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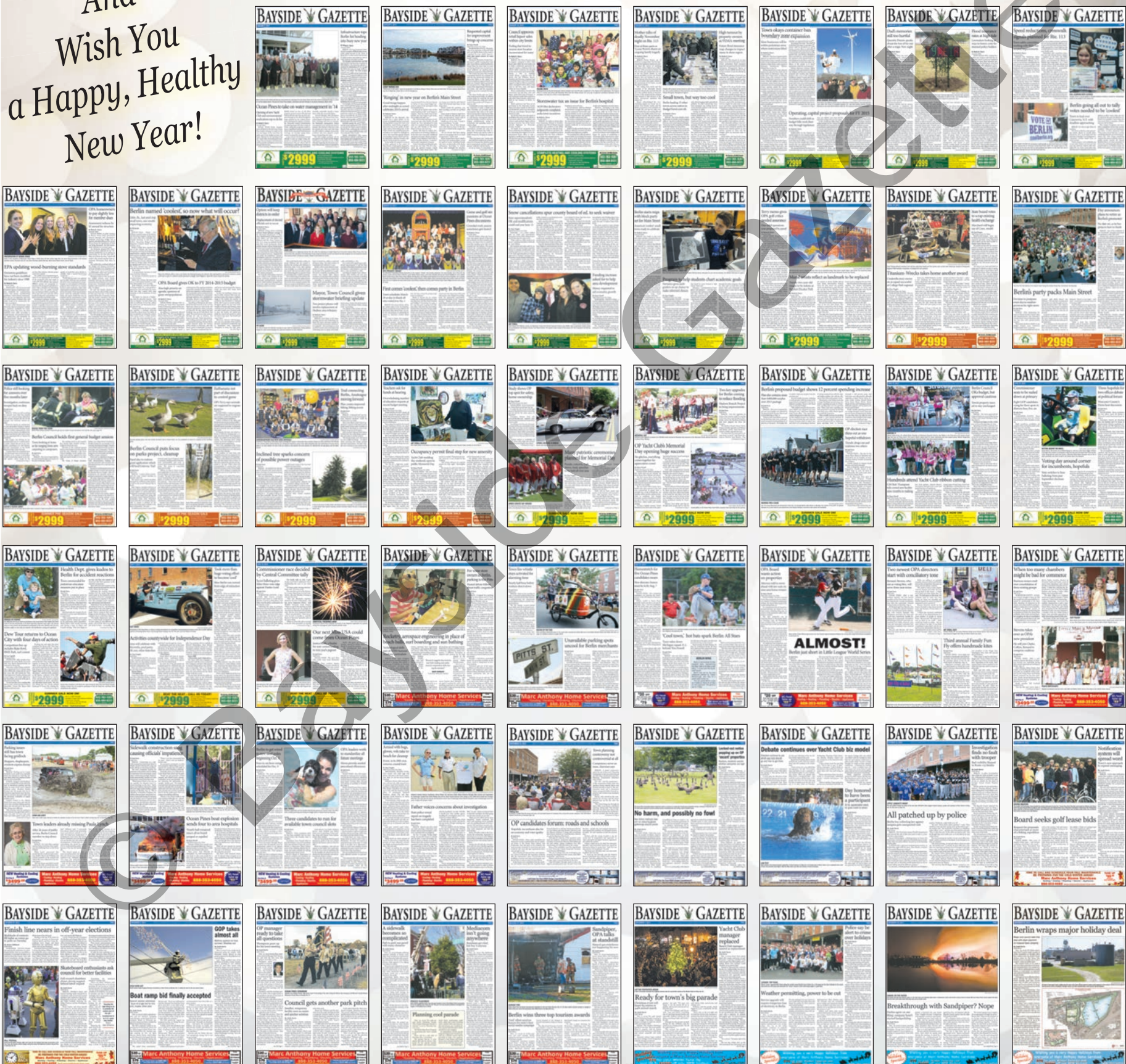
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YEAR IN REVIEW 2014

Berlin hits critical mass of 'cool' in travel contest bid

By Josh Davis
Staff Writer

A year ago, on Dec. 3, 2013, Berlin was on the verge of merely becoming the third-coolest small town in America, according to a preliminary vote conducted by Budget Travel Magazine.

The polls, opened in October, asked for nominations of cool municipalities with less than 10,000 people. The rules were simple: the town must have "outstanding food, great locals, amazing art, unique history, wonderful shops and an all-around cool vibe."

At the time Megan Houston, Berlin's cool Main Street coordinator, commented, "I think we can all agree that Berlin, Md. can put a check right next to all of those requirements."

Still, the race to be cool was on, and the polls opened back up in January with the top-15 towns reset on an even playing field.

Berlin coolly got off to a fast start, leading the pack with 26.8 percent of the vote. Then – suddenly – a very uncool hiccup happened, dropping

the total to just 25.3. Panic, the polar opposite of cool, began to set in. Buckhannon, W.Va., itself pretty cool, was nipping at Berlin's heels at 21.6 percent.

Michael Day, universally recognized as the coolest Economic and Community Development director, lowered expectations saying even if Berlin only landed in the top three "We'll still use it."

If Berlin was named the coolest, however, Day promised, "That's going out on the billboard on Route 50."

Two weeks later another contender emerged, as Cazenovia, N.Y., a college town that apparently majored in cool, began to close the gap. Undaunted, Berlin coolly doubled down.

Mark Huey, the social media coordinator for Worcester County's tourism department, worked "around the clock" according to Day, reaching out to every last corner of social media in a feverish attempt to spread the gospel of Berlin. The town even got a little boost from Gov. Martin O'Malley, who gave Berlin a "cool" shout out during a Maryland Mayor's Conference, and repeatedly tweeted to the same effect.

Finally, the polls closed and only one town remained in the quest for the cool crown. Berlin finished seven

See YEAR IN REVIEW Page 5



The view from the balcony of the Atlantic Hotel during the Coolest Small Town Celebration on April 12.

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YEAR IN REVIEW 2014

Continued from Page 5
points ahead of the next-coolest small town, collecting roughly 28 percent of the 137,819 votes cast nationwide.

Mayor Gee Williams raised a glass at Burley Oak Brewing Company just after midnight on Tuesday, Feb. 25, to toast the victory.

Williams teased a series of strategic planning sessions to capitalize on the cool accolade, and the economic boost expected to follow.

"We are absolutely delighted to be voted the 'Coolest Small Town in America.' Now we will be taking a longer view ... I want the involvement of the citizens on where we go from here," he said.

Lisa Challenger, director of Worcester County Tourism and one of the architects of cool, said that Berlin would have "huge marketing value and exposure."

Berlin planned a series of events, beginning with the "Coolest Small Town" party, set for March 29, but rainstorms washed out the celebration. Two weeks later, on April 12, Berlin and several thousand of its closest friends celebrated the now undeniable coolness.

The town's open beverage containers were suspended, and yellow "Coolest Small Town" cups were omnipresent. Food tents lined the sidewalks, and several of the coolest area

bands played in front of an enthused crowd.

Day labeled the last-minute decision to move the party a cool move. "It was absolutely brilliant ... now here we are with the biggest crowd we've probably ever had," he said.

"We're absolutely delighted with the turnout," Williams said, relishing the moment of triumphant coolness. "The fact that we postponed (the party) not only brought us wonderful, blessed weather, but I think it also increased the amount of publicity and awareness about the fact that we were doing this."

In the following weeks, town's eclectic mix of downtown shops began to see an uptick in their bottom line, which, of course, was cool.

Debbie Frene, owner of Victorian Charm, said the boost from the "Coolest" party was "fabulous."

"We've almost had more people than we could handle," she added.

Blair Falck Parsons, owner of Ta Da, agreed the cool effect had set in.

"I think it's bringing a lot of people to this town that have never been here before – even locals who maybe live in Ocean Pines or Snow Hill who never think to come to Berlin," she said. "In the last couple of weeks, we've heard a lot of people say they were driving down Route 50 and saw the signs and said, 'well, we have to go now, it's America's Coolest Small Town.'"

"We've always known we were the coolest small town; now the world knows," said Terry Sexton, owner of The Treasure Chest. "Once people come to Berlin, they love it and they come back. So I think this will only help more people to want to come to Berlin."

Day, who worked for years under the assumption that Berlin was cool all along, announced his retirement in April. He declined to give an exact date, instead deadpanning coolly, "I'm going to retire when they let me."

Williams called Day, "the spark that Berlin needed" during its decades-long road to attaining coolness.

"If you tried to point to one individual who has made the most significant difference in helping Berlin move forward economically in the last few years, that person would clearly be Michael Day," he said. "It was just the right combination of his life experience, his experience with government, his experience with business and his ability to explain and persuade people to work together. And he works hard at it – whether it's a work day or a weekend it's all the same to him."

Bud Church, then president of the Worcester County Board of County Commissioners, agreed that Day was indeed cool, calling him "Berlin's hero for all he's done."

"Michael Day was the right man for the right job at the right time," he said. "He had a way to get things done and he had an insight and a vision for the town ... he's leaving the job at the peak of his career."

Ivy Wells, Day's successor and herself a cool small town economic development director in Sykesville, officially took over for Day on Nov. 24.

In July, the Bayside Gazette took an in-depth look at how Berlin became cool, finding it began with the revitalization of the Atlantic Hotel.

In the late 1970s, according to Williams, the town was actually the epitome of uncool.

"There were more stores that were closed or boarded up on Main Street than were open," he said. "The town

knew it was in trouble. The population actually dropped in Berlin between 1960 and 1970 while the rest of the country was exploding with population. It was unheard of."

Local business people poured hundreds of thousands of dollars into renovations of the Atlantic, which had become inhabited by "derelicts and drunks," according to Ta Da founder Patty Falck.

Buddy Jenkins, owner of Jolly Roger Amusement Park and a member of the hotel's development group, agreed the restoration was the birth of the cool.

"Little by little, you began to see people that were affected by [a] degree of optimism," he said. "Little, by little, by little that grew and grew, and self-confidence came back, and more people said, 'I want to come and try that.'"

Sexton's Treasure Chest was one of the first full-time, permanent shops that laid the groundwork for the cool collective that eventually emerged on Main Street, followed by others including Victorian Charm and Ta Da.

"It was a struggle," Falck said. "I was back there for 13 years and I was promoting myself like crazy because people don't get off the main street. But little by little we started seeing more things coming along."

In the 1990s a pair of fairly cool films, "Runaway Bride" and "Tuck Everlasting," set up shop in Berlin. Falck also pointed to Day and Williams, and their optimism and penchant for hard work, as a turning point in the town.

Buoyed by a series of grants gathered by Day, Berlin celebrated a cool milestone in 2008 when the town became an officially designated Main Street. Williams, meanwhile, held a closed-door meeting with merchants, telling them, essentially, to be cool to each other and good things would happen.

"No one had to sign a commitment; no one was forced to do anything, but by just talking about it ... what would happen if all the businesses started supporting each other?" Williams said. "The concept became known as 'everybody act as a

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YEAR IN REVIEW 2014

concierge to everyone else.’ And believe me, they took it to heart.”

Decades of work and cooperation went into making Berlin cool again, and many of the key players insisted the town was in it for the long haul.

“Ninety-eight percent of the people that come to Berlin come back, because they like what we have to offer,” Sexton said. “As long as we keep the momentum going and keep the Main Street what it is, I think people will continue to come.”

Six months into the “Coolest Small Town” honor, shops reported a close-to 30 percent increase in sales over the previous year.

“It’s been a very busy summer,” Sexton said. “We’re a destination now.”

Bill Outten, who runs the Town Center Antiques stores on Main Street and Pitts Street and owns Up-town Antiques on Main Street, believed the increased traffic in Berlin will continue to be cool.

“It’s a nice getaway,” he said. “We have a lot of nice restaurants and they’re doing well. And we’re cool. We have events every month – and we have antique stores.”

Dee Gilbert, owner of Nest, agreed it was a cool year indeed.

“People are coming who have never been here before and, once they get here, they realized how much Berlin has to offer,” she said.

Heather Layton, owner of Bungalow Love, said she had personally seen a lot of traffic from the previous “Coolest Small Town,” Lititz, Pa.

“It’s at least a few people on a daily basis, and it’s fun talking to them and to see what their town experienced – and what they’re still experiencing,” she said. “They said they’re still getting publicity from it.”

Berlin held a sendoff for Day in October, and people were still talking about how incredibly cool Berlin had become.

Mike Wiley, whose Church Mouse shop does a cool thing in donating its monthly 2nd Friday proceeds, said Day had “done an excellent job.”

“I enjoyed working with him. I’ve helped him with different projects and it was nice to have someone almost my age to hang with,” he said.

Deputy Town Administrator Mary Bohlen lauded the remarkable

“transformation of the town since [Day] been here,” while Town Administrator Laura Allen called Day’s role in the “Coolest Small Town” campaign “no small feat.”

“He has garnered the town thousands of dollars in free advertising and significantly changed our summer experience,” she said. “Our merchants are ... seeing substantially more sales, we’re seeing a lot more people. It has really made a difference in the energy that you feel when you come to the town.”

In November, the town unveiled its “Coolest Christmas Ever” schedule, including a tree-lighting ceremony complete with a live ice sculpture demonstration, as well as a holiday arts night and a parade. Thousands attended both events, cementing the lasting effect of being called “cool” by a magazine with a

national reach.

Berlin capped off the coolest year by formally announcing the facilitator of the strategic planning sessions Williams first mentioned in February.

Christine Becker Associates inked a \$14,500 contract to examine possible next moves, focusing on municipal projects made possible by all the ubiquitously effervescent coolness, beginning in January.

Williams, for his part, seemed to have no reservations in passing the torch to next year’s coolest small town.

“We’ll be happy for them and we’re going to help them in any way we can,” Williams said. “We feel that we have an obligation to the people who came up with the idea, and we have an obligation to all of the sister communities who have earned this

distinction, to keep earning it.”

Williams expects the attributes that made Berlin cool will continue to make the town, well, cool.

“All of these [successes] can be built on,” he said. “They are not strictly measurable in a quantitative way, but in terms of the way people feel about their community and the way a community feels about its residents, its workers and its guests, we have at least a hundred years of opportunity right now.

“I’m very optimistic that that is what’s going to happen,” Williams continued. “As far as I’m concerned, it’s up to the people of this community if they wish to remain ‘America’s Coolest Small Town.’ We can do it for another hundred years just by continuing to do what we’re doing by never stop believing in ourselves, and most importantly, in each other.”

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YEAR IN REVIEW 2014

Berlin starts ball rolling with Tyson project dreams

By Josh Davis
Staff Writer

When Berlin became cool, many of its residents began daydreaming about new projects and possibilities that increased exposure could offer.

One particular sore thumb in the community stuck out: the former Tyson's Chicken plant on Old Ocean City Boulevard.

The 16-acre property, owned by District 1 Councilmember Troy Purnell, has been dormant for more than a decade. A drab, 55,000 square foot building with a dilapidated office and warehouse space dominates the entrance, masking large ponds, fields and woodlands behind it.

In April, a blueprint depicting a sprawling "Tyson's Park," developed by Showell-based Vista Design Inc. suddenly appeared in community coffee shops and taverns, then just as quickly vanished. The source of the design was not immediately clear, and both Vista and Purnell refused to comment at the time, but the seed was planted.

The ambitious design featured an indoor and outdoor recreation center, outdoor skateboard park, biking and walking/jogging paths, fishing areas, a fairground and an amphitheater.

District 2 Councilmember Lisa Hall was an outspoken supporter of the plan.

"All of this could be used for indoor skateboarding, basketball, volleyball, indoor soccer, walking – it's there, it just needs to be revitalized," she said.

Hall suggested the town commission a feasibility study and develop the property in phases. Although the property lists for \$2.7 million dollars, Hall hinted the town could have it for just under \$2 million.



"It's a fire sale considering what they purchased this property for and what they wanted for it 10-11 years ago," she said. "With the slots money, we don't have to do a bond or anything; we could probably pay this off in five years and then go after grant money and utilize town staff, town resources, local resources; we have a good community that likes to work and get together."

Business owners in the nearby area voiced their support, including Burley Oak owner Bryan Brushmiller.

"Ocean City has Northside Park – why don't we have a Northside Park?" he said. "I think what we're talking about is a beneficial asset for the town of Berlin that right now is a liability. I think it would be a great asset for Berlin and it would give the kids something to do."

Chris Denny, owner of Cheers, agreed.

"I think it's a great use for that piece of property," he said. "It's just another great draw for the town. The amphitheater looks really good, and the fishing and walking paths look like a great activity that you could walk to from town."

Major Gee Williams remained slightly more pragmatic.

"So many people have so many good ideas and I think that's another great one," Williams said. "A lot of these ideas are big and personally I

think it's an exciting idea, but what I would like to do is to convene the community to get their guidance and advice on a whole bunch of options and opportunities that we have and then see where they fall."

Hall drafted a letter to Town Administrator Laura Allen on July 21, requesting the town's ethics committee meet to discuss purchasing the project from Purnell.

"This property has the potential to provide amenities to our community such as an amphitheater, skate park, recreational facility, nature trails, and office space for a non-profit organization, etc.," the letter read. "I personally, do not believe that we should take a pass on this opportunity."

The committee met in August, found no liability, and Williams said the project could "become a very high priority in September" during the strategic planning sessions expected to take place.

Public and municipal support seemed to be culminating when, inexplicably, the project seemed to vanish in thin air. News of a mammoth, shimmering recreation and entertainment complex evaporated, and the property continued to remain dormant.

Then, on Oct. 27, an otherwise sleepy mayor and council meeting unexpectedly reignited the debate.

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lasted less than an hour – record time – but when the mayor asked for public comments the room swelled, and Berlin resident Beth Gourley quietly stepped to the front and asked to speak to the council.

Gourley said the crowd behind her had come to ask for a new skate park.

Williams said the town was “actively looking for a place that would accommodate skateboarding, ideally on a year-round basis,” but had not settled on a location.

Gourley asked about the potential of the Tyson plant, but Williams declined to give specifics.

“Once somebody finds out the government is interested in a piece of property the price goes through the roof and we can’t buy it at all,” he said. “That price, fortunately, has been coming down and we’ll see if it comes down any further compared to where it was a few years ago.”

Matt Dove, owner of Punk Rock Fish Studio and a former professional skater, gave an impassioned speech on the potential of a large facility.

Dove staged a mini music festival on the grounds during the summer, drawing hundreds of skateboard enthusiasts, and hosted similar functions in prior years, working with Dew Tour personnel in Ocean City.

“[People] already know Berlin from what we’ve done at the Tyson plant in the past couple years,” Dove said. “The top [skateboarding] professionals already know Berlin – the town of Berlin – where it is, what it is and everything about it. They like coming out here. They love this town. They ask about it all the time. Wouldn’t it be great if the town could coordinate with what we do and have an actual skate park there so it’s legitimate?”

Patricia Dufendach, a member of the Parks Commission, suggested tying the effort into parks activities, and urged the public to attend the commission’s next regular meeting.

Then, 16-year-old Chad Joines made a final plea to include room for bicycles as well as skateboards.

“We have an abandoned factory that isn’t doing any good. I’ve been inside of there. The place looks fine,” he said. “All you have to do is clean it up and add a few things.”

The call for a new public park continued on Nov. 4 during the parks commission.

Resident Benjamin Smith accused Berlin officials of dragging their feet on the project, and called for a temporary alternative to the massive Tyson plant.

“That’s at least two years out if that Tyson plant goes through – at least,” he said.

Dufendach urged patience, although she admitted to her enchantment with Dove’s proposal for a large-scale facility.

“He sold it so well ... that I don’t think anyone’s going to be satisfied with less,” she said. “He made me want the whole big picture. Anything less than that now makes me feel cheapened.”

A Nov. 13 story in the Bayside Gazette examined the Maryland Department of the Environment report

on the Tyson property. The department designated the facility a “Voluntary Cleanup Program” site in 2005, effectively making the property transfer easier and redevelopment more likely for commercial or industrial use.

A public park, or a residential property, however, would have to submit a new application with the department.

“Proposed uses such as recreational or residential, when compared to a commercial use, are subject to a more stringent cleanup standard with greater environmental assessments and/or protections,” department spokesperson Jay Apperson said.

Apperson added that any potential buyer would likely have to address the wastewater treatment lagoons on the property.

In late November, Vista broke its silence when Marketing Director Mike Goldberg agreed to speak with the Bayside Gazette about the merits of the park.

The company developed the Tyson’s Park concept, he revealed, “to hopefully get the town to take interest in it.”

Goldberg said was not aware of the status of any negotiations involving the property or its development. Goldberg also said he did not have any estimate of the cost of such a project, a hang-up raised by some the project’s detractors.

Conceptual designs like the Tyson plan are a “typical” part of the process, according to Goldberg, who said the design was “all about Berlin.”

“It’s not about the property owner, it’s not about Vista Design, it’s about what would ultimately work best for [the town],” he said. “There’s many other possible uses for that property. This is just one that we feel would make it desirable for the town of Berlin to acquire the land. There is also always the possibility that a private buyer is out there.”

Goldberg did not believe the property had the potential for residential use due its location near the intersection of two major highways.

“It would certainly be a highly visibility location for commercial use, but having a park like that could really be a nucleus for redevelopment of industrial areas, and because of its visibility it just has an enormous amount of potential,” he said.

If the town does move on developing the property into a recreation complex, construction of the various components would likely come in phases.

Ivy Wells, Berlin’s new economic and community development director, has experience writing grants for recreation facilities on a slightly smaller scale and could play a vital role in raising public money for such a project.

Speaking hypothetically, Wells said state and federal grants could continuously fund a project like Tyson’s Park.

“You have to use up old grant money before you can apply for new grant money,” she said. “They really want to see progress and they want to see their money put to good use, so if you’re using the money correctly and expediently

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they'll see that you're staying on point and give you more money when you apply for money to further the project."

On Dec. 24, the Bayside Gazette reported that a new player in the ongoing quest for a park had emerged, as Berlin resident Lisa Cherivtch appeared to be galvanizing the disparate factions.

Cherivtch, who moved to Berlin in June, said her 8-year-old son and his friends often skated in the street.

"We have a fairly safe road. I live on Jefferson Street where the speed limit is about 10 miles an hour, but I see kids on Main Street and some of the other streets where the speed limit is a lot higher," she said. "They need a place to go where they can actually skate."

Cherivtch helped pull together a group that included Dove, Gourley and Smith, along with Ocean City business owners David Leverton of Get Gnarly skateboard shop and Jim Solomon of Swirled World. Veteran skater Pat Truitt and Blacksmith restaurant owner Justine Zegna also apparently joined the cause.

"Planning and fundraising need to be the highest priority at this moment," she said, adding that she plans to create a nonprofit group to raise funds and help with the planning process of the potential new park.

The popularity of events like the Dew Tour, Cherivtch said, are proof of the economic potential skateboarding culture could bring to a

community like Berlin

"Skateboarding is a hugely popular sport in this area and is continuing to attract more interest," she said. "In communities with a large and growing population of skaters, skate parks should be just as natural an addition to a community as a basketball court or a tennis court."

It is unclear whether the Tyson property will come into play if or when the town reveals formal plans to build a new park, but the debate over the property clearly served as a diving board for ideas.

If Berlin chooses to spend money on something resembling the Tyson's Park blueprint, it would likely require millions in grants, not to mention infrastructure improvements and new residential and commercial construction, including hotels and accommodations.

The town is clearly on the rise, and a major recreation complex that plays to residents and pulls in new visitors has the potential to take that success to the next level, but civic involvement is paramount. The mayor and council have repeatedly expressed their support for a recreation complex – if public demand is there.

If demand diminishes, or the people decide their priorities have shifted elsewhere, the old Tyson plant will likely remain dormant, drab, and dilapidated, sticking out like a sore thumb in an otherwise cool small town.

Deadly crash on Rt. 113 echoes throughout '14

By Josh Davis
Staff Writer

Although the incident occurred in late 2013, the fallout from the accident when a state police car hit two teenage pedestrians in Berlin, killing one and seriously injuring the other, continued to ripple throughout the community in 2014.

It was Nov. 8 of last year when trooper Nicholas Hager struck Tymeir D. Dennis, 16, and his then 17-year-old brother Tyheim D. Bowen while the pair was crossing Route 113 on foot.

Dennis died from injuries sustained during the collision and Bowen later had to have his leg amputated due to injuries he sustained.

Hager, meanwhile, received no disciplinary action, and returned to work on Nov. 12, 2013.

The mother of the two boys, 36-year-old Tynise Bowen, spoke with the Bayside Gazette about the tragic crash in January, acknowledging the overwhelming support her family has received from friends, family, and the Berlin community during the accident's aftermath, and said she needed to clear the air on a few key issues.

"People think these kids were three or four years old," she said. "That accident was not caused by children who did not look both ways before crossing the road, because they were not in the road."

Bowen ended her shift at the Dollar Tree in West Ocean City and headed home at 2 p.m. on Nov. 8. Tymeir came over at 5 p.m. to play video games with his brother, whose 18th birthday was just four days away.

That evening Bowen left with her daughter, 9-year-old Trinity, to go grocery shopping at the local Food Lion. Just after dusk, while making their way home, Tynise spotted her sons walking along Bay Street towards her, past the Uncle Willie's store parking lot.

She said she remembered watching the brothers look both ways, exchange glances, and cross the grassy lot and walked towards the median. No cars appeared to be coming in either direction.

As the brothers approached the median opposite of the guardrail where Bowen was waiting in the left lane for the light to turn green, she asked, "Where you two think you're going?"

Bowen said she saw a large truck headed north in the right lane passing behind the brothers as they reached the median. Seconds later, Tynise remembered hearing a loud "smack" sound followed by the soft squeal braking tires make when scraping against a grass or a road surface.

Bowen remembers Trinity jumping out of the car from the passenger's side and racing towards her brother. Bowen ordered her back in the car, and then ran to Tyheim, who was writhing on the ground with massive abdominal injuries, both of his legs apparently destroyed by the accident.

According to Bowen, Tyheim looked up at her and choked out, "Mom, I don't think I'm going to make it."

At the time, she did not see Tymeir or the offending vehicle.

A line of cars formed directly behind her. A bedlam of screaming, slamming car doors and gathering onlookers ensued as the drivers and passengers began coming out of their vehicles as well, once they realized what had occurred.

Bowen screamed for her son, frantic.

Moments later, Berlin Police Chief Arnold Downing, having come to the scene upon hearing the dispatch call, informed Bowen that emergency crew had taken Tymeir to Atlantic General Hospital and took Tyheim to Peninsula Regional Medical Center.

When Bowen arrived at AGH, "That's where they broke the news to me and asked me to identify which one it was," she said.

Tyheim, meanwhile, was transported to the University of Maryland Medical Center's Shock Trauma Cen-



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ter in Baltimore, where his leg was amputated.

Bowen took leave of her \$250 a week job to attend to Tyheim during his two-week stay at the Shock Trauma, as well as two subsequent weeks in rehabilitation at the Health-South Chesapeake Rehabilitation Hospital in Salisbury.

Medical costs mounted, and Bowen struggled to pay her phone and electric bills. Meanwhile, Bowen continued to look for answers in the aftermath of the crash.

"I want justice for my boys," she said. "I'll never be right after this."

Choking back tears, Bowen began sobbing into a tissue. "If I could have taken that blow I would have done that," she said.

The following week, the Bayside Gazette spoke with Tymeir's father, Quentin Dennis.

Dennis said he received a telephone call around 8:05 p.m. on Nov. 8, just after the accident occurred. He headed to AGH to see his son.

"The whole thing was so unreal," he said.

Dennis said his son looked like he was asleep, "But they were telling me he was not here anymore," he said.

Dennis, a Worcester County correctional officer, said he contacted the Maryland State Police, seeking a preliminary accident report. "I felt like some were helpful ... and some were not," he said. "[Other officers] kind of brushed me off."

Following the crash, a group of concerned citizens formed a Pedestrian Safety committee and lobbied to install a crosswalk and other added safety measures to the now infamous intersection. Dennis said the measures were long overdue.

"There are a lot of kids going across there and it needs to be taken care of before something else happens," he said.

Dennis also expressed his gratitude toward Downing.

"That night he really helped out a lot," he said. "[He kept] a lot of things under control. I really appreciated that."

Of the 21-year-old trooper that crashed into his only son, he said, "I know the officer has a lot going on ... I don't know what I would say to him."

On Feb. 10, the Pedestrian Safety Committee, working with State Highway Administration officials, announced commitments for new safety improvements along Route 113.

The committee included Berlin councilmembers Dean Burrell and Lisa Hall, Berlin Town Administrator Laura Allen, Berlin Police Chief Arnold Downing, and residents Sue Beaman, Roxie Dennis, Patricia Dufendach, Gabe Purnell and Neil Winn.

Dufendach, chair of the committee, said the SHA agreed to lower the speed limit from 55 to 45 miles per hour on 113 roughly between Old Ocean City Boulevard and German-town Road.

An electronic message sign would alert motorists of the change, and hazard lights were due within 18 months.

The SHA also approved a crosswalk at Bay Street and Rt. 113, the site of the accident, due by mid-March. Nine months later, a pedestrian-initiated "walk" signal, audible alarm and visible countdown timer are due at the site.

The Bayside Gazette learned in September that the investigation had concluded. Although police did not publically release their findings, Dennis read the report and spoke to the Bayside Gazette about his initial impressions.

"There are some things that concern me as far as the investigation with the police officer – the way it was handled and who handled it," he said. "I felt like it should have been

another agency handling the investigation since it involved one of their officers."

Dennis said he would prefer a third party look into the matter, and admitted he was "not satisfied with the findings."

"I think it was an uneven job," he said. "The officer wasn't even charged with a speeding ticket or anything. I think at least speeding or something – when you have a fatality and another young man that lost a limb, some charges have to come out of that."

Dennis added he would push for an outside agency to look into the case, and said he intended to set up a meeting with the state's attorney.

"They're saying that the findings were just and that and they felt like no wrongdoing was done and no charges were filed," he said. "I think

you kind of have to start there and figure out what's going on and what avenues you can take.

"Right now the officer knows what happened," Dennis continued. "He never said anything and he probably can't say anything because of circumstances, but sometimes you just wonder. You want to sit down and ask him what really happened and find out some things."

In October, the Bayside Gazette obtained a copy of the full investigation report. Dark clothing, poor visibility and failure to yield to the right of way to vehicles were blamed in what was ruled an accident.

The circumstances of the crash, according to the investigation, involved clear weather conditions. The report found no indication of defects in the road or the traffic signal where the

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brothers began to cross the highway.
Trooper First Class Charles Gore from the Easton Office Crash Team of the Maryland State Police, who signed the report, wrote that, "Mr. Dennis and Mr. Bowen were observed by their mom, Tynise Bowen, who was stopped at a traffic light on southbound U.S. Route 113 waiting to turn left on Bay Street. Ms. Bowen tried to speak to her sons at which time they proceeded towards Ms. Bowen."

Prior to crossing the street Gore wrote "Both Ms. Bowen and Mr. Bowen ... observed headlights from the approaching car. Mr. Bowen and Mr. Dennis proceeded to cross the travel lanes. Both Mr. Bowen and Mr. Dennis were wearing dark colored clothing that contained little to no reflectivity."

Hager, traveling north on the highway had recently cleared a traffic stop a mile and a half away at Hayes Landing Road. The state's speed analysis concluded Hager was traveling at approximately 57 mph.

The trooper said he was "startled by a quick glimpse of something which appeared from nowhere out of the darkness directly in my lane of travel. I immediately attempted to take evasive action by applying my brakes and attempting to steer away from this object in my lane of travel. However; this object contacted my

patrol vehicle and it was not until this time I was able to identify this sudden startling flash as being pedestrians."

Hager notified his barrack of the crash, kicked opened the jammed door, and went to one of the boys, attempting to resuscitate him. Hager said Bowen approached him and asked if her sons would be okay.

"I responded by advising I did not know and she stated this would not have happened if they were paying attention and not talking to her," Hager said.

According to the report, Bowen was wearing blue jeans and a black jacket. Dennis wore a pair of green camouflage pants and a dark-colored shirt and jacket. The report also said police found 3.27 grams of suspected marijuana inside of the front left pocket of the camouflage pants.

Bowen contended her sons were standing on the grass at the edge of the roadway when the police car struck the two brothers. According to Gore, forensic evidence, including a lack of grass stains or dirt on two pairs of shoes recovered, indicated the boys, "Were not standing on the grass at the time of the crash."

"I was unable to locate any evidence to indicate that the patrol car traveled into the grass or dirt during the collision event," Gore said, adding that evidence suggested the front left corner of the car struck Tyheim Bowen, sending him onto "the grass median near

the beginning of the guard rail.

"Based on ... evidence, I was able to rule out that the vehicle itself did not travel into the grass median during the collision," Gore wrote.

Instead, Gore said the evidence placed Dennis "as much as 2.3 feet ... into lane #1" [the fast lane next to the median].

"Based upon the totality of the investigation I find both Mr. Bowen and Mr. Dennis crossed the roadway knowing that there was a vehicle approaching their location," Gore wrote. "They were wearing dark colored clothing making themselves very hard to be seen and, of course, reducing the amount of time for anyone to react to them being in the roadway and therefore finding that they failed to yield the right-of-way to vehicles traveling on U.S. Route 113 in accordance with the Maryland Transportation Article 21, Section 503 titled: crossing other than crosswalk."

A supplemental report said Dianne M. Williams of 320 Bay Street contacted police on June 27 saying she "saw two persons standing in the grass median talking to a person in a minivan" on Nov. 8. She did not, however, see the accident itself.

Williams heard a crash report over a police scanner, ran outside to see if she could help and "saw one person laying near the edge of where the guardrail begins in the grass median but did not see the other person."

Williams, whose residence is approximately 180 feet from where Tynise Bowen's minivan was parked during the investigation, said she did not come forward earlier because she "did not want to get involved and that she did not see the crash itself."

Although the case is closed, some members of the community continued to echo Dennis' frustration with the findings.

Pedestrian Safety Committee Member Purnell, a member of the NAACP for more than four decades, said people in Berlin "are talking, and people are confused and conflicted about [the investigation]."

"Based on what we see across the country and what's going on, the reality is when you come up against law enforcement, you accept what they give you and you move on," he said. "You've just got to process it. As a community, we just have to suck it up and keep on going."

Purnell said he objected to the notion that the police could impartially conduct an investigation into one of their own.

"If it's inside, it's going to be biased," he said. "That's just plain and simple ... That's the culture of law enforcement."

Although he plans to continue his work with the committee, Purnell suggested that safety improvements on Route 113 near the area of the crash "have gone as far as we can go."

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Pines continues to struggle with new Yacht Club

By Josh Davis
Staff Writer

Despite high expectations and early positive reviews, Ocean Pines' new \$4.7 million Yacht Club seemed more like an albatross than a rabbit's foot by the end of the year.

Opened during Memorial Day weekend, the facility's coming out party included a daylong celebration complete with live music, food and tours of the enormous grounds.

The building seemed to come together in record time. Replacing the original 1975 yacht club, torn down in September 2013, it featured a massive outdoor patio with a stunning view of the Isle of Wight Bay, as well as new facilities designed to attract special events.

The downstairs restaurant, dubbed "The Cove," served daily lunch and dinner service.

Tom Terry, then president of the Ocean Pines Association Board of Directors, called the opening "a roaring success."

Terry also praised General Manager Bob Thompson. "He did a phenomenal job getting that building done in time for the Memorial Day Weekend," Terry said.

Another director, Jack Collins, said Thompson "really pulled a rabbit out of the hat."

Director Bill Cordwell agreed, saying, "The whole place is just fantastic."

Still, there were loose ends from the very beginning. The county issued a temporary certificate of occupancy allowing the opening just three hours before the doors opened. Unfinished construction, including landscaping, additional parking, and screening and fencing of trash pad sites and fuel containers, held up a permanent permit. The outdoor tiki bar also remained unfinished.

A formal ribbon cutting ceremony on June 8 drew several hundred guests, as the club continued to offer tours, food samples and live music.

In September, the Bayside Gazette spoke with Yacht Club Manager David McLaughlin about the facility's first full season in business. McLaughlin said financials were strong and that event booking was "extraordinary."

"I think we've sold out about three months up there next year already," McLaughlin said.

Still, the summer was not without its hiccups. Friday nights were like "controlled chaos" according to McLaughlin. "We're like ducks – we're sitting up here looking calm, but underneath we're paddling like crazy," he said.

The interior of the Cove needed more work and the kitchen needed a makeover.

"It's like getting your first car –



you have to learn how to drive it," McLaughlin said. "It's been such a busy time this summer that we didn't have a lot of time to play with things."

Swarms of flies also often plagued customers.

"That was our number one complaint during the first couple of weeks," McLaughlin said. "If you looked up at the ceiling, probably 20 or 30 percent of the ceiling tiles were covered with flies. I've never seen anything like it."

New board President Dave Stevens said the yacht club needed to formu-

late an overall identity.

Days later, during a Sept. 27 board meeting, complaints from residents began pouring in that key community groups, including the Ocean Pines Chamber of Commerce, had bypassed the club when booking their signature galas.

"If somebody invests over \$4 million in your back yard ... you don't go somewhere else to save a couple dollars," Terry said.

Board Vice President Marty Clarke said many of the groups "are not very happy with the way the Yacht Club

came off" in negotiations to book said functions.

Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Liz Kain-Bolen said the yacht club's rates "weren't competitive with our other bidders."

Stevens said the golf association had a similar experience.

"They made multiple attempts to try and go to the Yacht Club and then in the end had to decide to try and go to another place," he said. "I think it's an instance of bad communications, or perhaps lack of a responsiveness

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YEAR IN REVIEW 2014



FAREWELL PAULA
Worcester County Commissioners President Bud Church pay farewell to retiring Berlin Councilmember Paula Lynch during a ceremony at Town Hall on Oct. 9.



GULYAS ELECTED
Louise Gulyas poses with her son, Tom Gulyas, newly elected to the Berlin town council, and Worcester County Commissioners President Bud Church.



HOGAN VISITS
Larry Hogan, with local and state Republican political leaders, talks about gaming regulations on the Boardwalk on Aug. 15.



PARADE MUSIC
Ocean City Pipes and Drums pose for a photo following the America's Coolest Small Town parade, April 12.



COOL BERLIN
Worcester Youth & Family Counseling Services, Inc. Berlin Youth Club celebrates America's Coolest Small Town during a parade through Main Street, April 12.



PARADE IN BERLIN
Youth organizations and students participate in a parade for America's Coolest Small Town during a celebration along Main Street, April 12.

YEAR IN REVIEW 2014

Continued from Page 13
that caused it.”

Some complained that the facility, considered an amenity, should give discounts to association members. Thompson argued that the facility was designed to bring revenue into the community.

“It’s different than a community center where you would have [public] use of this space,” he said. “The Yacht Club is a food and beverage operation, so that’s how we’re operating.”

Clarke agreed. “It is a business and there is not a majority of this board to make it a new community center,” he said. “I have always been the guy that says, ‘You’ve got to pay to play.’ I don’t think we should have any facility for free because there isn’t any such thing as free.”

Terry disagreed. “The Yacht Club is an amenity of our association, and by definition, by my sense and past Boards, amenities are not necessarily pure profit centers,” he said. “We clearly need to balance the fact that that is an amenity that is owned by our members.”

Clarke picked a specific target. “Do I think it’s being mismanaged? Yes, it’s being mismanaged,” he said.

The outspoken director also called on the board to lease the facility.

“I’d lease the damned place out – or at least make my best effort to lease it out,” Clarke said. “Get the board of directors’ fingers out of that pie and it might not fail. We obviously suck at this. The place has got no rent and no taxes and it can’t make money? Hello?”

Terry chalked up his concerns on the yacht club to “growing pains.”

“I think at the end of the day we’ll find our way through this,” he said. “I think there’s an opportunity for us to find our way. We are booking many, many events at our facility, so our pricing model is not that far off from the marketplace. You work through the first year, you tweak it, and you go from there.”

Stevens introduced a motion during a special session advocating the creation of a work group to assess the yacht club. Cordwell, however, argued that the existing food and beverage committee, on which he is the board’s liaison, already serves the same purpose as the proposed workgroup.

“I knew nothing about [the proposed committee], which I was embarrassed at, until I got the board packet for this meeting [and] find out you’re putting together this ‘lessons learned’ group,” he said. “I hope we would take the time to apologize to this club committee group for wasting their time.”

The board defeated the motion 5-2. Clarke, who supported the work group with Stevens, said he was “astounded” by the decision.

“We’re going to find out what’s going on,” he said. “I’m like a bulldog on a rag – I’m going to find out.”

In November, during Thompson’s first town hall meeting in more than

a year, financials appeared strong despite the mounting controversies. Thompson said the yacht club brought in more than \$400,000 during 60 events in 2014, adding the venue already booked 41 events in 2015 worth more than \$370,000.

The general manager said he and a small workgroup were developing new pricing strategies and menu options, and deciding whether Ocean Pines residents would receive discounts or priority booking. Leasing the club to outside management, according to Thompson, was not on the table.

“We figure we’ll get a year under our belt ... and then we can make some better decisions,” he said. “You just can’t correct everything right away. It’s kind of a learning process.”

Still, new complaints emerged. One resident asked why Thompson did not address his email complaint

about McLaughlin. After a disagreement with a customer, he claimed, McLaughlin said, “I’m tired of hearing [from] Ocean Pines geriatric drunks.”

“I didn’t answer it by design,” Thompson said. “I learned about the incident recently. It’s a personnel matter. I’m working through that.”

“They should not have been talked to in that way, I can tell you that,” Thompson added.

Another resident asked about an apparent rumor that McLaughlin had been fired.

“It’s a rumor,” Thompson said at the time.

On the following day, the community quietly announced it had indeed severed ties with McLaughlin, temporarily installing Beach Club Manager Lynda Huettnner in his place.

Thompson said the allegations brought up during the town hall did

not play a role in the apparent ousting. “Meetings like that don’t change my mind on personnel issues. It’s a little bigger issue than individual cases,” he said.

Instead, Thompson said, the yacht club simply needed “a change in direction.”

“We appreciate everything Dave’s done up to this point, but it was just time to move us in a different direction,” he said.

Asked if he saw the change in leadership as a chance to move on from the public unrest, Thompson was guardedly optimistic.

“I’m hoping it will, but we’re in Ocean Pines,” he said. “There will always be a little bit of controversy. This will bring new challenges and criticisms, but we have so many good things happening. I just try and keep us focused and pointed in that direction.”



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OPINION

BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Please send all letters to editor, notices, calendar events and community announcements to editor@baysidegazette.com by 5 p.m. Monday.

Traveling light into another new year

Two thousand fourteen, 2014 or MMXIV. No matter how we might write it, it still comes out the same. The results are in and no matter what we think of the 12 months past, 2014 is over and out.

There are, of course, all kinds of years besides this one – fiscal years, legislative years, religious years, academic years and other kinds of astronomical years – but the Gregorian calendar that most of us follow in our everyday lives gives us the opportunity to believe in a fresh start.

Obviously, that was not the intent of the scholars who, under the authority of Pope Gregory XIII in 1582, refined the solar calendar developed by Julius Caesar many centuries earlier. What they were trying to do – and this is a gross simplification – was to establish more firmly when Easter should be celebrated.


Still it's nice to think of each new year as a clean slate of sorts or something of a do-over as we ponder mistakes that we vow not to repeat and pledge to build on the good we might have done.

It is also why New Year's Eve is such the celebration. It's like a whistle stop between trains, a chance to check the baggage of the previous 12 months at the door and to contemplate honestly where we want to go and whether we want to take all that luggage with us.

Whether 2015 is a better year than the past one will depend in large part on circumstances beyond our control. For our part, however, we need to carry the positive forward and leave that excess baggage behind.

Here's to a happy and prosperous New Year.

BAYSIDE GAZETTE



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ACCOUNT MANAGERS

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SENIOR DESIGNER

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COMPTROLLER

ADMIN. ASSISTANT

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Gini Tufts

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The Bayside Gazette office is located in
Downtown Historic Berlin at
11 S. Main Street, Unit A
Berlin, MD 21811
Phone: 410-641-0039 • Fax: 410-641-0085
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LETTERS

Current state of law enforcement

Editor,
Having been in the active law enforcement profession for nearly 40 years, I feel impelled to comment on the current state of law enforcement that I have observed during my career. America's police are some of the most educated, professionally trained and highly regulated police officers in the world. I never cease to wonder at the dedication and selflessness of our sons and daughters who have volunteered for public service in a profession that, at times, is under-appreciated.

The loss of two New York City Police Officers to a cowardly assassin should be a time of reflection on the many sacrifices our police officers make to protect the public. In my career, I have witnessed incredible bravery and sacrifice by our police officers to bring to justice criminals who break our laws. It grieves me to see some of our highest elected officials create an atmosphere that fosters distrust of our police. Yes, our profession is not without a very small percentage of personnel who have proved unfit for service.

Yet, the solution of some

of our elected officials is to paint, with a broad brush, that our police are untrained and insensitive. Indeed, some legislators want to force police to carry around video cameras to monitor behavior. Really? There is no need for video-profiling of police, and I would hope our legislators understand that police are not the enemy, but our sons and daughters who have made many unselfish sacrifices to keep our public safe.

When law enforcement officers die, as recently happened in New York City, the very fabric of society is torn. Many wonderful citizens have spoken to us voicing their support for the police. I would hope that our elected officials are listening.

David C. Massey, Ed.D.
Chief of Police
Ocean Pines Police Department

Trash collection needs attention

Editor,
According to my County Commissioner, Chip Bertino, the county was operating at a deficit for trash collection. We can all understand that this needed some attention to reverse the problem. What I can't un-

derstand is that every fee for trash collection remained the same as last year except for the homeowner permits. Clearly the tons of garbage put into the landfill by the professional trash collectors far out way the amount put in by the residents that choose to haul their garbage to one of the county collection centers.

I do not feel that the county has represented the homeowners very well in this change. I can appreciate that increasing the fees to the professional garbage collectors may cause an increase to residents that use their service. But shouldn't the increases be spread across all users of this county enterprise?

The homeowner permits had a 20 percent increase just a few years ago. Following that with a 66.7 percent increase does not seem like a fair way of solving the county deficit problem. Another look at this solution is needed.

To be fair, the county did add a "pay as you throw" option, but this does not provide a reasonable alternative for year round residents. It may provide a very good option for part time residents and maybe even rental units.

Bob Prandy
Ocean Pines

YEAR IN REVIEW 2014

Off-year elections prove a shake-up for state, area

By Josh Davis
Staff Writer

Republicans rolled, Maryland got a new governor, a brand-new district received a brand-new representative, and at least one community saw a significant change in leadership thanks to municipal and off-year elections.

Snow Hill chimed in first, releasing the results of the Eastern District Town Council seat on Wednesday, May 7. Preliminary results showed Alison Cook beating Gary Weber 65 votes to 33.

Incumbent mayor John “Charlie” Dorman won reelection without facing opposition.

In Berlin, three council seats faced election in September.

District 4 Councilmember Dean Burrell was the first to tip his hat, saying stormwater management was the forefront issue on his mind. District 1 Councilmember Troy Purnell also announced his intention to run, while At-Large Councilmember Paula Lynch initially stalled.

In Ocean Pines, two seats on the association’s board of directors were up for grabs. A crowded field emerged, as incumbents Jeff Knepper and Terri Mohr stood against Lawrence Lee, Dan Moul, Patrick Renaud, Slobodan Trendic and David Stevens.

In Worcester County, all seven seats on the county commissioner’s bench faced a vote.

Turning to state races, Democrats Judy Davis and Mike Hindi vied for the new District 38C Maryland House of Delegates seat, while Mary Beth Carozza ran on the Republican side.

In District 38A former Crisfield Mayor Percy Purnell, a Democrat, ran against Republican Charles Otto.

Democratic incumbent Sen. Jim Mathias faced opposition in District 38 from Republican Del. Mike McDermott. Four Republican candidates for governor faced off, while Lt. Gov. Anthony Brown led a pack of six candidates on the Democratic side.

In the lone race with national implications, physician John LaFerla and lawyer Bill Tilghman competed in the Democratic primary for Maryland’s 1st Congressional District seat, while incumbent Andy Harris faced a challenge from Jonathan Gof, Jr. on the Republican side.

Ocean Pines

Ballots were due in Ocean Pines in August, and things heated up early in the board race.

Renaud and Stevens teamed up to rail against the leadership of the current board, as well as the contract the community awarded to General Manager Bob Thompson.

“I think there’s a lot of dissatisfaction with the way things are being run,” Renaud said. “Many of the five non-incumbent board candidates were encouraged to run because of the disappointment with the board and the general manager in the last two years.”

Stevens previously stepped down from the board because of term limits, serving for six years as treasurer and board president.

“I believe the reasons for the interest in this year’s election and the large field of candidates are: one, the disappointing performance of the general manager and two, repeated failures of the current board to hold him accountable,” Stephens said.

“It will take two new board members with similar views and open minds to bring about the change OPA members are demanding,” Stephens continued. “I have the highest confidence in Pat Renaud as someone who will work diligently to make a difference.”

In early June, Trendic announced his withdraw, throwing his support instead behind Renaud and Stevens.

“In order to make the change possible that everybody is asking for, I anticipate the board will have a new president,” Trendic said. “I believe the person that is most suitable is Dave Stevens. I think he’s done great things in the past – and some not-so-great things – but I think no one is perfect, and if he’s given a chance he will certainly redeem himself and get things done right.”

Moul also withdrew from the OPA

race in June.

Stevens, meanwhile, continued to hammer the current board, saying the last three years were “marked by closed deliberations, presentations with more polish than substance, unbudgeted capital expenditures and reports that emphasized the ‘positive’ rather than the truth.”

Primary Results

The June 24 primary election narrowed the playing field, although turnout results were abysmal.

At Buckingham Presbyterian Church in Berlin, just three voters participated in the first hour and a half after polls opened.

Turnout at Berlin Intermediate School was also painfully low, where 13 voters showed up in the first two hours.

At the Roland E. Powell Convention Center in Ocean City, one of the largest polling locations in the area, 109 voters cast their ballots during the first two and a half hours.

“That’s low even for an off-year primary,” election official George Payne said.

By the end of the day, just 6,424 of the 31,792 registered voters in Worcester County cast ballots.

In the race for governor, which Politico called “the ugliest statewide Democratic primary in the country,”

Brown defeated Attorney General Doug Gansler by more than a two-to-one margin. Republican Larry Hogan easily won his party’s nomination.

Tilghman handily defeated LaFerla to earn the Democratic District 1 nomination, while Harris trounced his competition.

Judy Davis earned the Democratic nomination for District 38C.

The notion that every vote counted was never more apparent than in several contested county commissioner races, where Republican Ted Elder appeared to edge Kathryn Danko-Lord by just three votes to earn his party’s District 4 nomination. In another nail-biter, Chip Bertino led for the District 5 Republican nomination over Grant Helvey by eight votes on election day.

After totaling all the absentee ballots, Elder and Danko-Lord were deadlocked, leading to an unprecedented move in which the Republican Central Committee voted on the nomination.

Elder won the final vote 7-2, sending him up against incumbent Democrat Virgil Shockley in the November general election.

Bertino, meanwhile, held off Helvey 333-321, giving him the Republican nomination. Tom Wilson won the Democratic nomination for District 5.

Madison Jim Bunting Jr. comfort-
See YEAR IN REVIEW Page 18

OCTOBER 24, 2014
IN THE MATTER OF THE MERGER OF EXELON CORPORATION AND PEPCO HOLDINGS, INC.
Case No. 9361

MODIFIED NOTICE OF EVENING HEARINGS FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Pursuant to Order No. 86622, the Public Service Commission of Maryland (“Commission”) has scheduled the following evening hearings for the purpose of receiving public comments on the merger of Exelon and Pepco Holdings, Inc., parent company to Delmarva Power & Light Company (“Delmarva Power”), at the dates, times, and locations as indicated:

Tuesday, January 6, 2015	Wednesday, January 7, 2015	Thursday, January 8, 2015
Beginning at 7:00 p.m. Kent County Public Library 408 High Street Chestertown, Maryland 21620	Beginning at 7:00 p.m. Chesapeake College – Cadby Theatre Wye Mills Campus Eastern Shore Higher Education Center Routes 50 and 213 Wye Mills, Maryland 21679	Beginning at 7:00 p.m. Salisbury University Room TETC - 153 1101 Camden Avenue Salisbury, Maryland 21801

Written comments also may be filed by February 17, 2015. Original signed paper comments¹ shall be submitted to David J. Collins, Executive Secretary, Maryland Public Service Commission, William Donald Schaefer Tower, 6 St. Paul Street, 16th Floor, Baltimore, Maryland 21202, and reference “Case No. 9361 – Public Comment.”

Delmarva Power is hereby directed to publish once in each of the two (2) successive weeks prior to the hearing date, notice of each public hearing and the opportunity for public comment by a display advertisement in newspapers of general circulation throughout its service territories. In the display advertisement, Delmarva Power is directed to publish the case caption, and case number, in addition to the date, time, place, and purpose of the hearing. Additionally, Delmarva Power shall place on its home page a notice of the evening hearings in a manner that a customer need not click on a link to determine the time, date, location and the purpose of the hearing.

Furthermore, Delmarva Power is directed to issue either a bill message or bill insert to its Maryland customers in their respective billing cycle that runs closest and prior to the hearing dates, announcing the date, time, place, and purpose of the hearing. Finally, Delmarva Power is encouraged to utilize social media or other means of communication at its disposal to further notify its customers of the public evening hearings, as appropriate.

By Direction of the Commission,
/s/ David J. Collins
David J. Collins
Executive Secretary

¹ In order for the Commission to ensure that written comments are properly entered into its docket system, only written comments submitted either by mail or hand-delivery will be entered into the Commission’s docket system. Documents sent via email or facsimile will not be entered into the Commission’s docket system.



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YEAR IN REVIEW 2014

Continued from Page 17

ably beat Linda C. Busick for the Republican District 6 seat, where no Democratic challengers filed.

Incumbent Republican Merrill W. Lockfaw Jr. ran unopposed for District 1 commissioner seat. Likewise for Madison Jim Bunting Jr. in District 6, while newcomer Republican Joseph M. Mitrecic ran unopposed for the District 7 seat.

In District 2, Diana Purnell faced Republican Lorraine Purnell-Ayres, and Republican incumbent Bud Church faced Democrat Michael Maykrantz.

Pines Results

Ocean Pines released the results of the community election on Aug. 9, and Renaud and Stevens were the top vote getters, essentially giving them a 4-3 voting block with current directors Marty Clark and Jack Collins.

Stevens said the election "confirmed our sense of the dissatisfaction of a great number of people in Ocean Pines."

"We made the issues as plain as we could," he said. "We wanted to be sure that we were not facing a 4-3 voting bloc. That's what happened before and I had their experience of three years on the board where I was in that minority. What I am also hoping is that ... there will be a real exchange of ideas and that it won't be all 'us and them,'"

During an organizational meeting

on Aug. 15, Stevens was selected president of the OPA board, replacing Tom Terry. Renaud was elected secretary, Clarke won the vice presidency and Collins became treasurer.

End of an Era

Later that month, longtime councilmember Paula Lynch announced she would not seek reelection after 26 years in office.

"It just think it's time," Lynch said. "Twenty six years is enough for anybody. It's time for other folks to give some input."

Mayor Gee Williams said Lynch, "always provided a steady hand on the tiller as Berlin has navigated through both good times and bad. I personally have always relied on her good judgment and natural instincts to consider the long-term implications of anything the town does. She always tried to anticipate not only the things you can foresee, but also unforeseen consequences."

Burrell said he held Lynch "in the utmost regard."

"She has been and will continue to be a treasure for the town of Berlin," he said. "Her service to the town of Berlin and its citizens have been second to none. Paula is a gem."

Businessperson Thom Gulyas filed for the vacant seat and the two incumbents voiced their support.

"Knowing Thom, I think he will be an asset to the town and to the general

population of Berlin," Burrell said. "I always thought of Thom as being a good guy."

Purnell said Gulyas had a "good business head on him."

"I think he'll do a fantastic job," he said. "I think the town needs to be run like a business."

On Sept. 9, as no opposition candidates filed, Berlin canceled its municipal election and certified Purnell, Burrell and Gulyas as the winners.

"I'm excited," Gulyas said. "I intend to sit down, do my homework, vet everything that I possibly can before a decision is made. I may not always be with the rest of the council ... but I will do my homework, and I'll make sure that before I make a decision on anything that I've done the best I possibly can to ferret out all the information to make that decision."

Butting Heads

On the county level, Wilson and Bertino butted heads during several forums over the expansion of Route 589.

Wilson accused the current crop of commissioners of not doing enough to address the congestion on the highway.

"We need to do better," he said. "The commissioners say they're working on this when, in fact, they've done next to nothing. We can build coalitions. We can build alliances. We can work with the state to get funding for 589."

Bertino said Wilson was, "divorced from what has actually occurred" on

highway expansion.

"Route 589 has continually been an important issue for the county commissioners and Ocean Pines," Bertino said. "To suggest that the county commissioners are not doing enough to do what needs to be done on Route 589 is quite frankly unfair and untrue."

Sparks also flew between Mathias and McDermott during fall forums, including the Oct. 8 meeting at the Ocean City Senior Center.

McDermott, his voice booming in the small auditorium, accused Democrats of trying to, "find a way to tax the sunshine."

"We are full of politicians in this state," he said. "You need leaders. You need people who will look out of the box. Your hope and your future and that of your grandchildren is dependent upon these elections. If you keep putting the same people up there who keep doing the same policies with the same results - that's lunacy."

"Tonight we've been hollered at," Mathias said. "I thought we came here to discuss, not to be belittled - not to be demanded - not to be arrogant. That's not how we do anything. That's not how we do it in a family. It's certainly not how we do it in a community, and clearly it's not how you do it in government."

Several members of the audience interrupted the senator to defend McDermott, shouting, "He's being passionate" and "He's telling the truth."



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YEAR IN REVIEW 2014

The moderator fought to restore order, while McDermott dug in.

“When somebody has liberal tendencies and is boxed in and can’t answer the question and can’t dig out of the hole because they keep digging and digging and digging that they resort to personal attacks, calling somebody arrogant, talking about somebody hollering, not even recognizing true, passionate debate,” McDermott said. “Passionate men – passionate women – they understand their core values and those of their constituents, and they rise up and debate, sometimes vehemently for their passionate views.”

Phosphorus became an unlikely issue in the Mathias – McDermott race after the state threatened to impose harsh restrictions on farmers based on the presence of the chemical element in fertilizer used to grow crops on the Eastern Shore.

Mathias fought to stall legislation on the issue until the state conducted the impact study, while McDermott accused Mathias of being too willing to compromise.

“Whether you’re a liberal or a conservative you should understand the need to protect our economy from these types of attacks,” he said. “If I’m going to err, I’m going to err on the side of protecting the farms and our economic interests and viability.”

“To compromise from a position where you lack knowledge – that’s not a wise decision to make,” McDermott continued. [Mathias is] probably more willing to compromise and work something out as opposed to saying, ‘prove it’ first so we know what the facts are before we move forward.”

Mathias said voters would ultimately have to decide, “Who was able to accomplish what through leadership.”

“I know where we were well over a year ago in the summer of 2014,” he said. “I know who my partners have been to get us this far, and I know it’s come through effective leadership.

Someone may say this is an election year issue or an election issue – this is an absolute critical, fundamental everyday issue for our family farms and our family farm community here on the Eastern Shore. That’s what I fight for every day and that’s what I’ll continue to fight for.”

Finally, the Results

On Election Day, Nov. 4, a massive Republican landslide swept the nation, the state and, especially, Worcester County.

Hogan grabbed most of the headlines on election evening, upsetting Brown by more than 75,000 votes statewide. Hogan won 51.47 percent of the vote in Maryland, but he absolutely dominated in Worcester County, winning on almost 70 percent of ballots.

Only Harris, who won more than 70 percent of the vote in his district, did worse in Worcester County, winning by a mere 64.5 to 35.5 percent over challenger Tilghman.

One Democrat who did survive the GOP juggernaut was Mathias in the District 38 state senate race, posting a 1,228 vote-lead over McDermott.

Otto defeated Purnell in District 38A, and Carozza won big over Davis in District 38C.

Six of the seven Worcester County Commissioners seats also went Republican, with only Diana Purnell winning a seat over Republican Purnell-Ayers in District 2.

Elder upset veteran District 4 commissioner Shockley in District 4, and Bertino beat Wilson in District 5.

More than 35,000 people cast ballots on Election Day in Worcester County, totaling 51.13 percent of registered voters, the eighth-highest turnout in Maryland.

Those numbers were lower than the 61.6 percent of voters that showed up in 2012 during the presidential election, but remained higher than the 48.02 percent of voters who turned out in 2010, the last off-year election.

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New Year's Ball Drop - December 31st

Calendar

THURS. Jan. 1

19TH ANNUAL MAYOR'S OPEN HOUSE — Performing Arts Center, Ocean City convention center, 4001 Coastal Highway, 1-3 p.m. The theme will feature the evolution of the convention center, highlighting the building's new attraction, the Performing Arts Center. Meet the Mayor and City Council members, view the pictorial history of the convention center and enjoy a first-look of the Performing Arts Center. Entertainment by Bryan Russo with several special guest performances. Also participating are the Ocean City Beautification Committee, the Ocean City Development Corporation, the Art League of Ocean City, the Beach Patrol and the Community Response Team. Outside will be the Ocean City Fire Department with equipment on display as well as the mounted police and canine units. Light refreshments. Free and open to all. Info: Jessica Waters, 410-289-8967.

21ST ANNUAL PENGUIN SWIM — Princess Royale Oceanfront Resort & Condominiums, 9100 Coastal Highway, Ocean City. Registration at 11:30 a.m., swim at 1 p.m. Annual dip into the chilly Atlantic Ocean to benefit the Atlantic General Hospital. Best costume contest and recognition of oldest and youngest penguins. Info: www.agh-penguinswim.org or hetrader@atlanticgeneral.org.

PANCAKE BREAKFAST — Bethany United Methodist Church, 8648 Stephen Decatur Highway, West Ocean City, 8 a.m., followed by a worship service at 9 a.m. Cost is \$8 for adults and \$4 for children, 11 and younger. Proceeds go to charity. Info: 410-641-2186.

FRI. Jan. 2

BINGO — Knights of Columbus, 9901 Coastal Highway (rear of St. Luke's Church) in Ocean City. Doors open at 5 p.m. and games begin at 6:30 p.m. Refreshments for sale. Info: 410-524-7994.

ART EXHIBIT OPENING RECEPTION — Ocean City Center for the Arts, 502 94th Street, 5-7 p.m. "Shared Visions" is the collaborative works of local literary and visual artists. The joint exhibit will be on display throughout January. Info: 410-524-9433 or www.artleagueofoceancity.org.

SAT. Jan. 3

PANCAKE BREAKFAST — VFW, Post 8296, 104 66th St., bayside in Ocean City, 8-11 a.m. A \$5 donation for all-you-can-eat pancakes or 2-2-2, two eggs, two pancakes and two bacon slices, includes coffee and juice. Bloody Marys cost \$3. Info: 410-524-8196.

FARMERS MARKET — White Horse Park, 239 Ocean Parkway, Ocean Pines, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Locally grown vegetables and fruits, eggs, honey, kettle corn, flowers, artisan breads, seafood, meats and more. New ven-

dors welcome. Info: 410-641-7717, Ext. 3006.

SUN. Jan. 4

OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS #169 — Atlantic General Hospital, Conference Room 1, 9733 Healthway Drive, Berlin, 2:30 - 3:30 p.m. Group is a 12-step program for anyone struggling with a compulsive eating problem. No initial meeting charge. Meeting contribution is \$1 weekly. Info: Bett, 410-202-9078.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS - Atlantic General Hospital, Conference Room 2, 9733 Healthway Drive, Berlin, noon to 1 p.m. Group shares experience, strength and hope to help others. Open to the community and to AGH patients. Info: Rob, 443-783-3529.

SUNDAY NIGHT SERENITY AL-ANON FAMILY GROUP MEETING — Woodlands in Ocean Pines, Independent Living Apartment Building, 1135 Ocean Parkway, Ocean Pines, 7:30 p.m.

MON. Jan. 5

HYPERTENSION CLINICS — Sponsored by Atlantic General Hospital and takes place the first Monday of every month at Apple Discount Drugs, 314 Franklin Ave., in Berlin, 10 a.m. to noon and at Walgreens, 11310 Manklin Creek Rd., in Ocean Pines, 1-3 p.m. Free blood pressure screening and health information. Info: Dawn Denton, 410-641-9268.

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

LIVING WELL WORKSHOP — Northern Worcester Senior Center 10129 Old Ocean City Blvd., Berlin, 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Mondays, Jan. 5 through Feb. 23. Free, six-week workshop that teaches how to live a quality life with chronic disease. Chronic conditions include diabetes, arthritis, depression, asthma, bronchitis, pain, heart disease or any condition that hinders you. Pre-registration required by calling Laura Small, 410-629-6820.

DIABETES SUPPORT GROUP — St. Paul's United Methodist Church, 405 Flower St., Berlin, first Monday of each month, 6-7 p.m. All welcome. Info: Darlene Jameson, 410-629-6877 or the AGH Diabetes Outpatient Education program, 410-641-9703.

TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY MEETING — Berlin group No. 169, Atlantic General Hospital, conference room 1, 9733 Healthway Drive, Berlin, 5-6:30 p.m. TOPS is a support and educational group promoting weight loss and healthy lifestyle. It meets weekly. Info: Edna Berkey, 410-251-2083.

DELMARVA SWEET ADELINE CHORUS MEETS WEEKLY — The Delmarva Chorus, Sweet Adeline's, meets each Monday from 7-9 p.m., at the Ocean Pines Community Center, 239 Ocean Parkway. Women interested in learning the craft of a cappella singing welcome. Info: 410-641-6876.

TUES. Jan. 6

HYPERTENSION CLINICS — Sponsored by Atlantic General Hospital and takes place at Rite Aid, Selbyville, Del., 10 a.m. to noon and at Walgreens, Clarksville, Del., 1-3 p.m. Free blood pressure screening and health information. Info: Dawn Denton, 410-641-9268.

PARKINSON'S SUPPORT GROUP — Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 2:30-4 p.m. No reservation, no fee. Info: www.DelmarvaParkinsonsAlliance.org or Ron and Mary Leidner, 410-208-0525.

TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY MEETING - Berlin group 331, Worcester County Health Center, 9730 Healthway Drive, Berlin, 5:30-7 p.m. TOPS is a support and educational group promoting weight loss and healthy lifestyle. It meets weekly. Info: je-anduck47@gmail.com.

WEIGHT LOSS SUPPORT GROUP - WOC Fitness, 12319 Ocean Gateway, Suite 203, Ocean City, 5 p.m. Cost is \$5 per meeting. Talk nutrition, exercise, health, tips for weight loss and more. Info: 410-213-7000.

WED. Jan. 7

GRACE PARKER ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT BREAKFAST — First Presbyterian Church, 1301 Philadelphia Ave., Ocean City, 7 a.m. to noon. Eggs any style, pancakes, buckwheat pancakes, sausage, country ham, homemade biscuits, hash brown potatoes, grits, coffee and tea. Cost is \$8 to eat-in and \$6 to carry-out. Milk, soda and orange juice available. Info: 410-289-9340.

HYPERTENSION CLINICS — Sponsored by Atlantic General Hospital and takes place the first Wednesday of every month at Rite Aid, 10119 Old Ocean City Blvd., in Berlin, 10 a.m. to noon and at Rite Aid, 11011 Manklin Creek Road in Ocean Pines, 1-3 p.m. Free blood pressure screening and health information. Info: Dawn Denton, 410-641-9268.

DIABETES SUPPORT GROUP — Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 7-8 p.m. on the first Wednesday of each month. All welcome. Info: AGH Diabetes Outpatient Education program, 410-641-9703.

PARKINSON'S SUPPORT GROUP — Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 2:30-4 p.m. No reservation, no fee. Info: www.DelmarvaParkinsonsAlliance.org or Ron and Mary Leidner, 410-208-0525.

BINGO — Every Wednesday at Ocean City Elks Lodge 2645, 138th Street and Sinepuxent Avenue, rear of the Fenwick Inn. Doors open at 5:30 p.m., games start

6:30 p.m. Food is available. Open to the public. No one allowed in the hall under 18 years of age during bingo. Info: 410-250-2645.

KIWANIS CLUB OF GREATER OCEAN PINES/OCEAN CITY — Meets every Wednesday at the Ocean Pines Community Center, 235 Ocean Parkway. Doors open at 7 a.m., meeting begins at 8 a.m. Info: 410-641-7330.

BAYSIDE BEGINNINGS AL-ANON FAMILY GROUP MEETING — Ocean Pines Community Center, 235 Ocean Parkway, 7:30 p.m.

OCEAN CITY/BERLIN ROTARY CLUB MEETING — Captain's Table Restaurant in the Courtyard by Marriott, 2 15th St, Ocean City, 6 p.m. Info: 410-641-1700 or kbates@taylorbank.com.

WEIGHT LOSS SUPPORT GROUP - WOC Fitness, 12319 Ocean Gateway, Suite 203, Ocean City, noon. Cost is \$5 per meeting. Talk nutrition, exercise, health, tips for weight loss and more. Info: 410-213-7000.

ONGOING EVENTS

WINTERFEST OF LIGHTS — More than one million holiday lights throughout the resort and at Northside Park, 200 125th St. in Ocean City, through Jan. 4. The heated Winterfest Village pavilion features hot chocolate, Yukon Cornelius' gift shop and photos with Santa. Board the Winterfest Express to tour hundreds of animated, lighted displays. Admission. Hours are Sunday through Thursday, 5:30-9:30 p.m. and Friday and Saturday, 5:30-10:30 p.m. Info: 800-OC-OCEAN, 410-250-0125 or www.ococean.com.

HORSE & CARRIAGE RIDES — Saturdays and Sundays, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., through April 26. Passengers board near Thrasher's at the Ocean City Inlet and travel around the pier and down the Boardwalk to Fourth Street and back. Carriage is heated. Cost is \$10 for adults and free for children 3 and younger. Info: Randy Davis, 443-783-1409.

'CINDERELLA' PERFORMANCE — The Performing Arts Center in the Ocean City convention center, 4001 Coastal Highway, March 7, 2 p.m. Featuring the Ballet Theater of Maryland. Meet Cinderella and Prince Charming after the show for photos. Tickets cost \$10 and can be purchased at all Worcester County Library branches and the Ocean City Convention Center Box Office.

MOTOWN, THE MUSICAL BUS TRIP — Motown founder Barry Gordy's journey from featherweight boxer to a musical mogul who launched the careers of Diana Ross, Michael Jackson, Smokey Robinson & many more. This show has now come to Broadway Philadelphia. Bus departs the Ocean Pines Community Center, 235 Ocean Parkway on Jan. 18 at 9:30 a.m. and returns at approximately 6 p.m. Cost for this trip is \$105 per person (family circle seats). Register: 410-641-7052 or stop in the Ocean Pines Recreation Department.

CUISINE

BAYSIDE GAZETTE

A simple but great New Year's plate

As Christmas draws to an end, it is time to realize in the words of Ed Asner's Santa Clause, "You know what that means; it's time to get ready for next Christmas!"



By Paul Suplee,
CEC PCIII

As the days dwindle on and the family visits and travel come to a close, it's time to sit back and take a quick breather before we start with the New Year's preparations. Not expecting too wild an

evening, I, of course, need to figure out something that we'll take to our friends' house.

The first thing that comes to mind is Capt. Monty Hawkin's bluefish, but we've eaten all of that. I think at one point we had about a 100 pounds of blues at school that my students and I broke down, brined and smoked. We made traditional smoked bluefish, salt-free and spicy. We were on a roll, and then the blasted fish stopped biting. So, as time has moved on, so has the bluefish.

My mind immediately goes to a fruit and cheese, but seriously, who eats the fruit and cheese tray at parties? As a chef, I was constantly surprised that they were still even sold at large banquets. Now, I like a good platter with assorted cheeses and salume as well as marinated artichokes, olives et al, but most of the time the BEOs (Banquet Event Orders) instructed us to build the ubiquitous platter adorned with pineapple, cantaloupe, honeydew, grapes, berries, Cheddar, Swiss and Pepper Jack cheese cubes, most of which would go into the trash bin at the end of the evening.

But as the mighty ham has progressed from one spiked with cloves and Maraschino cherries to one house-cured and smoked, so has the platter evolved, and thank goodness for that.

Of course, I say this tongue-in-cheek because the platter I made for New Year's was just as old-school as the cheese cubes, but it looks cooler and will definitely leave a better im-



pression on the guests. My Uncle Tom used to make this every Christmas Eve and I've never forgotten it. It's simple, delicious and the perfect main item on a platter.

The secret is to take a block of Brie, wrap it in puff pastry after topping it with sweet preserves of your choosing, and baking it into a hot, gooey mess. I don't know about you, but this is the perfect combination of flavors to accompany a glass of Chardonnay or Prosecco.

As the holidays come to an end, I hope that everyone has taken the time to reflect on the good, the bad and the ugly, and I certainly hope that everyone has a happy, healthy and prosperous 2015. Many cheers.

Baked Brie Platter

For 6 guests

1 8 oz. piece of Brie
Puff pastry, as needed
2 Tbsp. Apricot Preserves
2 ea. Gala Apples
1 c. Spiced nuts recipe follows)
Assorted salume, as needed
Crackers and toast points, as needed
Assorted cheeses
1/2 c. Onion Jam (recipe follows)
Black salt to taste

Roll the puff pastry out until it is about 1/8" thick.

Pick a presentation side (the one with the fewest mars) and place that

side down on a cutting board.

Spread some preserves on the pastry and then place the cheese on top of this.

Cut excess pastry away, leaving enough to be able to wrap around the block.

Wet the edges with water and seal the pastry and turn over

Mold the cheese with your hands to make it very smooth and refrigerate.

Remove after at least one hour to ensure that the pastry is chilled. This is very important so as to avoid any sagging in the dough.

Brush with an egg wash (optional) to improve appearance. This is completely optional, though, since the pastry is so high in fat as it is.

When ready to cook, place in a 375F oven until the cheese is hot and gooey and the pastry is a golden brown.

Remove and allow to rest for five minutes. Serve with crackers, toast points and anything else you think would go well on a holiday platter ... or sadly, a post-holiday platter.

Spiced Nuts

Makes 3 cups

1 c. Cashews
1 c. Pecans
1 c. Walnuts
1 tsp. Olive oil
1/2 tsp. Salt
1/4 tsp. Granulated garlic
1/4 tsp. Onion powder

1/4 tsp. Paprika

1/4 tsp. Black pepper

Toss all ingredients together and roast at 375F until you can smell the spices toasting and the nuts start to take on an aroma of their own

Cool and serve. Keep in an airtight container for up to a week

Onion Jam

Makes 1 cup

1 Tbsp. Whole butter
1 large red onion
1 shallot
1/2 c. Red wine
1/2 c. Port wine
1/2 c. Brown sugar
Salt & Pepper to taste

In a saucepan, melt the butter but do not let get too hot.

Add the onion and shallot and sweat for 20 minutes.

Add the wines and sugar and cook slowly for at least an hour and probably longer, or until the onions are very soft. Do not reduce the liquid too fast. After this cools down, it will thicken significantly.

Cool to room temperature or chill if serving cold.

— Paul G. Suplee is a certified executive chef and ProChef certified Level-3. He is a writer and culinary instructor. Find his ePortfolio at www.heartofakitchen.com.

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NOW PLAYING

BJ'S ON THE WATER

75th Street and the bay
Ocean City
410-524-7575
Jan. 2: Go with the Flo, 9 p.m.
Jan. 7: Old School, 5 p.m.

CAPTAIN'S TABLE

15th St. & Baltimore Ave.
Ocean City
410-289-7192
www.captainstableoc.com
Every Friday & Saturday: Phil Perdue

FAGER'S ISLAND

60th Street and the bay
Ocean City
410-524-5500
Jan. 2: DJ Hook, Eastern Electric
Jan. 3: DJ Groove, Animal House
Jan. 4: Everett Spells

GALAXY 66

66th Street, bayside
Ocean City
410-723-6762
Jan. 2: Philly George Project, 8 p.m. to mid-
night

HARBORSIDE BAR & GRILL

12841 S. Harbor Road
West Ocean City
410-213-1846
Jan. 2: Ladies Night w/DJ Bill T
Jan. 3: Simple Truth, 2-6 p.m.;
DJ Jeremy, 9 p.m.
Jan. 4: Opposite Directions, 2-6 p.m.
Jan. 8: Opposite Directions, 6-9 p.m.

HARPOON HANNA'S

Route 54 and the bay
Fenwick Island, Del.
800-227-0525
302-539-3095
Jan. 7: Bobby Burns, 3-6 p.m.
Jan. 8: Aaron Howell, 6-10 p.m.

HOOTERS

Rt. 50 & Keyser Point Rd.
West Ocean City
410-213-1841
Jan. 2: Ladies Night w/DJ BK, 8 p.m.

JOHNNY'S PIZZA & PUB

56th Street, bayside
Ocean City
410-524-7499
Jan. 3: Randy Lee Ashcraft & The Saltwater
Cowboys
Jan. 7: Randy Lee Ashcraft & The Saltwater
Cowboys

OCEAN CLUB NIGHTCLUB

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In the Clarion Fontainebleau Hotel
101st Street and the ocean
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410-524-3535
Every Thursday-Sunday: DJ Dusty, 9 p.m.
to 1 a.m.
Jan. 2-3: Power Play, 9:30 p.m. to 2 a.m.

SEACRETS

49th Street and the bay
Ocean City
410-524-4900
Jan. 2: Element K, 9 p.m.
Jan. 3: Full Circle, 5 p.m.; 3 Band Showcase,
10 p.m.

THE COVE AT OCEAN PINES YACHT CLUB

1 Mumford's Landing Road
Ocean Pines
410-641-7501
Jan. 2: Joe Smooth and John Remy
Jan. 3: Ginger Duo, 5:30-9:30 p.m.

WHISKER'S BAR & GRILL

11070 Cathell Road, Suite 17
Pines Plaza, Ocean Pines
443-365-2576
Jan. 2: Karaoke w/Donnie Berkey, 10 p.m. t
2 a.m.



Eastern Electric at Fager's Island Friday January 2nd



DJ Jeremy at Harborside Bar & Grill Saturday January 3rd



Opposite Directions at Harborside Bar & Grill Sunday January 4th



Animal House at Fager's Island Saturday January 3rd

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Jan 2 - Jan 8 Weekly



DAY/TIME	ADDRESS	BR/BA	STYLE	PRICE	AGENCY/AGENT
Daily	Assateague Point, Berlin	1BR/2BR/3BR	Mobile	From \$100,000	Resort Homes/Tony Matrona
Daily 10-5	Gateway Grand – 48th Street	3 & 4BR, 3BA	Condo	From \$904,900	Condominium Realty/Fritschle Group
Daily 11-3	Villas, OC Inlet Isle	3BR/4BR	Condo	\$795,000	Condominium Realty/Fritschle Group
Daily 10-4	1111 Edgewater Ave	3BR/2.5BA	Condo	From \$595,000	Condominium Realty/Fritschle Group
Mon-Sat 10-5	70th St. Bayside Broadmarsh	3BR/2.5BA	Townhomes	From \$304,900	Fritschle Group/Condominium Realty
Mon-Sat 10-5	Seaside Village, West Ocean City	3BR/2BA/2 half baths	Townhome	From \$289,900	Condominium Realty/Fritschle Group
Thurs.-Mon. 11-5	12602 Bay Buoy Ct. West Ocean City	3,4,5BR/2.5-2.5BA	SF-New Construction	From \$299,900	Harbor Homes/Monogram
Friday thru Sunday	Sunset Island	-	Condos, TH, SF	\$389K/\$509K/\$900K	Terry Riley/Vantage Resort
Saturday 10-1	505 Edgewater Ave.- Ocean City	4BR/3.5BA	Townhome	\$599,900	Darryl Greer/Resort Real Estate
Sat & Sun 11-4 p.m.	Heron Harbour Sales Office, 120th St., Bayside	1BR/2/BR/3BR/4/BR+	Condo, Towns & SF	—	Nanette Pavier/Holiday Real Estate
Sunday 12-3	13517 Madison Ave., Selbyville, DE	3BR/2.5BA	Single Family		Fritschle Group/Condominium Realty
Sunday 12-5	Seaside Village, West Ocean City	3BR/2.5BA	Townhome	From \$289,900	Condominium Realty/Fritschle Group
Sunday 12-5	70th St. Bayside Broadmarsh	3BR/2.5BA	Townhomes	From \$304,900	Fritschle Group/Condominium Realty
Friday 11-1	103 Channel Buoy Rd., Caine Keys II	3BR/3BA	Single Family	\$499,900	Lauren Bunting/Bunting Realty
Saturday 11-1	10357 New Quay Rd., Ocean City	3BR/2.5BA	Single Family	\$369,900	Lauren Bunting/Bunting Realty

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