



GREG ELLISON/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

HOT RIDE

Seven-month-old mini dachshund puppy, Gemma Jane, keeps watch while Evan Griffiths from Bishopville, right, discusses his 1929 Model A Ford with Ocean Pines Chamber of Commerce Board member Rich Cropper, during a car show at the South Gate Pond on Saturday.

Pines board won't count ballots yet

Will wait until after hearing in circuit court on Sept. 27

By **Greg Ellison**
Staff Writer

(Sept. 9, 2021) In light of a Worcester County Circuit Court hearing set for Sept. 27 concerning candidate Rick Farr's election eligibility, the Ocean Pines Directors on Tuesday agreed to delay counting votes for the current board election.

On Aug. 30 in Worcester County Circuit Court, Judge Sidney Campen denied a request from Farr's attorney Bruce Bright to extend an injunction that stayed the election on Aug. 11, while also agreeing to let the ballot count proceed.

Although Secretary Camilla Rogers certified Farr as a candidate

on May 11, he was declared ineligible to run on July 27 following an "anonymous tip" that Farr was not a property owner at the qualification deadline of Jan. 1.

Director Doug Parks said Tuesday the board has a choice to make, while noting Campen was explicit in allowing votes to be counted but also encouraged the association to refrain from certifying results.

"We should wait for the court decision on Sept. 27," he said.

Association President Larry Perrone said Campen has yet to issue an order in writing but did provide a decision from the bench.

"There's nothing in writing yet," he said.

In the court case last week, Bright, had argued that the injunction was intended to keep ballots in the custody of the Ocean Pines Elections Committee, while restricting count-

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'I'm against going into closed for something that completely involves everybody in Ocean Pines!'

— Tom Janasek

Small Town Throw Down Saturday

Berlin will give downtown some twang with all-day country music concert

By **Greg Ellison**
Staff Writer

(Sept. 9, 2021) Berlin will have its fourth annual "Small Town Throw Down," concert Saturday, with a trio of Nashville-flavored musical acts for a full afternoon of hoedown tunes with food, drinks and vendors on hand from 1-6 p.m.

The country music extravaganza,

which was launched in 2017, is produced courtesy of Fager's Island and The Atlantic Hotel.

Atlantic Hotel General Manager Laura Sterns said the concept took hold after John and Michelle Fager visited to Nashville in 2016.

"John likes country music," she said. "After seeing it in Nashville, he wanted to bring it to Berlin."

Sterns said past "Throw Down," events have drawn upwards of 1,000 people to Berlin.

"John does this to help bring business to the town," she said.

Performers on tap this Saturday include Ruthie and the Wranglers, Johnny Cash tribute band Boy in Black and the Lauren Calve Band.

Berlin Chamber of Commerce Deputy Director Steve Frene said the organization would be selling beer and wine all afternoon.

"In addition to the music part, which is John Fager and the Atlantic Hotel, the Chamber worked with them to help promote it," he said.

Backing the chamber's fundraising effort are Burley Oak Brewing Com-

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Bylaws nears end point of work group review

Pines advisory committee continues charting progress on updates to send board

By Greg Ellison
Staff Writer

(Sept. 9, 2021) Ocean Pines Bylaws and Resolutions Committee members discussed work group proposed language revisions tied to voting qualifications, committee membership and director removal during its virtual meeting last Friday.

Committee Chairman Jim Trummel said revisions to bylaws section 3.01C are under consideration to correct language inconsistencies for membership voting rights.

“There are two locations in bylaws that use ‘eligibility to vote,’” he said.

Trummel said the remaining bylaws references to membership voting rights use the term “eligible to vote.”

One additional variation exists in section 4.07A that says, “members eligible to cast votes,” which Trummel suggested could also be amended to “eligible to vote.”

The proposed language revisions for 3.01C would mandate payment of annual charges levied by the Board of Directors as a prerequisite for voting, which could be suspended if a member is in continual violation of Decla-



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

SCREENSHOT/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

ration of Restrictions.

The addition of section 3.01D is also proposed, which states members are restricted from voting if annual charges are not paid 35 days before any voting deadline.

Committee member Keith Kaiser suggested breaking out the revised wording for 3.01C to create 3.01E that would include the requirement

members are not in violation of declaration of restrictions to be eligible for voting.

Trummel also raised the specter of permitting associate members of the association to be considered for committees.

Bylaws section 1.08 defines an associate member as a “person entitled to use the facilities and amenities,”

but not permitted to vote.

Trummel said the suggestion was put forth during an Executive Council meeting.

“Several committee chairs thought this would be a good idea,” he said. “It could help in recruiting committee membership.”

Committee member Bob Hillegass
See POTENTIAL Page 3

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**Inside Ocean Pines
South Gate Entrance**

Potential changes to OP governance documents mulled

Continued from Page 2

noted the bylaws currently mandate that committee members are property owners eligible to vote.

"If you're going to extend it that the same rule would have to apply," he said.

Defining durations for associate members to join advisory committees was another issue noted by Trummel.

"They could be an associate member for the weekend or a much longer time," he said.

Committee member Lora Pangratz asked if the suggestion would also extend to voting privileges.

"Does it also allow associate members to vote in elections?" she said. "Why would I want to volunteer to do committee work when I can't vote on anything?"

Kaiser said there would likely be long-term renters in Ocean Pines who would be interested if committee membership is expanded.

"They could be productive members of the community," he said.

Committee members agreed to forward the proposal to the bylaws work group in the midst of crafting language revisions for the Board to review.

Also discussed was a suggestion from an association member to revise section 5.12 for removal of a director.

Trummel said the concern is that the current threshold to remove a Board member is the majority of votes eligible to be cast, not those received.

"There are other differences between the current and past bylaws for removal provisions not relevant to the issue of voting thresholds," he said.

At present, bylaws language allows directors to be removed by the majority of votes that could be cast in a referendum by eligible members.

"Current bylaws do not mention removal for cause but the petition has to state a basis for removal," he said.

Trummel said prior to 2008 bylaws provisions provided for removal by cause if two thirds of those eligible to vote approved.

"I don't see a basis for changing the current bylaw language," he said.

Bylaws section 5.12B permits removal of a director by two-thirds vote of the board.

Pangratz suggested the proposal be forwarded to the bylaws work group for vetting.

Trummel said the committee is nearing completion of review items sent from the bylaws work group.

"We're coming very close to the point where we have done everything that we think we can do," he said.

Trummel said a complete package of review feedback would be compiled and sent to the work group by next month. The next Bylaws and Resolutions Committee virtual meeting is scheduled for Sept. 17 at 1 p.m.



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Pines amenities boost budget favorability

Association's July financial statement reflects bottom line positive by \$970,000

(Sept. 9, 2021) The Ocean Pines General Manager's Office recently announced significant budget favorability for the first three months of the new fiscal year.

Based on the July financial report, Ocean Pines' financial performance was favorable to budget for the month by about \$231,000, and favorable roughly \$970,000 in total for the first three months of fiscal year 2021-2022.

General Manager John Viola said approximately 80 percent of the year-to-date favorability was because of successes at Ocean Pines' amenities, led by golf, the yacht club, aquatics, and racquet sports. The other 20 percent is timing and will offset during the remainder of the fiscal period, he said.

"Also, please keep in mind we still have nine months to go, and we appear to still be operating in uncertain times," he said.

Year to date, the combined racquet sports amenity is favorable to budget by almost \$35,000. Aquatics is favorable by roughly \$150,000, golf is favorable about \$210,000 and the Clubhouse Grille is favorable by

about \$46,000. Additionally, the yacht club is favorable approximately \$208,000 and the Beach Club is favorable just over \$70,000.

"All of that is organic in the sense that we're building revenue, and that's huge," Viola said. "The numbers are up across the board. Compliments to everybody on what has been a true team effort."

"We, the association, have invested in our amenities and it is beginning to show. We've also increased our programs and our spend over the last three years in roads, drainage and bulkheads, with positive results," he continued. "We're clearly operating on all cylinders right now."

Recreation and Parks Director Debbie Donahue, who oversees racquet sports, said the drop-in play numbers are up for all three sports: tennis, pickleball and platform tennis. Memberships have also increased this year, she said.

"Management implemented new procedures and daily processing, along with a midday attendant," she said. "The members and guests have been great at signing in, and the staff has collected and processed drop-in fees regularly."

Donahue said more people are booking lessons this season, thanks to the work of instructors like Racquet sports manager and tennis pro

Terry Underkoffler, and Linda Horst.

"All these things combined have helped the Racquet Center have a very successful season so far," she said.

Year to date, aquatics revenues are more than \$87,000 favorable to budget, while expenses are more than \$61,000 favorable to budget.

"The aquatics leadership team adjusted several things that helped contribute to the year-to-date performance," Aquatics Director Kathleen Cook said.

That included deferring some expenditures, and not filling some full-time positions because of the inability to train during the peak season.

"We also reduced hours at the indoor pool on non-peak times, to help fully staff the outdoor pools," Cook said. "And, instructional classes stayed indoors, so we didn't have to duplicate staffing resources."

She also credited strong customer service with helping to boost the numbers at the pools.

"This team has dealt with some of the most adverse situations we've had in a long time, but no matter where I've sent them, they've gone with a smile and they've greeted the customers warmly," Cook said. "My team has worked tirelessly, and the most important thing is that they've kept everyone safe."

General Manager of Golf John Malinowski said rounds were up during the last three months, and the weather has been conducive to good course conditions.

"Although it's been hot, it hasn't been hot and wet, as in years past," he said. "The addition of Justin Hartshorne as superintendent and the work his team has been doing is paying off. The course is in great shape and the reviews are great. People are coming out to play."

Finance Director Steve Phillips said several factors contributed to the Food and Beverage success.

"More often than not we've had good weather on the weekends, which can be a big driver for the Beach Club numbers, as an example," he said. "Weekend banquets have also been fully booked at the Yacht Club, so that was approximately \$200,000 of gross revenue that we didn't have last year, due to COVID."

Phillips added that gross margins overall had improved, and he credited the Matt Ortt Companies for keeping a year-round staff in place.

"Most places have struggled with staffing this year, as the pandemic limited the number of J-1 students available to work," he said. "Because Matt Ortt and Ralph DeAngelus were able to keep their core staff in place all year, they really didn't have those issues."

Community Briefs

Awarded

Anna Putsch, of Berlin, received the Jeanette and C. William Gilchrist Art Scholarship for study at Frostburg State University.

Contribution

Abigail Yesko has contributed to the Sokolov Honors College Transcribing Club and earned the designation transcriber for service to the group. Yesko is a forensic science major from Berlin.

The club recently reached a new milestone, logging 10,000 pages transcribed and 1,000 hours served just prior to the start of fall semester.

The Transcribing Club is made up of honors students who volunteer together to preserve history by transcribing documents in partnership with the Smithsonian and the Library of Congress.

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Longtime AGH CEO out, national search on horizon

By Mallory Panuska
Staff Writer

(Sept. 9, 2021) After nearly 17 years, Atlantic General Hospital and Heath System is changing up its leadership.

According to a news release issued Tuesday afternoon, Chief Operating Officer and President Michael Franklin's last day with AGH was Friday and members of the Board of Trustees will launch a national search to find a replacement.

In the interim, Dr. Sally Dowling, the current vice president of medical affairs, will serve as president; and Kim Justice, the vice president of planning and operations, will step in as CEO.

Board Chairman Greg Shockley said in the release that members and officials have "full confidence" in the pair to run the show while board members retain a national search firm and hire a permanent replacement.



Michael Franklin



Sally Dowling



Kim Justice

"We thank Michael for his commitment and professionalism over the past 17 years and wish him great success," Shockley said. "... We appreciate all that our associates and caregivers, our medical staff, our senior leadership team and our boards do to continue to provide the highest level of service and care for our community."

Franklin joined the Atlantic General team just shy of 17 years ago in October 2005. He came with a few years of experience as the chief oper- See HOSPITAL Page 8

Berlin weighs new mural location

Historic District group vets several requests, previews Rev. Dr. Tindley art project

By Greg Ellison
Staff Writer

(Sept. 9, 2021) In addition to approving requests for façade work, sign changes and privacy fencing, the Berlin Historic District Commission previewed a downtown mural project during its Sept. 1 meeting.

First up on the three-item agenda was a request to replace a section of rotten cornice on the front of a storefront at 18 N. Main St. owned by OC Law Office Holding LLC.

Property Manager Ed Reid said the damaged area of the structure also has detached molding.

"Over time that entire piece has become rotten," he said.

Reid sought assistance from Jack Abell Home Improvement and Restoration, who quoted the project at \$3,375.

"Once they get under it, I suspect they will ... see more rot and damage than what we see from the stoop," he said.

Reid anticipates the entire section of cornice will need updating.

"I applied for and received a façade grant to fund 50 percent," he said.

Reid said the goal was to complete the improvements before the end of the year.

"We didn't want to do it during high traffic summer months," he said.

Committee member Laura Stearns asked if replacement materials would match the current appearance.

Dylan Drew with Jack Abell confirmed current building materials were used for comparison purposes.

"It will be as close as possible to what's existing now," he said.

Reid said the façade grant also re-

stricted options in favor of maintaining tradition.

"We're going to use wood," he said.

Reid also confirmed the metal awning would remain and current color treatments would be matched.

The commission voted unanimously to approve the work.

Next for consideration was the approval of a sign for the Butcher's Table at J & M Meat Market on the corner of William and Pitts streets.

Heidi Johnson told the commission the 36-by-24-inch double-sided wooden sign was previously used by the front door.

The proposed wording would change to read "The Butcher's Table Wine Bar & Kitchen."

J&M Meat Markets launched the new wine and beer bar at the end of August.

The committee unanimously approved the request.

Lastly, the committee weighed a request to install a six-foot privacy fence at 26 Broad Street.

Planning Director Dave Engelhart said the request is for the backyard area at a residence located adjacent to the Post Office that was previously approved for shorter fencing in the front yard.

"It squares up with the chain link fence at the post office property," he said.

Committee Chairwoman Carol Rose said the stockade fencing would not be highly visible from roadways, while also complimenting the prior fence work completed at the property.

"It looks beautiful, they did a really nice job," she said.

On a side note, Rose highlighted pending approval to revise locations for a planned mural of Rev. Dr. Charles Albert Tindley originally slated for the Bruder Hill building on

Commerce Street.

Although rising to eventual prominence as a pioneer of modern gospel music during the post-Civil War era in Philadelphia, Tindley was native to Berlin.

Credited with writing standards such as "Stand By Me," and "We Shall Overcome," Tindley was born on the Eastern Shore in 1851 but relocated to Philadelphia with his wife, Daisy, following the Civil War.

The Worcester County Commissioners at its Aug. 17 meeting approved Berlin's request to pursue a grant to help fund the venture.

Rose said the Bruder Hill location proved to be too expensive.

"The texture of the outside of that building would make it more expensive than the grant would cover," she said.

Engelhart and Rose attended a meeting with artist Jay Coleman and various stakeholders at the Berlin Visitor Center on Aug. 24.

"The artist impressed us all," he said. "The samples of his work around the D.C. area and Annapolis were very impressive."

Rose said, contingent on approval next month, the mural project would be completed within view of Town Hall.

"It will go right over here on J.E. Parker's building on the old Farlow's Pharmacy space," she said.

Engelhart said the Tindley mural would be an ideal addition to the Worcester County heritage area.

"It's educational for the kids and it's public art," he said.

Rose said the project could have a regional impact.

"The plan is if Berlins goes well, there will be one done next in Princess Anne and Somerset County," she said. "The Maryland Council for the Arts is really behind this."

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Pooch Palooza returns after taking year off

By Jack Chavez
Staff Writer

(Sept. 9, 2021) From chihuahuas to Great Danes and everything in between, all pet dogs are welcome to return for the Pooch Palooza at Frontier Town in Berlin on Saturday.

The event, sponsored by Grand Living Magazine and coming back after covid-19 shut it down last year, is being marketed as the “Games of the Sixth Pooch Palooza,” said event producer Sandy Phillips.

“It’s a very unique dog festival,” Phillips said. “It’s a day designed with things for your dog to do — not the typical festival where your dog hangs out with you while you go to a bunch of vendors. Even the backyard doggie doesn’t have to be an athlete.”

Events for this year include a costume contest, tennis ball lottery, lure chasing, competitive dock diving and the crowd-favorite pie-eating contest.

“Pie-eating is the most popular event,” Phillips said. “We prepare healthy pie mixtures so it doesn’t interfere with any dog’s special diet.”

The tennis ball lottery involves a helicopter coming in and dropping tennis balls on the ground.

Registration is required for the pie-eating and dock-diving contests, but Pooch Palooza itself doesn’t require pre-registration. Nevertheless, some etiquette rules do apply to dog attendees.

“We prefer to have well-behaved dogs that come in,” Phillips said. “Leashed at all times unless competing in an off-leash event. Leash back on after.”

The event doubles as a fundraiser. Proceeds go to US Kennels Inc., which runs a training facility in Salisbury. The kennel specializes in pairing dogs with military veterans.

Even though Pooch Palooza will be able to take place this year, Phillips said there’s still an element of covid lingering, so organizers are tempering expectations for Saturday. Normally, it can attract upwards of 2,000 people. But in the lead-up to the event, they’re not exactly sure what to expect.

But, Phillips said, they certainly want to capitalize on the pent-up wait for Pooch Palooza’s return.



FILE PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Pooch Palooza returns to Frontier Town in Berlin this Saturday, with activities including a costume contest, tennis ball lottery, lure chasing, competitive dock diving and a pie-eating contest.

“We promote it as in, your dog is waiting all year for their day to go out and do stuff,” Phillips said. “But they’ve been waiting a long time. It’s been two years. It’s a great way to bring your dog out, introduce them to new canine sports and activities. We’ve introduced a lot of dogs to lure chasing that have gone on to

compete. It’s just a great place to go try for the day and get out and do some things with your dog.”

Pooch Palooza starts at 9:30 a.m. Tickets cost \$12 in advance and \$15 at the gate. For more information, visit <https://grandlivingpublishing.com/pooch-palooza> or call 410-726-7334.

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GREG ELLISON/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Ocean Pines Director Doug Parks, left, voices support for adhering to court directives, while Director Frank Daly and Association President Larry Perrone consider the point during a special meeting on Tuesday.

Directors delay vote count until after Sept. 27 hearing

Continued from Page 1

returns or certifying results.

Ocean Pines resident Amy Peck questioned why the special meeting, which attracted barely a handful of residents, was convened at 10 a.m. on Tuesday.

“Let’s try to have meetings where more people can attend,” she said.

Director Tom Janasek argued against entering closed session to seek advice for legal counsel.

“I’m against going into closed for something that completely involves everybody in Ocean Pines,” he said.

Director Dr. Colette Horn countered that the issue at hand involves pending litigation, and said the board was justified to enter into an executive session so legal counsel could speak freely.

“We’ll make a decision in closed and come back to open,” she said.

The board voted to close the meeting with Janasek the sole opposition.

Following the closed session discussions the board announced it voted to refrain from taking any election-related actions until after the court hearing later this month.

Berlin goes country Saturday for Small Town Throw Down

Continued from Page 1

pany and Sister’s Wine Bar.

“We definitely want to thank the folks at Burley Oak ... and Sister’s Wine Bar, because they’re working with us on beer and wine sales,” he said.

Frene said all money raised through alcohol sales would help the chamber “do good stuff,” in the community.

“They’ll be a couple of food trucks and some artisans will be vending,” he said.

Sterns said the Atlantic Hotel would have outside seating available in front of the historic site.

“We’ll have an orange crush bar out front,” she said.

Food options will also be available at the Atlantic Hotel.

Frene said the event features old-time country music, while also highlighting the Boy in Black Johnny Cash tribute band.

“You’ll think you’re looking at Johnny Cash and listening to them,” he said.

Back again this year are D.C.-based Ruthie and the Wranglers.

“She’s kind of like a Pasty Cline,” he said.

To flesh out the stage act, Ruthie and the Wranglers are known for donning vintage cowboy garb.

“She does those old country and western honkytonk songs,” he said.

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Walk for Recovery lends aid Saturday on Boardwalk in OC

By Greg Ellison
Staff Writer

(Sept. 9, 2021) Raising funding to support recovery and destigmatizing the disease of addiction are the goals for the 2021 Walk for Recovery slated for the Boardwalk in Ocean City on Saturday starting at 9 a.m.

The annual event coincides with National Recovery Month during September and is being produced through a partnership of area nonprofits The Atlantic Club and Worcester Goes Purple/Warriors Against Addiction.

Registration costs \$25 per individual for the in-person event or virtually any time before Sept. 12.

For online registration and additional information visit www.altanticclubocmd.org.

Debbie Smullen, who works with Worcester Youth and Family Counseling Services and also founded Worcester Goes Purple, said community support is vital to aid individuals battling addiction.

"Our Walk for Recovery on the Boardwalk is done annually in September to bring people together to raise funding to help people in recovery," she said. "Everybody has to be in it together to be able to help."

Smullen said health restrictions imposed because of the covid-19 pandemic added a layer of difficulty for people overcoming adicitions to maintain routines.

"People go to their meetings, they go to the gym and have a certain routine of things that they do," she said. "Once that stopped dead, they weren't able to rely on that socialization."

Sharing with peers stories of past and current struggles is a crucial element for anyone charting a path to sobriety.

Of particular concern, post-pandemic overdoses have spiked in the region.

"In Worcester County we did have a 71 percent increase in overdose deaths last year," she said.

Although a portion of drug-related fatalities were not area residents, the uptick is significant.

"They are still people that did come here to Worcester County and died here from an overdose," she said.

Help from family, friends and neighbors is a key ingredient of overcoming addiction.

"One of the hard things for people is the stigma," she said.

One of the more common misperceptions is that addicition is a choice.

See ADDICTS Page 9

Hospital mission not changing

Continued from Page 5

Franklin's departure will not interrupt this planned expansion, and the health system is not set to change its course or business model in any way.

"Hospital officials confirmed that they will continue to move forward with these plans and have no intentions of affiliating with any other health system at this time," the release said. "Atlantic General Hospital plans to remain [an] independent community hospital."

According to the release,

Franklin's departure will not interrupt this planned expansion, and the health system is not set to change its course or business model in any way.

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Addicts fighting disease succeed with wide support

Continued from Page 8

"It really is a disease and people need help," she said. "Just like we would help anyone else if they were diabetic or had a heart condition, we need to look at people in the same way that they didn't wake up this morning and say, 'Hey, I want to be an addict.'"

Shattering stereotypes is another goal of raising awareness of recovery pathways.

"As far as who suffers from addiction, it crosses all levels of society," she said. "There are people that are functioning addicts that you would never think of."

After starting Worcester Goes Purple three years ago to educate the community about addiction, Smullen more recently joined it with a comparable area group.

"I merged and took over the Worcester County Warriors Against Opiate Addiction, which was started about six years ago by two moms," she said.

Worcester County Warriors was launched in April 2016 by Jackie Ball and Heidi McNeeley.

Smullen said Ball and McNelley handed over the reins to invest their energy in other charitable directions.

"Those two organizations are now helping people with all types of addictions," she said.

Besides opioids, the joint nonprofits also lend assistance to alcoholics or gambling addicts.

"It's any type of addiction that we can help," she said.

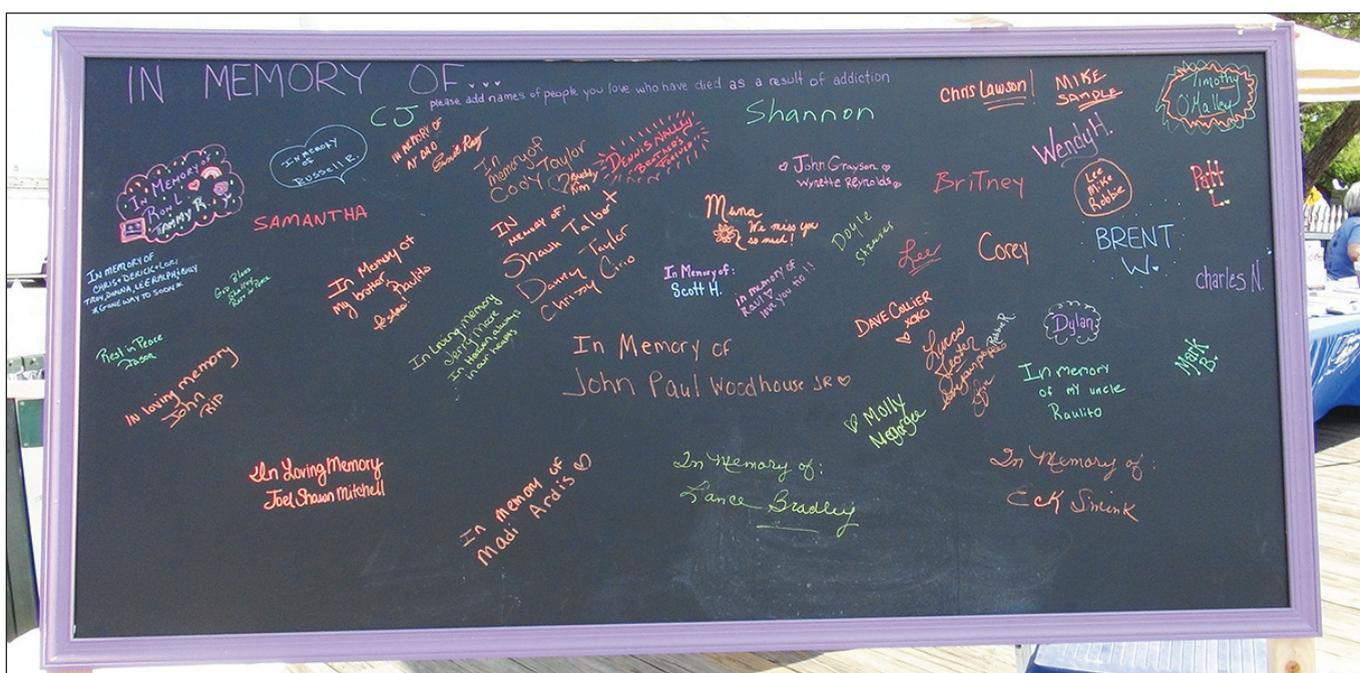
Smullen said the groups have jumped on board with the Atlantic Club the last several years for the Boardwalk fundraiser in September.

"The Atlantic Club is a 24/7 facility in West Ocean City," she said.

In addition to outpatient counseling, the Atlantic Club, located at 11827 Ocean Gateway, also sponsors Alcoholics or Narcotics Anonymous meetings.

"Anytime that anyone wants to go in there for support [or] needs help getting to treatment, there are always resources available," she said.

Funding garnered through the Walk for Recovery also backs the Atlantic



FILE PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Although it's typically on the Boardwalk, the memory board for the Walk for Recovery, decorated with the names of those who have passed from addiction, will be at the Atlantic Club in West Ocean City.

Club's scholarship initiative.

"They give out college scholarships to people who have been affected by addiction in their family life," she said.

Smullen said the nonprofits also lend financial backing to Hope4Recovery, which opened on Old Ocean City Boulevard in Oct. 2018 to house male addicts transitioning to sobriety.

Along with engaging the community to prevent substance abuse, Smullen said reducing overdose fatalities is another objective.

"We're doing Narcan training and giving away the Narcan for free," she said.

Providing a means to save people on the brink of death from illegal drugs seems controversial to some.

"That's another thing with that stigma [because] some people say they chose to take the drug," she said. "The bottom line is if you had a chance to save somebody's life, would you do it?"

Smullen said with roughly one in four people touched by addiction, participants in this week's will come from varying camps.

"People walk sometimes in teams [or] for a family member they've lost," she said. "We have people that walk that are in recovery themselves."

The goal is consciousness raising. "Recovery is possible," she said. "Someone who is in recovery is just the same as you and me, it's just they have a different disease."



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Ocean Pines man faces 34 counts

Daycare worker arrested for charges related to child porn and sexual abuse

By Greg Wehner
Staff Writer

(Sept. 9, 2021) An Ocean Pines man who worked at a Berlin daycare facility until last month faces numerous felony charges after being accused of crimes related to sexually abusing minors and possession of child pornography.

Bruce Travers, 37, was arrested by Maryland State police on Aug. 21 and charged with 34 offenses — two counts for sexually abusing a minor in his temporary care, two counts of sexually abusing a minor, and 15 counts of filming a child in a sex act, all felonies, as well as 15 counts of possessing child pornography.

Travers is a former employee of the Little Lambs and Community Church in Berlin.

The daycare facility director, Jocelyn Snelsire, sent an email to parents of children enrolled at Little Lambs on Aug. 27 letting them know they were made aware of the investigation into Travers on Aug. 26.

“The staff member in this case was terminated by Little Lambs Learning Center, and had not worked since 8/20/2021,” the staff’s email read. “That staff member’s access to our building and campus has been suspended as of Thursday afternoon.

“We are cooperating fully with the ongoing investigation and are therefore unable to comment on any parts of the investigation,” the staff added.

State Police were tipped off about Travers’s activity after the computer crimes unit received a referral from the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, according to court documents.



Bruce Travers

An image depicting four juvenile boys engaged in a sex act was uploaded to the Internet browser Bing with an IP address that traced back to a home on Brandywine Drive in Ocean Pines.

Travers does not own the home that the image was traced back to, but he is a renter at the home.

After an investigation, Maryland State Police, along with the Ocean Pines Police Department, executed a search and seizure warrant at the home at 5:30 a.m. on Aug. 20. The sole occupant of the home was Travers.

Police recovered electronic equipment, including laptops, cell phones, thumb drives, and camera memory cards, according to the charging documents. Police also seized used children’s underwear that were individually packaged.

Police also found, during the search, a box with instructions on how to use socks as a tool to achieve sexual gratification as well as hundreds of “benign” photos of children.

Travers was read his Miranda Rights and agreed to speak with investigators about the matter, documents state. During questioning, Travers admitted that he possessed child pornography, though he denied

touching any children sexually.

He also told police that three children between the ages of 7 and 10 have stayed at his home from time-to-time.

An investigation found Travers had stayed at the home with the children’s guardian off and on from June 2018 to July 2021, apparently earning the trust to take care of the children at his place of residence in Ocean Pines.

An examination of the electronic devices seized during the search contained several pornographic images of those children, court documents show, and when their caretaker was shown photos of several images of the clothing that was seized, she confirmed they belonged to the children.

The caretaker was also shown pornographic images of the children and confirmed their identity and approximate ages, according to court documents.

After interviewing the children, documents state, investigators believe two of them shared a bed with Travers and he was exploiting them for sexual gratification while they were in his care.

Travers is being held without bond.

“Investigators are aware that Travers has previously been employed in positions with access to children,” a statement from the Worcester County Bureau of Investigation read. “If members of the public have information pertinent to this investigation, they are asked to call the Worcester County Child Advocacy Center intake at (410-641-0097) for non-emergency calls.”

Commissioners OK H2Oi special event zone for all county

By Jack Chavez
Staff Writer

(Sept. 9, 2021) The Worcester County Commissioners on Tuesday approved Sheriff Matt Crisafulli’s request to designate various state rights-of-way in the county as “special event zones” from Sept. 21 to Sept. 26, when the unofficial pop-up car rally is expected to descend upon Ocean City.

The approval means that certain areas of Routes 13, 50, 113, 376, 589 and 611 will be operating under tighter laws with increased enforcement, should thousands of modified foreign cars show up in the area as they have in the past.

Commissioner President Joe Mitrecic clarified what the ruling meant since Crisafulli’s public request could be construed as saying speed limits would be reduced for the entire county.

“It will not change the speed limits throughout the county,” Mitrecic said. “Ocean City is the only municipality or area that’s allowed to reduce their speed limits during these special events. It just gives the county and sheriff’s department a little more latitude to deal with egregious issues and reckless driving throughout the county.”

Known erroneously as H2Oi, which is a legitimate event now held in Atlantic City, the vehicular swarm of small tuner cars has earned plenty of detractors over the years. The reckless behavior of many of the drivers, who were not actual participants in H2Oi, which was restricted to water-cooled German cars, is mostly what prompted the H2Oi International car show to relocate in 2018.

Despite the move, the louder, rowdier element that came to the resort at the same time as the original event, has continued to come to Ocean City, not even stopping during the covid-19 pandemic last year.

No official start and end for the rally are set, but it’s expected to go over the weekend of Sept. 24-26.

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JACK CHAVEZ/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

The Lewis Road sewer extension plan will utilize funds from the United States Department of Agriculture and the American Recovery Plan Act to connect residents along the two-mile road to The Landings sanitation service area. Worcester County has sought the means to upgrade the area's sewer services for 20 years.

Commissioners vote 4-3 for Lewis Road sewer extension

By Jack Chavez
Staff Writer

(Sept. 9, 2021) The Worcester County Commissioners narrowly approved the construction of sanitary facilities to serve residents along Lewis Road in Berlin on Tuesday.

"We've waited 20 years to get this thing in place," Commissioner Diana Purnell said before making the motion for approval.

Funding was decided in June for the \$2.025 million project, which will connect long underserved residents along the road that runs between Sinepuxent Road and Stephen Decatur Highway Landings sanitation service area. It will be paid for with a \$1.5 million grant and \$507,000 of the county's American Rescue Plans Act funds.

Commissioners Ted Elder, Chip Bertino and Jim Bunting voted against the measure. The three commissioners also opposed funding the project in June.

In the first vote three months ago, the three commissioners argued that residents along Lewis Road were getting special treatment as compared to residents in other areas that paid for similar projects themselves.

Bertino echoed those concerns on Tuesday.

"I'm glad that we're moving forward with this project," he said. "It's

an excellent project. The fact that I'm going to vote against it has nothing to do with my feelings that it is an excellent project but has everything to do with the fact that we are treating the ratepayers of that area differently than we're treating the rest of the ratepayers in other bordered areas."

"They're not having to pay for the hookups that Gum Point Road has, that Newark had a couple of years ago. I just don't think it's right that we treat one area differently than the other, because we've heard a lot of hardship cases from Newark this year, yet we move forward without providing them any sort of subsidy to pay for the hookups.

"As much as I favor this project and I'm glad it's going through, I don't think it's right that we're treating folks outside this area differently from how we're treating these folks. That's the reason that I'm moving against it."

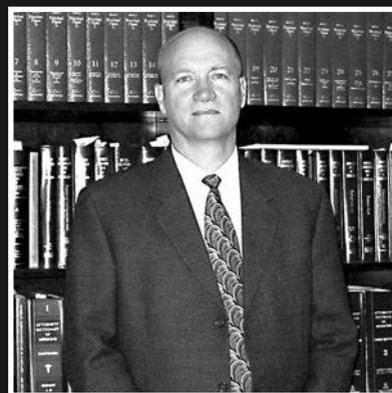
According to a memo from Environmental Programs Director Bob Mitchell, the project will yield a \$226.50 quarterly base rate to cover operating and maintenance costs for the service area as well as a \$15 charge for the Bay Restoration Fund. Unbuilt and unconnected lots would come with a \$180 accessibility charge per quarter.

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WHAT'S HAPPENING IN SNOW HILL

Bluebird Farms stocks homebrew hot sauces

By Greg Ellison
Staff Writer

(Sept. 9, 2021) Bluebird Farms in Berlin has spiced up its retail offerings with handcrafted hot sauces from LJ Sauce Company in Bel Air.

Bluebird Farms owner Nancie Corbett learned of the small batch sauce line produced by Jason Kuhn and his son, Logan, last month.

"I was on Facebook and saw their brand," she said.

Intrigued, Corbett reached out online to inquire about stocking shelves with the homemade blends.

"I messaged them to see if they had any interest in selling at Bluebird Farms," she said. "It appealed to me because I have kids."

Corbett suspected and confirmed the online creative culinary venture was inspired during the covid-19 pandemic.

"They were looking for something to do," she said.

Jason Kuhn said the cottage industry was born in 2020 after pandemic restrictions altered the societal landscape.

"I was furloughed," he said. With his then nine-year-old son stuck at home unable to pursue academics, the concept gradually came into focus.

"He was coloring dinosaurs and I said, 'we ought to do something with this,'" he said.

Referencing past kitchen experiments, the pair soon hit on the idea to create pepper-infused creations.

"Two years ago, my dad tried to create his own hot sauce," Logan

Kuhn said. "He called in T. Rex Tummy Torture."

Jason Kuhn said the varying elements soon merged into the LJ Sauce Company.

"I love to cook, and he cooks with me the majority of the time," he said.

Logan's artistic abilities were tapped to create unique labels for the assorted creations that are rated by heat index.

"He'll color in all the art for the labels and I shrink it down on the computer," he said.

Once an initial run was bottled, the Kuhns created a website and began promoting the business on social media.

"We created a website and word got around," Logan Kuhn said.

Altruism was one of the motivations that led to the creation of the LJ Sauce Company.

"For every bottle we sell, we donate \$1 to charity," he said. "Every month we focus on something different."

Logan Kuhn said lending community aid was an underlying reason for starting the sideline.

"Right now, we're helping pets that don't have a home," he said.

LJ Sauce Company is currently donating a portion of sales to the Humane Society of Harford County and the ASPCA.

"We love animals, so we wanted to take care of that," he said. "Last month, we lent aid to prevent child abuse and sent \$250."

Other causes previously receiving



GREG ELLISON/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Jason Kuhn, and his son, Logan, 10, is the brain trust behind LJ Sauce Company, which produces a full line of spicy concoctions available at Bluebird Farms in Berlin.

support include Action Against Hunger, Prevent Child Abuse America and the United Way Worldwide.

Sticking to a prehistoric theme, LJ Sauce Company offerings include Brachiosaurus Belly Bomb, Ankylosaurus Acid, Spinosaurus Sacred Sauce and Raptors Revenge.

"The number one seller is the Brachiosaurus Belly Bomb," Jason Kuhn said. "We smoke the peppers and let it ferment."

Logan Kuhn, who admits to having a lighter tolerance for spice than his father, said the top seller appeals to a wide range of palates.

"Despite the name, it's not really hot at all," he said. "It has as much

flavor as it does heat."

At present, Logan Kuhn said the latest LJ Sauce Company blend, the Plateosaurus Peach, is his current top pick.

"My favorite is probably the citrus one," he said.

Over the past year plus, Logan Kuhn's knowledge of all things hot and spicy has grown.

"I didn't know anything about peppers, but now I know everything," he said.

In addition to their first shelf space at Bluebird Farms, located at 11207 Race Track Road, LJ Sauce Company items can be purchased online by visiting www.ljsaucecompany.com.

Ground breaks on Gudelsky Family Medical Center in OP

By Mallory Panuska
Staff Writer

(Sept. 9, 2021) The days of traveling outside of Worcester County to undergo certain surgeries are officially numbered.

Last week, ground broke on Atlantic General Hospital's future 53,000-square-foot Gudelsky Family Medical Center on the southern end of Racetrack Road in Ocean Pines, paving the way for the ability to serve more patients at lower costs.

Hospital staff, community leaders, donors and well-wishers gathered at the site for an official kickoff ceremony last Tuesday, where the amenities of the new facility were discussed and celebrated.

The project, which is set for completion in a year and a half, will feature the first multi-specialty ambulatory surgery facility in the county, allowing for expansion of the surgical services available.

Currently, outpatient health and medical services are not in a centralized location, creating the need for

patients to travel to multiple places throughout the county, in some cases outside of the county, for basic primary care and outpatient procedures.

The new facility also will include lab and imaging services, another AGHRx RediScripts Pharmacy location and space for multiple specialty care practices. It will also provide a cost-effective option for planned outpatient procedures and expand the hospital's ability to accept certain types of insurances.

Altogether, 18 new physicians, nurses and allied health professionals, as well as more support staff, will be hired as well to staff the new facility.

Already a household name among Worcester County health care facilities, the Gudelsky family is behind the largest single private donation — \$4 million — that the hospital has ever received, inspiring the name of the new facility.

Rolfe Gudelsky, his wife, Ioana, and two children were among the attendees at the groundbreaking cere-



MALLORY PANUSKA/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Posing with shovels during the groundbreaking for the future Gudelsky Family Medical Center on Aug. 31 on Racetrack Road in Berlin, from left, are Michael Franklin, now-former president and CEO of Atlantic General Hospital; Jim Morvick, AGH Auxiliary Board member; Cindy Roman, president of the Atlantic General Auxiliary; and Greg Shockley, chair of the Atlantic General Hospital Board of Trustees.

mony.

"We've got a lot of roots here," Gudelsky said of his family. "We figure it's important to give back."

The Gudelsky's donation helped the hospital surpass its \$35 million fundraising goal for capital projects,

which included the Women's Health Center completed in West Ocean City in 2017, the Burbage Regional Cancer Care Center finished in 2018, and the modernization of the hospital's inpatient care areas that came to fruition in 2020.



GREG ELLISON/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Gregory Purnell presents a plaque to Sharon Briddell-Fowlis, while Donald Smack Sr. observes the proceedings during a dedication ceremony for "Briddletown Road Historical Area" street signs on Friday.



GREG ELLISON/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Shatera Briddell-Fowlis presents her mother, Sharon Briddell-Fowlis, with commemorative art in honor of her efforts to organize the longstanding Briddell family reunion during a ceremony in Berlin on Friday.

Twin street signs enshrine Briddletown Road

By Greg Ellison
Staff Writer

(Sept. 9, 2021) A pair of Historical Area street signs on Flower Street in Berlin were dedicated Friday in an effort to preserve the legacy of Briddletown.

That was the goal of Sharon Briddell-Fowlis, who helped organize the affair at a residence on Flower Street and Seahawk Lane where family reunions have been held for generations.

"It's only fitting for us to be here celebrating our 40-plus years of family reunions," she said.

Briddell-Fowlis credited Sarah Briddell Smack for having overseen the annual gathering of relatives.

"Cousin Sarah worked so hard on their family reunion," she said. "She loved this family reunion."

Worcester County has worked with Briddell descendants to commemorate the area, which dates to the 1860s, with an interactive sign installed in 2018 and last week a pair of "Briddletown Road Historical Area" street signs near the intersections of Flower Street by Seahawk and Honysuckle lanes.

Gregory Purnell, representing Lincoln Lodge 53 in Berlin, presented a

resolution to provide historical context during the dedication ceremony.

"Today we're commemorating what has always been," he said. "This road has always been Briddletown Road."

Purnell said the road designation was embedded during his youth.

"I got it from my elders," he said.

Purnell also invited other Lincoln Lodge members to join him at the podium.

"Half of these, more than half, are Briddletown boys," he said. "That's what makes this resolution so special."

Purnell said Briddletown was established in 1866 after the Civil War by 13 African-American property owners along the boundaries of Kitts Branch, a tributary of Trappe Creek.

"George and Martha Briddell were first landowners of the area," he said.

Purnell said the Briddletown founders were instrumental in establishing the St. Paul United Methodist



Numerous dignitaries and a wealth of Briddell family members attended a dedication ceremony for a street sign designating Briddletown Road at the end of Flower Street in Berlin on Friday.

GREG ELLISON/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Church for the community.

"Their direct descendants and immediate families have sought to preserve the Briddletown community as an African-American Historical District," he said.

Purnell said Briddletown continues to be a contributor and pillar in

the African-American community.

"We encourage the family to continue with these celebrations and even smaller ones to keep Briddletown in focus," he said. "It has always been a part of us and it shall always now be part of us because we've got the road and the area."

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First Day of School



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Conor Pelling, a third grader at Buckingham Elementary, waves while meeting Lou Taylor, superintendent of Worcester County Public Schools, on the first day of school, Tuesday.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Junior Luke Bunting and fellow Worcester Preparatory School classmates are welcomed back by the senior class cheering them on last week.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Worcester Preparatory School students returned in stages, starting with Upper School (ninth to 12th grade) on Aug. 31; followed by Middle School (sixth through eighth), Sept. 1; and Lower School (Pre-K through fifth) on Sept. 2. The Mallard school mascot stopped by first grade teacher Cheryl Marshall's class for a photo.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Ocean City Elementary students say goodbye to parents and head into the building on the first day of school, Tuesday.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Niyah Adams and Za'mya Handy, both eighth graders at Stephen Decatur Middle School, pose for a photo on their first day of school, Tuesday.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Substitute teacher Meagan Axel reads to students in Snow Hill Elementary's media center during the first day of school on Tuesday.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Annual fundraising endeavor named after Jesse Klump returns to the Pocomoke River Canoe Company after hiatus due to the coronavirus pandemic in 2020.

Jesse's Paddle event aims to support suicide prevention

(Sept. 9, 2021) After a year's hiatus, friends of the Jesse Klump Memorial Fund will gather for the 13th annual Jesse's Paddle on Saturday, Sept. 18, at the Pocomoke River Canoe Company in Snow Hill.

Registration begins at 4 p.m. and boats will hit the water by 5 p.m. Support raised at the event funds the nonprofit's suicide prevention outreach mission, mental health education programs, and grants for community needs.

"There will be free canoes and kayaks for those who raise more than \$30 to participate in Jesse's Poker Paddle," said Jesse Klump Memorial Fund President Kim Klump. "While our missions are very serious, this is a day of fun and celebration, and we expect to put dozens of boats on the Pocomoke River. We will observe all CDC and State of Maryland covid-19 guidance.

"Masks will be required except while our guests are in boats, and we'll be asking our guests to observe social distancing guidelines," she continued. "There will be masks for those who don't have them and plenty of hand sanitizing stations."

Top fundraisers will be rewarded with prizes. There are also prizes for those holding the best hands in the Jesse's Poker Paddle, plus live music, free hot dogs and beverages.

A surfboard-style standup paddleboard is the Paddle's raffle boat, and

there will be a silent auction. Raffle tickets are already available at www.jessespaddle.org/paddle, and the silent auction is receiving bids at the same website address.

The Jesse Klump Suicide Awareness & Prevention Program travels across the lower Eastern Shore teaching the recognition of suicide's risk factors and warning signs, with the goal of reducing the historically-high suicide rates in local communities.

"A successful Paddle enables us to offer all training, and all our educational material at absolutely no cost," Fund Officer Ron Pilling said. "Every penny raised at the Paddle is devoted to ending the risk of suicide, making our school programs possible to save young lives, and enabling folks with great ideas to address unmet community needs."

Supporters can make donations by visiting www.jessespaddle.org/paddle and clicking "Our Donor Form." Generous donors can create their own fundraising teams, support an existing team, or make a general donation. Donations will be welcome at the Paddle, and all gifts count toward the \$30 minimum for a free boat for the Poker Paddle.

Canoes, and solo or two-person kayaks can be reserved in advance for Jesse's Poker Paddle. To reserve a boat, call the Pocomoke River Canoe Company at 410-632-3971.

OP Children's Theater casts for Jan. production Sept. 13

(Sept. 9, 2021) The Ocean Pines Children's Theater will be casting for its January, 2022 production of Disney's "Frozen Jr."

Auditions for children and teens between the ages of 12 and 18 will be held at the Ocean Pines Library on Sept. 13, from 5-6:30 p.m.

Those auditioning for singing roles will need to be prepared to perform 16 measures of a song from the show. Girls may choose either "Let it Go" or "Do You Want to Build a Snowman," and boys can pick either "Love is an Open Door" or "Reindeer Are Better Than People."

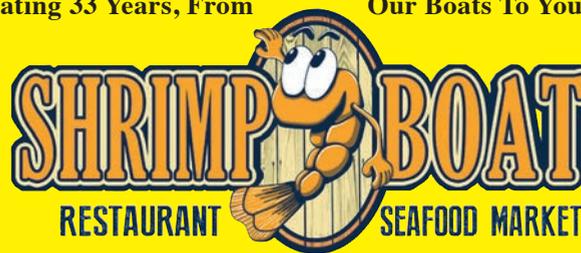
In addition, participants may be asked to do a "cold" reading from the script.

The Ocean Pines Children's Theater requires that all who attend the audition, or those who participate in any subsequent activity related to the production, present proof of full vaccination against covid-19.

For more information, contact opchildrenstheater@yahoo.com.

Disney's "Frozen Jr." is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI.

Celebrating 33 Years, From Our Boats To Your Table!



WEEKDAY DINE-IN SPECIAL



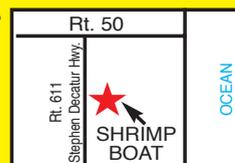
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Calendar

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

Thurs., Sept. 9

SCHOOL IMMUNIZATION CLINIC

Worcester County Health Department - Snow Hill, 6040 Public Landing Road, Snow Hill. Vaccines are provided free to all. Appointments: <https://www.worcesterhealth.org/.../184-immunizations>. Info: www.marylandvax.org or 410-632-1100, Ext. 2009.

FREE PINOCHLE CLASSES

Ocean City 50plus Center, 104 41st St., Ocean City, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Lunch can be purchased with advance notice. Info: Pat and Ed Lockett, 410-289-4725.

STORY TIME 'TREES'

Worcester County Library - Snow Hill Branch, 307 N. Washington St., Snow Hill, 10:30-11:30 a.m. Join the group for stories, songs and rhymes. Take-home activity included. For 2-5 year old children. www.worcesterlibrary.org, 410-632-2600

STORY TIME - 'IF YOU GIVE A PIG A PANCAKE'

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, Berlin, 10:30-11:30 a.m. Mr. Jake's all time favorite story by Laura Numeroff. Take home activity included. For 2-5 year old children. www.worcesterlibrary.org, 410-632-2600

ZUMBA FOR ALL LEVELS

Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., Berlin, 4:30-5:30 p.m. Join certified Zumba instructor Joyce Landsman for an hour of movement. These classes uplift and improve

Lower Shore Land Trust online event

Continued from Page 16
Ayers Creek Adventures, Maryland Delaware DC Beverage Association, Baked Dessert Café, Harrison Group, US WIND, Worcester County Tourism, Somerset Trail Mix and West O Bottle Shop.

Prizes will be awarded to most miles in each category. Follow River-Rally2021 Facebook group to meet up and paddle, hike, bike or join other events.

Conservation on the Lower Shore is key to the health of the Chesapeake Bay and Atlantic Coastal Bays and work today will ensure a healthy environment and strong economy for residents and visitors alike.

For more information about the event, to register, or to become a sponsor visit www.lowershore-landtrust.org or find us on Facebook.

mood. Register:

WRITING WITH RUTH

Meeting via Zoom, 1-3 p.m. Monthly gathering of local writers. Receive encouraging feedback from group participants. Register: www.worcesterlibrary.org under "Events." 410-632-2600

9/11 MEMORIAL SERVICE

Ocean City Firefighter's Memorial, 1 S. Atlantic Ave., Ocean City, 7-9:35 p.m. Lighting Ceremony at 7 p.m. "Remembrance Beams of Light" at 7:30 p.m. September 11th video tributes and fire fighter tributes on continuous play on a big screen from 7:35-9:35 p.m. www.ocean.com, 443-614-3425

10TH ANNUAL SUMMER SHAKESPEARE TOUR

Sunset Park, 700 S. Philadelphia Ave., Ocean City, 7:30-11:59 p.m. Free, outdoor performance of the comedy "Much Ado About Nothing." No tickets required. Social distancing through lawn seating, blankets and lawn chairs are welcome. <http://www.brownboxtheatre.org>, 443-808-1215

SNOW HILL FARMER'S MARKET

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

Fri., Sept. 10

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS BINGO

Columbus Hall, 9901 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, 6:30-11 p.m. Doors open at 5 p.m. and bingo begins at 6:30 p.m. Masks are required while moving around inside. 410-524-7994

OCEAN PINES BOOK OF THE MONTH: 'THE BOOK OF DELIGHTS' BY ROSS GAY

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, Berlin, 2-3 p.m. Lively discussion facilitated by Kelley Rouse and Nancy Mitchell of Salisbury University. Books are available at the library and at hoopladigital.com. Register: www.worcesterlibrary.org under "Events." 410-632-2600

MARYLAND CRAB CAKE DINNER

Stevenson United Methodist Church, 123 N. Main St., Berlin, 4-6:30 p.m. Cost is \$12 for one crab cake sandwich, green beans, baked potato and Cole slaw; \$20

for a two crab cake platter; and \$8 for one crab cake sandwich. Bake sale table available. Carryout only. 410-641-1137

80TH NATIONAL FOLK FESTIVAL

Downtown Salisbury, 100-110 Circle Ave., Salisbury, 5:30-9:30 p.m. More than 350 traditional musicians, dancers, crafts people and other keepers of culture in performances, workshops and demonstrations plus children's activities. <https://nationalfolkfestival.com>

OPEN MIC NIGHT

Worcester County Library - Pocomoke Branch, 301 Market St., Pocomoke City, 6:30-7:30 p.m. The library to host Sista Big for an evening of open mic entertainment. Bring poems, art, music and other talents or come to watch. No registration required. www.worcesterlibrary.org, 410-632-2600

9/11 MEMORIAL SERVICE

Ocean City Firefighter's Memorial, 1 S. Atlantic Ave., Ocean City, 7-10 p.m. "Remembrance Beams of Light" at 7 p.m. September 11th video tributes and fire fighter tributes on continuous play on a big screen from 7:35-10 p.m.

Continued on Page 20

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Opinion

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

Postponing vote tally safest call to make

That was a savvy call the Ocean Pines Association Board of Directors made this week, when it decided not to count the ballots in this year's board race until after a court hearing on Sept. 27.

By postponing the count, the board hedged its bets a bit while it waits to see how Circuit Court Judge Sidney Campen rules on the matter of would-be candidate Rick Farr's property ownership status.

Farr, who was initially certified to run in May, was disqualified in late July after the board ruled that he did not own his residence at the time of his filing. The legal title holder of the property at that point was a family trust of which he was a member, but did not lead.

Although Campen told the board at a hearing last month that it could proceed with its post-election tally, that put the directors in the awkward position of having to decide whether to count all ballots cast — including those for Farr — or just those of the candidates it viewed as legitimate.

The problem with the first scenario is the possibility that Farr racked up enough votes to win one of the two seats in the four-person contest, despite his board-declared ineligibility. The directors' other option would be to stand fast on its disqualification decision, count all votes except Farr's, and hope Campen doesn't rule against them.

No matter which way the board might proceed with a ballot count, it would risk being embarrassed by: 1. having a legally ineligible candidate besting legitimate contenders; 2. having to recount the ballots to include those cast for a court-certified candidate, who wins; or, 3. Having a candidate declared qualified, but who loses, and then blames the loss on the board's actions.

The are two ways the directors can come out of this looking good: the court disqualifies Farr and his vote totals remain unknown, or he is ruled to be eligible, but loses convincingly. Either could happen and is why the directors' safest course politically is to do nothing until Campen issues his ruling.



Letters

Trendic concurs on counting

Editor,

I concur with your opinion titled: "Counting all ballots smart thing to do."

The issues surrounding this year's OPA election are unfortunate for all parties involved. However, I would like to point out that the subject of counting all votes

should not even be up for a debate or a decision.

All the board and the election committee needs to do is follow our governing documents.

OPA Bylaws, Section 4.06 states: "Robert's Rules of Order, as they may be revised from time to time, shall be used to regulate and govern the conduct of all official meetings of the mem-

bers of the association to the extent they are not inconsistent with the Charter or By-laws."

And Robert's Rules, Art. VIII. Vote. 46. states: "In reporting the number of votes cast and the number necessary for election, all votes except blanks must be counted."

Slobodan Trendic
Ocean Pines

Worcester seeking award nominees

County puts out call for Volunteer Spirit honors by Sept. 17

(Sept. 9, 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.

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.

BAYSIDE GAZETTE

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

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Talent show at county fair next Sat.

(Sept. 9, 2021) The Worcester County Fair will be holding a talent show for adults and children during this year's event, Saturday, Sept. 18, at 6 p.m.

Entries are being sought for the following categories: 7 years and younger; ages 8-10; 11-13, 14-18, and adults, ages 19 and up.

There is no entry fee to participate in the show. Talent can be any type of amateur entertaining (singing, dancing, musical, etc.) deemed appropriate for the family atmosphere of the county fair.

The Worcester County Fair Board reserves the right to disallow an act at its discretion. The fair will provide a flat

stage, electricity, CD player and microphone for performances. All other props must be furnished by the performer.

Group entries are allowed. Participants can only perform once, either individually or with a group. Each act will be limited to a maximum of five minutes. All judges decisions are final.

Participants must be at the stage area by 5:30 p.m. on Sept. 18, for a brief meeting to go over judging score sheets and final questions.

Prizes are cash awards as follows: first place \$50, and second place \$25. Entries in the 7 years and under category will receive a participation award only.

All entries must be done 30 minutes before the show or pre-register with Starr Robinson, 331 E. Market St. Snow Hill, Maryland 21863, or email entry to starrchildo@yahoo.com. (Subject: Talent Show).

Include your name, address, phone, birth date and say what your talent or act is. If act is a song, include the name of the song.

Those singing will need to register two days before the show. Performers must provide their own music on a thumb drive to put on a computer.

For more information, call 443-735-3386.

County fair held next weekend in Snow Hill park

(Sept. 9, 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.worcestercounty-fair.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.

Exhibitors are proud to show off their entries and raise money for the fair.

The annual talent show will take place on Saturday.

For more information, call 410-957-4079 or 443-523-0497.

OP Players auditions Sept. 13-14

(Sept. 9, 2021) The Ocean Pines Players have received the rights for "The Big Bad Musical," and will host auditions next month.

A cast of 18 is necessary to commence the legal wrangling during the upcoming holiday season as the two greatest legal minds in the Enchanted Forest, aka the Evil Stepmother and the Fairy Godmother clash in a trial that appears as wickedly funny, yet judicially significant forever after.

Auditions will take place Sept. 13-14

from 5-7 p.m. in the Marlin Room of the Ocean Pines Community Center located at 235 Ocean Pkwy, Ocean Pines. Auditions are open to youth ages 8-17 and designed to be safe, casual, and fun. No experience necessary.

For the most updated information and the audition form, visit <http://sites.google.com/view/ocean-pinesplayers> or email Frank Pasqualino at BigBadMusicalOPP@google.com.

"The Big Bad Musical" by Al Strum, with music and lyrics by Bill Francoeur

is possible through Pioneer Drama Services, Inc of Englewood, Colorado.

The OP Players values diversity and inclusion in casting and all other areas of the organization. For more general information on the Ocean Pines Players, follow on its Facebook page or visit www.oceanpinesplayers.com.

Ocean Pines Players is a local all-volunteer 501-(c)(3) charitable organization and supported in part by a grant from the Worcester County Arts Council and Maryland State Arts Council.



OPEN HOUSES

SEPTEMBER 9 - SEPTEMBER 16



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, 11am-2pm	Greenwood Ln., Ocean Pines	4BR/3BA	Single Family	\$334,900	Debbie Hileman/Hileman Real Estate



Calendar

Continued from Page 17

<https://www.ococean.com>, 443-614-3425

Sat., Sept. 11

ENTRY DEADLINE FOR 3RD PLATFORM TENNIS BENEFIT TOURNAMENT

Takes place on Sept. 25. Entry fee is a \$50 donation to the Semper Fi & America's Fund. Entry forms: <https://ocean-pines.org/documents/10184/89280/SemperFi.9.25.21.3.pdf>. Info: oppad-dle2020@gmail.com, 410-641-7228.

9/11 MEMORIAL SERVICE

Ocean City Firefighter's Memorial, 1 S. Atlantic Ave., Ocean City, 8:30 a.m.-10 p.m. Memorial Service at 8:30 a.m. "Remembrance Beams of Light" at 7:30 p.m. September 11th video tributes and fire fighter tributes on continuous play on a big screen from 7:35-10 p.m. www.ococean.com, 443-614-3425

17TH ANNUAL RED KNIGHTS BOARDWALK 'PARADE OF BROTHERS'

27th Street and Boardwalk, Ocean City, 9 a.m.-11:59 p.m. Ride down the Boardwalk at 11:30 a.m. with memorial service held at noon at N. Division Street. \$10 per rider. After, ride to Roxana Moose Lodge at 1 p.m. Lunch and music. John Tartufo, 443-614-3425

SEPTEMBER CLEANUP DAY

Town of Ocean City Maryland - City Hall, 301 Baltimore Ave., Ocean City, 9-11 a.m. Bags, gloves and other materials can be picked up at 9 a.m. The focus will be on the downtown area however, all locations within the town can be targeted for cleaning. Gail Blazer, 410-289-8825

GAMES OF THE SIXTH POOCH PALOOZA

Frontier Town Western Theme Park, 8428 Stephen Decatur Highway, Berlin, 9:30 a.m. Costume contest, tennis ball lottery, lure chasing, competitive dock diving and pie-eating contest. Cost \$12 in advance or \$15 at gate. Registration required for pie-eating and dock diving contests. <https://grandlivingpublishing.com/pooch-palooza>, 410-726-7334

80TH NATIONAL FOLK FESTIVAL

Downtown Salisbury, 100-110 Circle Ave., Salisbury, 11 a.m.-9:30 p.m. More than 350 traditional musicians, dancers, crafts people and other keepers of culture in performances, workshops and demonstrations plus children's activities. <https://nationalfolkfestival.com>

BERLIN SMALL TOWN THROW DOWN COUNTRY MUSIC CONCERT

Downtown Berlin, 2 S. Main St., Berlin, 1-6 p.m. Country music, shopping, beer and food. Band line-up: Ruthie & the Wranglers, 1 p.m.; Lauren Calve Band, 2:45 p.m.; and Boy in Black, 4:30 p.m. Bring a chair and enjoy.

FARMERS & ARTISANS MARKET

Saturdays - White Horse Park, 239

Ocean Parkway, 8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Shop for everything from fresh local produce to unique handmade artisan goods. Open to the public.

Sun., Sept. 12

BERLIN FARMERS MARKET

Downtown Berlin, Pitts Street, Berlin, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Sundays through September - Located in Downtown Berlin. This week the market will feature more than 30 farmers, bakers, distillers, food cultivator and more. 410-973-2051

2021 WALK FOR RECOVERY

Ocean City Boardwalk - S. End, 801 S. Boardwalk, Ocean City, 8-11 a.m. In-person walk begins at 9 a.m. Registration cost is \$25. Offering free Covid vaccines from 8-11 a.m. and free Narcan training. www.atlanticclubocmd.org, 410-213-1007

GUEST PREACHER

St. Paul's by-the Sea Episcopal Church, 302 Baltimore Ave., Ocean City, 10-11 a.m. The Reverend Mark Jefferson is a Professor of Homiletics (Preaching) at Virginia Theological Seminary. All are welcome. 410-289-3453

80TH NATIONAL FOLK FESTIVAL

Downtown Salisbury, 100-110 Circle Ave., Salisbury, 11 a.m.-6 p.m. More than 350 traditional musicians, dancers, crafts people and other keepers of culture in performances, workshops and demonstrations plus children's activities. <https://nationalfolkfestival.com>

BARKS & BOARDS!

Coconuts Beach Bar & Grill, 3701 Atlantic Ave., Ocean City, 1-3 p.m. A \$20 registration fee covers a picture of your pup, light bites and two drink tickets for Tito's cocktails. Some dog's pictures will be included in the OC Surf Club's calendar. www.ocsurfclub.org

Mon., Sept. 13

SCHOOL IMMUNIZATION CLINIC

Worcester County Health Department - Berlin, 9730 Healthway Drive, Berlin. Vaccines are provided free to all. Appointments: <https://www.worcester-health.org/> /184-immunizations. Info: www.marylandvax.org or 410-632-1100, Ext. 2009.

MONTHLY MOVIE MATINEE

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, Berlin, 2-3 p.m. Watch an exciting movie based on an acclaimed book on the second Monday of each month. Light refreshments provided. www.worcesterlibrary.org, 410-632-2600

OCEAN PINES CHILDREN'S THEATER CASTING CALL

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, Berlin, 5-6:30 p.m. Casting for the Jan. 2022 pro-

duction of "Disney's Frozen Jr." Auditions for those ages 12-18 years. All who attend must show proof of being vaccinated against Covid-19. opchildrenstheater@yahoo.com

OCEAN PINES PLAYERS YOUTH AUDITIONS

Ocean Pines Community Center - Marlin Room, 235 Ocean Parkway, Ocean Pines, 5-7 p.m. Auditioning 8-17 year olds for "The Big Bad Musical." Performances held in the fall. Audition forms and more information: <http://sites.google.com/view/ocean-pinesplayers> or BigBadMusicalOPP@google.com.

TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY (T.O.P.S.) MEETING

Promoting weight loss and healthy lifestyle. Held via conference call, 6-6:30 p.m. Dial 605-472-5789 wait for voice command, then press 944874. Rose Campion, 443-880-8884.

DELMARVA WOMEN'S A CAPELLA CHORUS

Mondays - Ocean Pines Community Center, 239 Ocean Parkway, 7:00-9:00 p.m. All ladies that love to sing invited. Contact Mary, 410-629-9383 or Carol Ludwig, 302-242-7062.

Tues., Sept. 14

STORY TIME 'FRIENDS'

Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., Berlin, 10:30-11:30 a.m. Join the group for stories, songs and finger plays. Take-home activity included. For children 2-5 years old. www.worcesterlibrary.org, 410-632-2600

MUSIC AND MOVEMENT

Worcester County Library - Pocomoke Branch, 301 Market St., Pocomoke City, 10:30-11:30 a.m. Join the group for singing silly songs and active rhythmic movements. For children 2-5 years old. www.worcesterlibrary.org, 410-632-2600

MEDITATION DELIGHTS

Worcester County Library - Ocean City Branch, 10003 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, 2-3 p.m. A guided meditation technique that will offer a song/mantra of thanks in life's seemingly small delights. Register: www.worcesterlibrary.org under "Events." 410-632-2600

PARKINSON'S SUPPORT GROUP

The Macky & Pam Stansell House Coastal Hospice, 1500 Ocean Parkway, Ocean Pines, 3-4 p.m. Group provides education on exercise, nutrition, coping techniques, medications and developments in treatment. Reservations: Kay Kinnikin, 410-641-4765 or kkinnikin@atlanticgeneral.org.

PAINTING ON A GLASS FOR TEENS

Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., Berlin, 3:30-4:30 p.m. Bring your own glass and paint

your favorite design or charter on it. Local artist Michael Carmean will be there to help bring designs to life. www.worcesterlibrary.org, 410-632-2600

OCEAN PINES PLAYERS YOUTH AUDITIONS

Ocean Pines Community Center - Marlin Room, 235 Ocean Parkway, Ocean Pines, 5-7 p.m. Auditioning 8-17 year olds for "The Big Bad Musical." Performances held in the fall. Audition forms and more information: <http://sites.google.com/view/ocean-pinesplayers> or BigBadMusicalOPP@google.com.

ATLANTIC COAST SPORTFISHING ASSOCIATION

American Legion #123, 10111 Old Ocean City Blvd., Berlin, 7:30-8:30 p.m. This month's guest speaker is from Midshore Electronics. Guests are welcome. Ron Smith, smitty3894@aol.com

DELMARVA HAND DANCE

Tuesdays - Selbyville Elks Lodge 2173, 13324 Worcester Highway, Bishopville, 5:30-9:00 p.m. Show proof of vaccination or wear a mask. A picture on your phone of your vaccination card is acceptable. delmarvahanddance@gmail.com, <https://delmarvahanddancing.com>

Wed., Sept. 15

OC BIKEFEST

Worcester County, 9 a.m.-10 p.m. Events at Ocean City Inlet, Ocean City convention center, Arthur Purdue Stadium and Rommel Harley Davidson, Salisbury. Free today. See <https://ocbikefest.com> for schedules. Great White and KIX.

ZOOM WITH YOUR BABY

Babies under 2 and caregivers join on Zoom for songs, rhymes and stories, 10:30-11:30 a.m. Optional: have a scarf and rattle/shaker handy for interactive rhymes. Register: www.worcesterlibrary.org under "Events." 410-632-2600

STORY TIME 'JOHNNY APPLESEED'

Worcester County Library - Ocean City Branch, 10003 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, 10:30-11:30 a.m. Join the group to learn about apples and create your own apple painting. For children 2-5 years old. www.worcesterlibrary.org, 410-632-2600

FIRST AID KITS AND SKILLS

Meeting via Zoom, 4-5 p.m. Discuss the items needed in a first aid kit and learn some basic first aid skills. For children ages 6-12 years. www.worcesterlibrary.org, 410-632-2600

BREAST CANCER SUPPORT GROUP

Meeting via Zoom, 6-7 p.m. Providing a safe and welcoming environment for survivors and current patients battling breast cancer. Women Supporting Women, 410-548-7880.

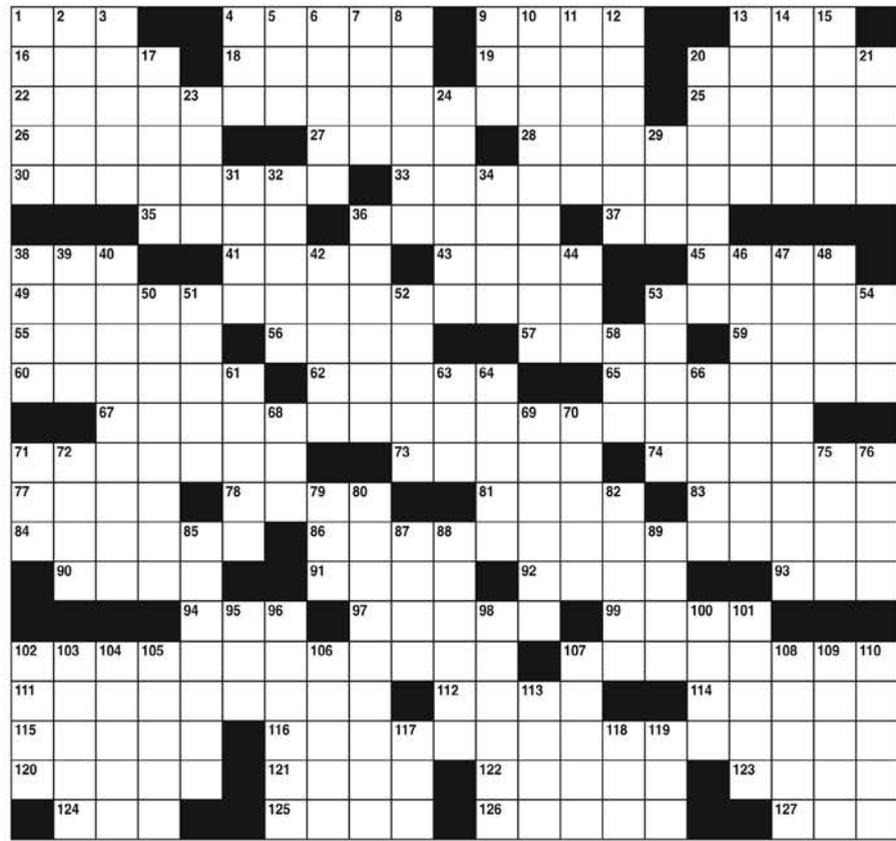
Puzzles

UH? OH ...

BY DORY MINTZ / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

Dory Mintz, of the Bronx, is a software engineer for Wunderkind, a digital marketing company. He likes to bowl (he recently rolled a career-high 218) and calls himself "a passionate albeit subpar Scrabble player." He was reading an old art textbook when the phrase at 33-Across jumped into his head, and a crossword theme idea was born. This is his second puzzle for The Times, and his first Sunday. — W.S.

- ACROSS**
- 1 Sliver
 - 4 Politician with the campaign slogan 30-Across
 - 9 Word with poetry or proportions
 - 13 Something you might click to open
 - 16 Elicits a "Whoa" from, say
 - 18 Trimmed (down)
 - 19 Wrestling star John
 - 20 Tailor
 - 22 Beams of one's dreams?
 - 25 Food served in an omakase meal
 - 26 Having very little mental energy left
 - 27 Moonfish
 - 28 Swimmers in kelp forests
 - 30 See 4-Across
 - 33 Visit a museum to see a Rembrandt exhibit?
 - 35 One prone to looking down
 - 36 His tomb is in Red Square
 - 37 Diamondbacks, on scoreboards
 - 38 Face cards?
 - 41 Destination for oenophiles
 - 43 Sicily's Parco dell'___
 - 45 Bug-spray ingredient
- DOWN**
- 1 Boardwalk treat
 - 2 Plugged in, so to speak
 - 3 Actor Leary
 - 4 Missions, for short
 - 5 ___ State, nickname for Massachusetts
 - 6 Basis for an insurance investigation
 - 7 "Build ___ Buttercup" (1969 hit by the Foundations)
 - 8 Spot for a perfume sample in a magazine, maybe
 - 9 Green prefix
 - 10 Staff
 - 11 Lead-in to com or net, but not org
- ACROSS**
- 49 Bird of prey that's gently petted?
 - 53 Popular pops
 - 55 Kind of attack
 - 56 Longtime hockey star Kovalchuk
 - 57 To read: Sp.
 - 59 Gross
 - 60 Error, in totspeak
 - 62 Buys in
 - 65 Look down on
 - 67 Actor Justin sitting poolside?
 - 71 Adds insult to injury
 - 73 Santa-tracking org.
 - 74 River across the New York/New Jersey border
 - 77 Some rideshare info
 - 78 Exploit
 - 81 Award-winning film set in Tehran
 - 83 Bishop's headgear
 - 84 Hang up the cleats, so to speak
 - 86 Make fun of small orange fruits?
 - 90 Something rectangular that might have more than four sides
 - 91 Two-player card game
 - 92 TV character who said "Time to hit the hay ... oh, I forgot, I ate it!"
 - 93 Old auto with its founder's monogram
 - 94 Storage spot
 - 97 Opposite of "avant"
 - 99 Reason to reschedule
 - 102 Mashed potatoes, on a Thanksgiving plate?
- DOWN**
- 107 Instrument heard in Spanish folk music
 - 111 Vinyl collection
 - 112 Food brand whose sales boomed after the premiere of "Stranger Things"
 - 114 "When We Were Young" singer
 - 115 Sharp
 - 116 Fourth-quarter meltdown at an N.B.A. game in Oklahoma City?
 - 120 Made out
 - 121 Take home
 - 122 Lather gatherer
 - 123 Remained in bed, e.g.
 - 124 Something to shoot for
 - 125 "... sting like ___"
 - 126 Clubs
 - 127 ___ Bleus, nickname for France's soccer team
- ACROSS**
- 12 Wrinkly-skinned fruit
 - 13 Largest object in the Kuiper belt
 - 14 And the following, in footnotes
 - 15 His birthday is celebrated as "Children's Day" in India
 - 17 Worries anxiously
 - 20 Mounted on
 - 21 Angry reaction
 - 23 Main port of Yemen
 - 24 They're banned in many classrooms nowadays
 - 29 Thing seen in the foreground of "Washington Crossing the Delaware"
 - 31 N.Y. neighbor
 - 32 Calculators of old
 - 34 Partner of starts
 - 36 Speaking part?
 - 38 "In that case ..."
 - 39 Paul of "Little Miss Sunshine"
 - 40 Didn't hear the alarm, say
 - 42 Where fruit bat soup is eaten as a delicacy
 - 44 Orange follower
 - 46 Widespread
 - 47 Nonstop flight?
 - 48 Maori for "image"
 - 50 Redeems at a casino
 - 51 Sooners, by another name
 - 52 Have a home-cooked meal
 - 53 Like some obligations
 - 54 Dict. listing
 - 58 Setting for Mets games: Abbr.
- ACROSS**
- 61 Gradually diminish
 - 63 Residential suffix with Angel
 - 64 High-priced violin, informally
 - 66 All-knowing sort
 - 68 It's represented by a dot in the top-left corner, in Braille
 - 69 Mideast palace parts
 - 70 Son of Gloucester in "King Lear"
 - 71 & 72 A pop
 - 75 ___ Alonso, Mets slugger with the most home runs by a rookie in M.L.B. history (53)
 - 76 "... ish"
 - 79 People people, for short
 - 80 Exit
 - 82 "What's ____, Doc?" (old Bugs Bunny short)
 - 85 Grapefruit descriptor
 - 87 Kelly of "Live"
 - 88 Remark after losing
 - 89 Nutritional figs.
 - 95 "___ be an honor!"
 - 96 Snapple competitor
 - 98 "Socialism: Utopian and Scientific" writer, 1880
 - 100 Leaning right: Abbr.
 - 101 Four-time U.S. Open champ
 - 102 Four-time Australian Open champ
 - 103 It has its highlights
 - 104 Maker of the MDX, NSX and TLX
 - 105 Bloc party?
 - 106 Fix up again
 - 107 Brown hue
 - 108 Home of many Sherpas
 - 109 ___ Hughes, name of main roles in "Westworld" and "Downton Abbey"
 - 110 Decade after the aughts
 - 113 Blossom
 - 117 Taipei-to-Seoul dir.
 - 118 Frequently
 - 119 ___ Palmas
- Online subscriptions: Today's puzzle and more than 4,000 past puzzles, nytimes.com/crosswords (\$39.95 a year).



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HARD - 78

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.

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

Answers to last week's puzzles

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

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

Cuisine

Charred peppers with chipotle mayonnaise

What is a chipotle pepper?

Why am I studying Ockham's Razor, and why did he foretell Wal-

Mart in the 14th century? Was he a soothsayer as was Bradbury when he was penning "Fahrenheit 451?"

Why did the Romans then bastardize the former's name to 'Occam? Was English not

good enough for them?

What made Wal-Mart so much more successful than K-Mart?

Why is my girlfriend such a better gardener than me?

What is it all about?

Ugh, I guess this really is the start of the school year for me. My mind is going in a million different directions, and it is quite hard to focus. It is the most painful moment for many a fine educator.

I appreciate and respect my summer break, and truth be told, if I had to teach all year long, I would probably go mad. The only notion that would make me feel more unsettled would be imagining what it would be like getting hit by a bus on the day before summer break. That would be the most ironic end to even the kindest of educators.

Cleanse the mind, Paul. Cleanse the mind.

And yet, here I am, listening to music 30 years too young for me while I write this drivel, preparing for day-one on this glorious adventure. At least I have a good deal of sick time stacked up for the year, just hoping that I won't need it to come in handy.

But, I digress.

Labor Day has come and gone, and now we are in what we locals call 'Second Season' or 'Local's Summer' and it is truly a glorious time. Well, I mean it certainly was until the onslaught of Northerners to our area in the past five years, but there certainly is nothing that can be done about that.

The sand is still warm, the water will be comfortable to tolerable for another month at least, the waves will be hopefully sizeable, and the beaches will be emptier. There is nothing like a beautiful day on the beach with only a smattering of folks around you.

But back to the task at hand, I have some serious questions to answer, and I apologize for leaving you hang-



ing in suspense.

1. A chipotle pepper is a smoked jalapeno.

2. William of Ockham was a typically insane 14th century philosopher who said 'don't create box stores', but it was tweaked to mean 'keep it simple, stupid'. It has become a standard in the business community

3. The Romans did what the Romans did. I can't answer for them.

4. As for the success of one box store over the other, the champions nailed one-stop-shopping at a break-neck pace. They won.

5. My girlfriend is a better gardener because she cares, and I do not. That woman can grow some serious vegetation, and I can shoot things, so I guess we don't have much to worry about when things go awry again

6. How would I know what it's all about? I can't even get rid of the cats that I have. I am not equipped to answer the penultimate question, which brings me to my favorite quote from a previous editor: "I love reading your articles. They ramble, mean something - to a degree - and are entertaining. And then, out of the blue, you say 'now cook this, and it has nothing

to do with what you were writing! I love it."

So go cook this. It's ridiculously delicious and it actually does relate somewhat to the day's ramblings, as my girlfriend is an amazing gardener, and these peppers were harvested as a result of her efforts.

There you go. Segue. Drop mic.

Charred Garden Peppers

serves 6

Hungarian hot peppers

Purple Bell Peppers

Shishito Peppers

Anaheim Peppers

Trimix (reference older articles)

Olive oil

1 c. Chipotle Mayonnaise (recipe follows)

1. Toss all of the ingredients together.

2. Heat a grill until very hot, ensuring that the grill will leave a nice char on at least one side of the peppers.

3. Place the peppers on the grill and cook for about 2 minutes.

4. Toss them around to continue the cooking process, making sure not to overcook them. Remember, they

will continue to cook according to the cool cook's term of "carryover cooking."

5. So, basically, pull them off a little early, and then let thermal mass do its magic.

6. Serve with a drizzle of the chipotle mayo and some balsamic reduction, if you have it.

7. Rejoice in the love and joy that is this amazingly simple dish.

Chipotle Mayonnaise

Makes 1 1/4 cups

1 c. Duke's Mayonnaise

2 Chipotle peppers, with adobo sauce

Juice of 1/2 a fresh lime

1 sprig cilantro

Dash of Trimix

1. Blend everything in a strong blender until smooth and homogenized.

2. Keep refrigerated until ready to serve.

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

Visit him at www.boxcar40.com.

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Coconuts
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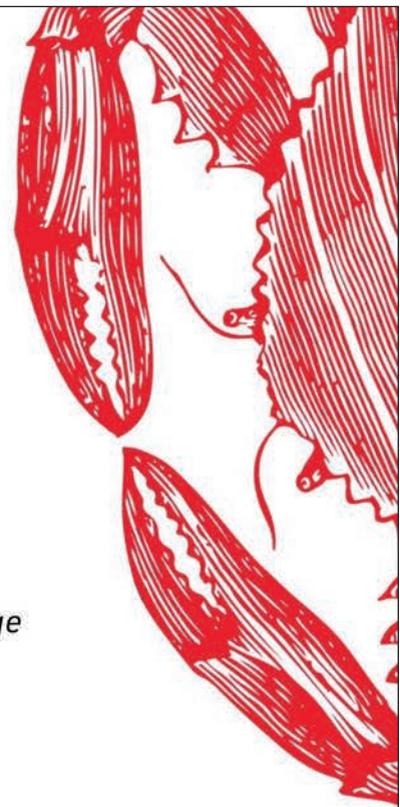
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