrew Jackson into my hand as though I was a maître d’ who had just gotten them the best table in the house.

And a little piece of me died that day.

In the end, I’ll cook your food however you like. But if you like your steak like this, stick to the grilled cheese, please. It hurts us to do your evil bidding.

Grilled NY Strip Steak

Serves 6

6 ea. 14 oz. New York Strips
Flaked kosher salt, as needed
Coarse black pepper, as needed
1 c. Compound butter (recipe follows)

1. Let steaks slack out of refrigerator for ten minutes

2. Season steaks liberally, as some will fall off during the grilling process. This can be done a few minutes before the steaks hit the Barbie, as they say Down Under.

3. Get the grill to a very high heat and place the steaks atop.

4. Some cooks like to cook one side, turn the steak 45-degrees with the same side down and then turn them. I prefer to cook one side, flip the steak to cook the other, and then repeat two more times. This will prevent the steak from curling and will yield a more evenlycooked product.

5. Remove the steak from the grill when at the temperature of your liking.

6. Top with half of the compound butter and let the steaks rest for 5 minutes.

7. Plate the steaks, spooning the melted butter on the steak and then topping with the last half of the compound butter.

8. Garnish with burgundy mushrooms, frizzled leeks or just stick with the compound butter. Either way, it will be a win.

Garlic Compound Butter

Makes a little more than 1 pound

1 lb. salted butter, softened
2 scallions, minced
6 cloves garlic, minced
1 Tbsp. Coarse black pepper
1 Tbsp. Sherry vinegar
1 Tbsp. Minced parsley
1 Tbsp. Minced basil

1. Simply combine everything in a bowl and mash together with a wooden spoon

2. Lay out a piece of parchment paper and glop the butter mixture into the middle

3. Carefully roll the butter like a fat cigar until it resembles a roll of icebox cookie dough that you buy in the store with a 2” diameter

4. Place in the refrigerator and chill until set

5. Unwrap and slice. Voila

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

Visit him at www.boxcar40.com.

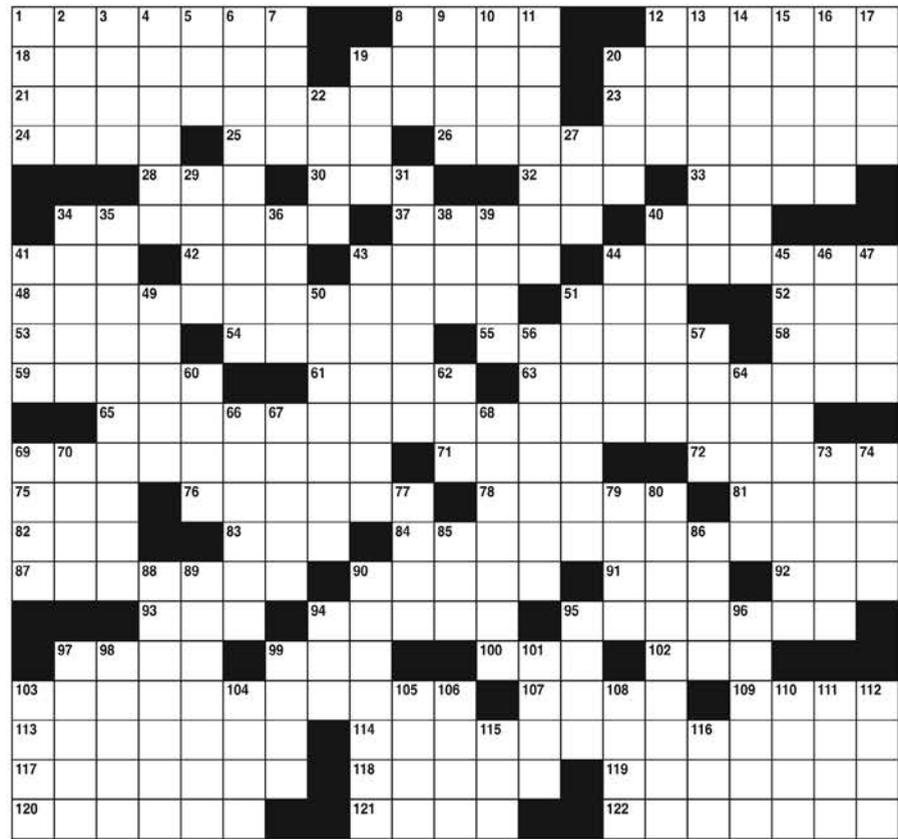
Puzzles

OFF BRAND

BY MATTHEW STOCK / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

Matthew Stock, who turns 25 this month, works for a math-education nonprofit in East St. Louis, Ill. The idea for this puzzle came about in January, when he was on a long road trip and passed a Honda Odyssey. He reinterpreted the name as "Honda odyssey" (small "o"), which aptly described what he was on. That bit of wordplay didn't make it into this puzzle, but similar ones with other brand names did. This is Matthew's sixth Times crossword, and his second Sunday. — W.S.

- ACROSS**
- 1 A is one
 - 8 Ozone-harming compounds, for short
 - 12 Actor Guy
 - 18 "How awesome!"
 - 19 Play with, as a cat might a toy mouse
 - 20 Naysayers
 - 21 Five guys?
 - 23 It might have desks and drawers
 - 24 Shade of purple
 - 25 Those: Sp.
 - 26 Green giant?
 - 28 Ambulance driver, for short
 - 30 Finished first
 - 32 "___-ching!"
 - 33 Just
 - 34 Like basalt and obsidian
 - 37 Something sent on a Listserv
 - 40 Police broadcast, for short
 - 41 "Special Agent ___" (animated Disney show about a bear)
 - 42 Main character in Larry McMurtry's "Lonesome Dove"
 - 43 Apt name for a Christmas caroler?
 - 44 ___ Clarendon, first openly transgender W.N.B.A. player
 - 48 Jolly rancher?
- DOWN**
- 1 Standing on
 - 2 Texter's "Hilarious!"
 - 3 Soy something
 - 4 Ones working block by block?
 - 5 Hoodwink
 - 6 Drift apart
 - 7 Certain Ivy Leaguers
 - 8 Pac-12 school, informally
 - 9 Qualification shorthand
 - 10 "Ple-e-e-ase?"
 - 11 Help when writing a letter
 - 12 Its national drink is the pisco sour
 - 13 State of disorder
 - 14 Some vacation rentals
 - 15 Lube up again
 - 16 Old pal
 - 17 Actress ___ Creed-Miles
- ACROSS**
- 51 Hole
 - 52 Diagnosis characterized by repetitive behavior, in brief
 - 53 Focus of a marathon runner's training
 - 54 Grand opening?
 - 55 Sides (with)
 - 58 ___ school
 - 59 Dessert with some assembly required
 - 61 Grammy recipient Lisa
 - 63 What pro bono lawyers waive
 - 65 General mills?
 - 69 The British 20-pence and 50-pence coins, geometrically
 - 71 Member of a South Asian diaspora
 - 72 Photo finish
 - 75 Every last drop
 - 76 Bank, often
 - 78 Exams offered four times a year, for short
 - 81 Grown-up pup
 - 82 "I promise I won't laugh," often
 - 83 Certain guiding principle
 - 84 Texas instruments?
 - 87 Meadow grass with brushlike spikes
 - 90 Fermented Baltic drink
 - 91 "Ugh, gross"
 - 92 Stag's date?
 - 93 Doc treating sinus infections
 - 94 X, in linear functions
 - 95 Dolphins' div.
- DOWN**
- 97 Like many a company softball game
 - 99 "That stinks!"
 - 100 Subj. devoting extra time to idioms
 - 102 ___ milk
 - 103 Band aid?
 - 107 Truce
 - 109 Litter-box emanation
 - 113 Efflux
 - 114 Old navy?
 - 117 Like many a grillmaster
 - 118 Supermodel Kate
 - 119 Headache helper
 - 120 Took a little look
 - 121 [Hey, over here!]
 - 122 Rough patch
- ACROSS**
- 19 South American capital
 - 20 Figures
 - 22 Statements of will?
 - 27 "The power of global trade" sloganeer
 - 29 ___ Millions
 - 31 Into crystals and auras, say
 - 34 Its calendar began in A.D. 622
 - 35 Inflated feeling of infallibility
 - 36 Letters on a stamp
 - 38 ___ B or ___ C of the Spice Girls
 - 39 Actor Alan of "Crimes and Misdemeanors"
 - 40 Binghamton Rumble Ponies or Birmingham Barons
 - 41 "My b!"
 - 43 Sign
 - 44 Feudal lord
 - 45 Plots of western films?
 - 46 Brain-freeze cause, maybe
 - 47 Does a summer job?
 - 49 Warrant
 - 50 Magic can be seen here
 - 51 Relating to land, old-style
 - 56 They can help you see or taste
 - 57 Like the odds of finding a needle in a haystack
 - 60 Airline based near Tel Aviv
 - 62 Deserving of a timeout, say
 - 64 Big spread
- DOWN**
- 66 "No need to elaborate"
 - 67 Like the Hmong language
 - 68 ___ Ng, author of "Little Fires Everywhere"
 - 69 12/24, e.g.
 - 70 ___ Perlman, role for Timothée Chalamet in "Call Me by Your Name"
 - 73 Means of divination
 - 74 "What ___?"
 - 77 Indicate availability, in a way
 - 79 "Weekend, here I come!"
 - 80 Side dish at a barbecue
 - 85 Upsilon preceder
 - 86 Producer of the world's most widely read consumer catalog
 - 88 Genre for One Direction
 - 89 "... finished!"
 - 90 Ties
 - 94 Android alternative
 - 95 Exclamation after a sigh
 - 96 Teeny-tiny
 - 97 Sporty wheels
 - 98 Eccentric
 - 99 Explorer Richard who made the first flight over the South Pole
 - 101 Attempt to control the narrative, in a way
 - 103 Lava, e.g.
 - 104 Took to court
 - 105 Omar of "Love & Basketball"
 - 106 Rolls around while exercising?
 - 108 Quick talk
 - 110 What nyctophobia is the fear of
 - 111 Slobbery cartoon character
 - 112 "___ over" (words after letting off steam)
 - 115 Often-contracted word
 - 116 Tech sch. in Troy, N.Y.



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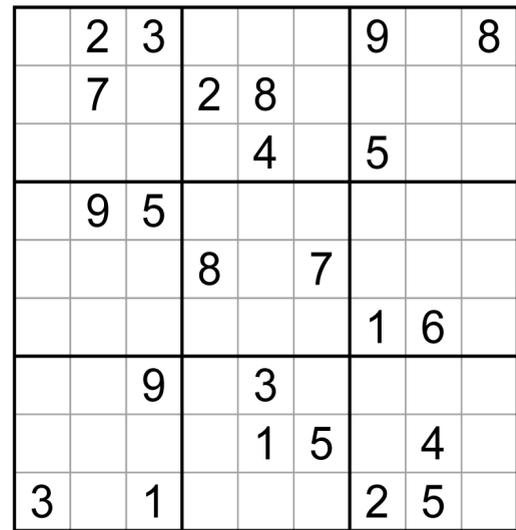
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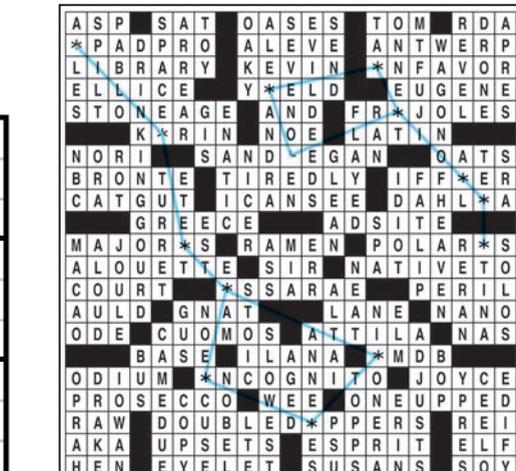
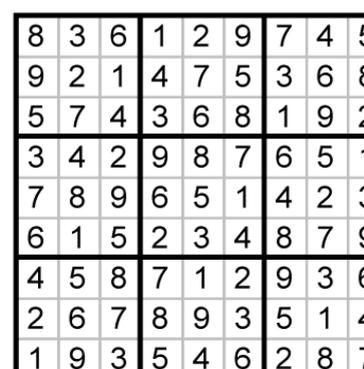
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© Puzzles by Pappocom
HARD - 82

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



Calendar

Thurs., Aug. 12

ARTISTS PAINT OC: PLEIN AIR EVENT

Watch artists at work as they set up their easels along the Boardwalk, bayside and beaches. 410-524-9433, <https://artleagueofoceancity.org>.

WOR-WIC COMMUNITY COLLEGE DUAL ENROLLMENT INFORMATION SESSION

Wor-Wic Community College, Guerrieri Hall, 32000 Campus Drive, Salisbury, 6-7 p.m. Parents and their high school juniors and seniors who are interested in beginning dual enrollment this fall are invited to participate. Visit the events section of www.worwic.edu to register.

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>

SUNSET PARK PARTY NIGHTS

Sunset Park, 700 S. Philadelphia Ave., Ocean City, 7-9 p.m. Featuring "Academy of Music Performance" (variety). Admission is free, while beverages, including beer, are available for purchase. Bring your own seating. <http://www.ocdc.org>, 410-289-7739

CONCERT IN THE PARK

Cypress Park, 7 Bridge St., Pocomoke City, 7-8:30 p.m. Featuring "Front Page News." Pack a picnic and bring lawn chairs. Admission is free. downtown-pocomoke.com, 410-957-1333, Ext. 111

OC BEACH DANCE PARTY

Caroline St. Stage, 2 N. Atlantic Ave., Ocean City, 7:30-9:30 p.m. A DJ hits the Caroline Street Stage where attendees can dance under the lights on the beach. Followed by the new drone show at 9:30 p.m. 410-250-0125

THE EDWARDS TWINS

Ocean City Performing Arts Center - Roland E. Powell Convention Center, 4001 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, 7:30-9:30 p.m. The Edwards Twins are master vocal and make-up illusionists. Featuring impressions of more than 100 stars. Tickets are \$30: www.theedwardstwins.com, www.ticketmaster.com or 410-289-2800.

OC DRONE SHOW

North Division Street Beach, Ocean City, 9:30-10 p.m. Come experience Ocean City's new drone show. <https://www.ococean.com/events/oc-drone-shows2021>

SNOW HILL FARMER'S MARKET

Thursdays through October - Sturgis Park Pavilion on the Pocomoke River, noon to 5 p.m.

Fri., Aug. 13

ARTISTS PAINT OC: PLEIN AIR EVENT

Watch artists at work as they set up their easels along the Boardwalk, bayside and beaches. 410-524-9433, <https://artleagueofoceancity.org>.

MOVIE ON THE BEACH

27th Street Beach, Ocean City, 8:30-11:59 p.m. Featuring "Moana." Weather permitting. Ocean City Recreation & Parks, 410-250-0125, <http://www.oceancitymd.gov>

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. More than \$1,000 paid out each night plus an opportunity to win a \$1,000 jackpot at the end of the night. 410-524-7994

Sat., Aug. 14

ARTISTS PAINT OC: PLEIN AIR EVENT

Watch artists at work as they set up their easels along the Boardwalk, bayside and beaches. Wet Paint Sale from 5-8 p.m. at OC Center for the Arts. 410-524-9433, <https://artleagueofoceancity.org>

OCEAN PINES ANGLERS CLUB MEETING

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, Berlin, 9:30-10:30 a.m. Scott Lenox, host of "Hooked On OC," will share his expertise on catching the elusive flounder as well as other fishing tips. All welcome. Jack Barnes, 410-641-7662

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., Aug. 15

ARTISTS PAINT OC: PLEIN AIR EVENT

Quick Draw Contest from 9-11 a.m. Judging at 12:30 p.m., followed by the sale from 1-3 p.m. at the OC Center for the Arts. 410-524-9433, <https://artleagueofoceancity.org>

SUNDAES IN THE PARK

Northside Park, 200 125th St., Ocean City, 7-9 p.m. Enjoy free music. 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 SHOW

Northside Park, 200 125th St., Ocean City, 9-9:30 p.m. Come experience Ocean City's new drone show. <https://www.ococean.com/events/oc-drone-shows2021>

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.berlin-mainstreet.com/farmersmarket/>

Mon., Aug. 16

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. For call-in option, dial 605-472-5789, wait for voice command, then press 944874. Support and educational group. Rose Campion, 443-880-8884

Tues., Aug. 17

ARMY CORPS, STATE TO HOST PUBLIC MEETING ON OC INLET PROJECTS

Berlin library, 13 Harrison Ave., 6:30-8:30 p.m. The meeting will provide an opportunity to discuss two concurrent efforts: a navigation improvement project to address sediment accumulation in the Ocean City Inlet and a study on the scour hole near Homer Gudelsky Park. A formal presentation will be held from 7-8 p.m. For those who want to attend virtually, go to <https://usace1.webex.com/meet/amber.c.metallo> and choose "call me" and enter your phone number. To call in, dial 844-800-2712; Access Code: 1998594423; Security Code: 1234. Info: <https://www.nab.usace.army.mil/OceanCity/>.

KOFC SEAFOOD NIGHT

Knights of Columbus, 9901 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, 5-6:30 p.m. If you would like steamed crabs or shrimp, you must pre-order on Monday or Tuesday morning between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. Pre-order: 410-524-7994.

DELMARVA HAND DANCE

Tuesdays - Selbyville Elks Lodge 2173, 13324 Worcester Highway, 5:30 PM - 9:00 PM. delmarvahanddance@gmail.com, <https://delmarvahanddancing.com>

Wed., Aug. 18

ZOOM WITH YOUR BABY

Meeting via Zoom, 10:30-11:30 a.m. Babies, under 2 years of age, and caregivers join for songs, rhymes and stories. Optional: have a scarf and rattle/shaker handy. Register: www.worcesterlibrary.org under events. 410-632-2600

GENEALOGY WORKSHOP

Starts with a 20-minute lesson on genealogy research by Tom Dempsey followed

by a Q&A session, 11 a.m. Register: www.worcesterlibrary.org under events. 410-632-2600

BREAST CANCER SUPPORT GROUP

Regional Cancer Care Center, 9707 Healthway Drive, Berlin, 1-2 p.m. For survivors and current patients battling breast cancer. Women Supporting Women, 410-548-7880

MOVIE ON THE BEACH

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

ONGOING EVENTS

BUS TRIP TO SIGHT & SOUND THEATRES

Bus will leave Stevenson United Methodist Church, Berlin at 8 a.m. on Nov. 6 and arriving at Sight & Sound at 2:30 p.m. for the 3 p.m. show of "Queen Esther." Stopping for lunch at Hershey Farm Restaurant. The bus will return to the church at approximately 11 p.m. Info: Jill Gray, 410-713-9139; Kathy Davis, 443-346-6761; or Pat Oltman, 443-614-2518. Checks to be made out to Stevenson Women and can be mailed to: Stevenson Women, 123 N. North Street, Berlin, MD 21811.

NAO SANTA MARIA TOURS

The ship will dock at Third Street and the bay and will be open to the public from Aug. 12 through Sept. 5 from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. each day. Tickets cost \$15 for adults, \$5 for kids from 5-10 years old and free to those 4 years and younger. Family tickets cost \$35 and include two adults and up to three kids that are 5-12 years old. The fourth child pays \$5 for the family tickets. Tickets are available at the dock or by visiting www.naosantamaria.org.

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 FREE SUMMER PROGRAMS

Ocean City Life-Saving Station Museum, south end of the Boardwalk, 813 S. Atlantic Ave., Monday through Saturday, 10-10:30 a.m., through Aug. 31. Featuring "History of our Surfinan" 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. www.ocmuseum.org.

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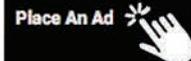
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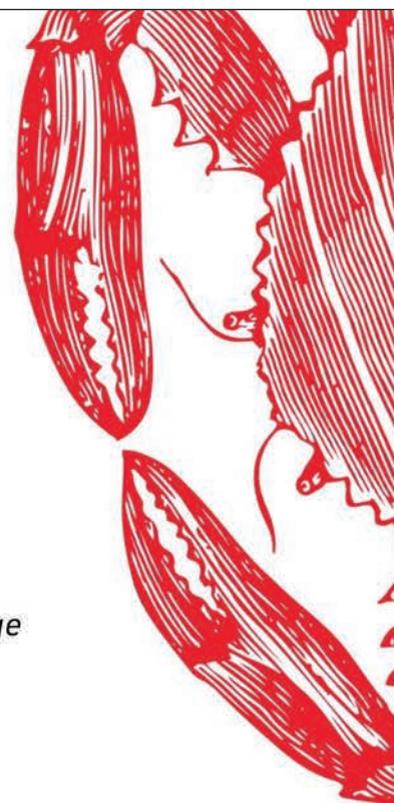
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