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# Town, fire co. call for investigation of crash response

By Stewart Dobson and  
Sheila R. Cherry  
Associate Editor

BERLIN — Both the town of Berlin and the Berlin Fire Company have asked investigators from the Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems to review the emergency response to a fatal accident on routes 818 and 50 that occurred Dec. 26. Specifically, the parties are asking why a Berlin police officer had to drive one of the three ambulances that responded to the call, when other emergency and firefighting personnel were on the scene.

Both the town and the fire company have received confirmation that MIEMSS officials have received their requests and documentation.

The accident claimed the life of Stephen Mumpower, 26, who was a pas-

senger in a Toyota driven by Amberle Booker, 25, as the two were heading north on Route 818, the stretch of road that leads out of downtown Berlin and to Route 50. Booker pulled into the path of Christopher Keenan, 24, who was headed west in a Dodge, toward Salisbury, according to a witness at the scene.

Although both parties calling for the investigation agree that Berlin Police Lt. Robert Fisher responded to a request to drive an ambulance to Atlantic General Hospital, they disagree on what transpired at the scene and the events leading to Fisher being pressed into service.

While Berlin Fire Chief Marc Brown said having a police officer driving an ambulance from an accident scene was not a normal occurrence, under the conditions on the day of the accident it was not unusual at all for the responder to make the

request to an officer they know on a day-to-day basis.

Fire Company President David Fitzgerald added that the training required for a police officer at Fisher's rank would make him qualified to drive an emergency vehicle. Brown commended Fisher for going "above and beyond" by driving Mumpower from the scene to the Berlin hospital.

But, in a letter to the state Emergency Medical Services medical director, Dr. Richard Alcorta, Mayor Gee Williams, with the support of the Town Council, said, "It is alleged that several emergency responders of the Berlin Fire Company failed to assist, after repeated requests by a career Berlin EMS staff member who was providing emergency care to an accident victim.

"The request was to ask a fellow member of the fire company to drive the am-

bulance to the hospital," the letter reads. "It is alleged that as a result of that failure to assist, a member of the Berlin Police Department, Lt. Robert Fisher, was required to drive the ambulance while members of the Berlin Fire Company stood around watching."

William's letter, a copy of which was obtained by the Bayside Gazette, went on to suggest that the circumstances that put Fisher behind the wheel were related to animosity within the company between some of its members and an EMS who filed a workplace harassment complaint with the town in February 2012.

After recounting the turmoil between the town and the fire company since then, Williams wrote, "All of this history is significant because the EMS provider who allegedly requested assistance at the fatal

*Continued on Page 4*



## FEEDING FRENZY

School's in session for these feathered friends in Ocean Pines, not so much because of the curriculum as it is for snack time. Late arrivals did not have to bring a note.

BRANDI MELLINGER/OCEAN CITY TODAY

# Stormwater plan would cut fees with contingency funds

By Sheila R. Cherry  
Associate Editor

BERLIN — The work on a stormwater management system for Berlin took a different tack on Monday, as the Berlin Town Council directed town attorney David Gaskill to draft an ordinance instituting a fee structure that would charge homeowners \$50 per year per residence, and non-residential property owners \$25 per year per equivalent residential unit.

The rates are revised from what the University of Maryland suggested, because the town proposes to subsidize the effort by drawing on its contingency fund.

One ERU is equivalent to a 2,100 sq. ft. residence, Town Administrator Anthony Carson explained during the work session.

The fees are meant to pay for a new stormwater utility department and the mayor and council stated that their intent was to adopt a "fair and equitable" proposal that would have the least economic impact on the community.

How the fee would affect — and be perceived by — residents appeared to be a major concern for the mayor and council. But Mayor Gee Williams pointed out that the financial impact of the new rate should be considered in relation to the possibility of a sudden and more costly financial burden that homeowners could face from flooding if the town's stormwater drainage system is not improved.

To that end, the town revised a proposal that was recommended by the University of Maryland by reducing a

proposed rate of \$45 per ERU that would otherwise be charged to nonresidential users. Under the town's alternative, the nonresidential rate would be reduced to \$25 per ERU. The town is also proposing to use \$300,000 from the annual contingency fund budget to share the financial burden.

One concern the reduced rate is intended to address is that nonprofits such as churches, schools and hospitals have more square footage, but not an equivalent amount of income. As a result, they would be less able to absorb the types of fees that commercial properties would be more able to pay.

Also according to the proposal, the fees and town contributions would be part of a 10-year commitment to pay for a newly created stormwater utility department and improved storm drainage infrastructure that officials hope will help the town be better prepared when natural disasters cause flooding.

To lessen the economic blow to residents and to reduce the need to raise taxes, Williams suggested that \$300,000 of the \$700,000 in the general fund that is earmarked for contingency spending could be redirected to help fund the stormwater system. Currently, most of the funds are contributed annual to the Berlin Fire Company.

By using the money that had been given to the Fire Company, the town would not be incurring an additional financial obligation.

*Continued on Page 2*



# Stormwater system fees restructured by town

Continued from Page 1

tion and at the same time would still keep an annual balance of \$400,000 in the contingency fund, Williams said. "What level the Berlin Fire Company contribution [going forward] will be is dependent on a lot of factors," he said.

The town and the Fire Company have been at odds for months in a dispute over claims that some of the members of the fire company, who are volunteers, had been harassing some emergency service providers, who are paid by the town.

Unable to reach consensus over the validity of the claims, or whether appropriate action had been taken against the personnel allegedly involved in the harassment, the town withheld \$560,000 that was slated to go to the Fire Company. It also demanded that \$150,000 already spent on payroll be repaid.

Moreover, conditions that were set by the town that would have to be met before town officials would agree to allow the dispute to go to mediation were rejected by members of the Fire Company last November.

According to Williams, Gaskill has contacted the Fire Company's attorney, at the Town Council's request, to obtain a report that will allow the town to determine the financial condition of the Fire Company.

"That is step one," Williams said. "Before we just wrote them a check ... are saying those days are over," he said.

But Williams insisted that the proposal to redirect the contributions was not retaliatory, but that it was "more about the fact that we have to reprioritize our spending based on how we can best support our community."

There is still money for a possible contribution to the Fire Company, he said. But the types of financial accounting that is required from other entities that receive significant contributions from the town had been exempted for the Fire Company, which had received their annual contributions without question. Now that arrangement will be a more formal relationship, according to Williams.

The ordinance is expected to be prepared and ready to present to the council by the Jan. 14 meeting and for a public hearing two weeks thereafter, Williams said during the work session. He said that the process for considering the proposal, "So far has worked the way it was supposed to work," in terms of community participation and input.

According to the presentation made by Carson, the proposal would institute a fee structure where the 1,400 residences in town would be charged a flat annual rate of \$50 per home. That would work out to a monthly rate of \$4.17 or a quarterly rate of \$12.50, based on the average impervious surface of a 2,100 square foot single family home and would generate \$70,000 annually, he said.

The town's 290 non-residential prop-

erties would be charged a flat annual rate of \$25 per equivalent residential unit and would generate \$200,000 per year, according to Carson.

Under the University of Maryland proposal, the fee structure would raise a little more than \$4.6 million over a 10-year period: \$3.91 million would come from non-resident properties at \$45 per ERU and \$700,000 would come from residential fees.

Under the town's plan and by using money from the contingency fund, the resulting lower fees to nonresidential properties would produce \$2 million from that sector, while the residential properties would generate that same \$700,000. Meanwhile, the \$300,000 annual contributions from the town would raise the 10-year revenue total to \$5.7 million.

Officials have slated three construction projects that they hope to begin within the first year. The projects would help mitigate flooding in the: 1) Nelson, Franklin and William Street area; 2) Flower and Showell Street area; and 3) West Street and Abbey Lane area. Carson predicted the permitting process would take approximately six months and the construction would take three to four months.

Carson said town officials have already started contacting the Maryland Emergency Management Agency, Community Development Block Grant Program and the Department of Natural Resources for possible funding.

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# Town, fire co. ask why police officer had to drive ambulance

Continued from Page 1

accident on December 26, 2012 was the same provider that made a report of workplace abuse to Town officials in February, 2012."

Fire company officials, however, vehemently deny that no assistance was given to the EMS, but did ask MEIMSS Region IV Administrator John Barto in Easton, Md., to find out why Fisher drove the ambulance as two responders in the back administered care to the crash victim.

Asked to comment, Fitzgerald bristled at the allegations and said, "We have heard the same wild allegations and that was why we asked for the independent review of the accident."

A witness to the events said when the EMS arrived with an ambulance — two others were on the scene and took the two other crash victims to Peninsula Regional Medical Center in Salisbury — as emergency medical

personnel were working to extricate Mumpower from Booker's vehicle.

Once that was done, the witness said, the victim was placed on a stretcher, the EMS began providing care and asked for assistance and a driver. Two other personnel helped the EMS with the stretcher, the witness said, and one got into the ambulance to continue offering aid.

Although the EMS asked several times for a driver, the witness said, no one responded, until Fisher was approached and agreed to drive.

For his part, Fisher, who was there doing accident reconstruction, did not want to be drawn into the discussion over the circumstances of the accident. "I was just trying to do a good deed," he said.

Various witnesses put the number of rescue people on the scene at between 18 and 23. However, Brown said that he had collected 20 to 22 statements from

providers who were at the scene, either officially or because they heard the accident call.

According to Brown, when the 911 call came in, it was dispatched as a motor vehicle accident and then almost immediately reported as an accident involving several vehicles "with entrapment," meaning that one or more victims were unable to leave the vehicle. If confirmed, he said, "entrapment tells you that you will need to use more tools, more equipment, and more personnel."

The first ambulance came from the Berlin Fire Company fully staffed with two responders, Brown said. The second ambulance also came from Berlin, but with one responder, a paramedic, he said, and the third came from Ocean Pines fully staffed with two responders.

Fitzgerald pointed out that the number of responders that a volunteer fire com-

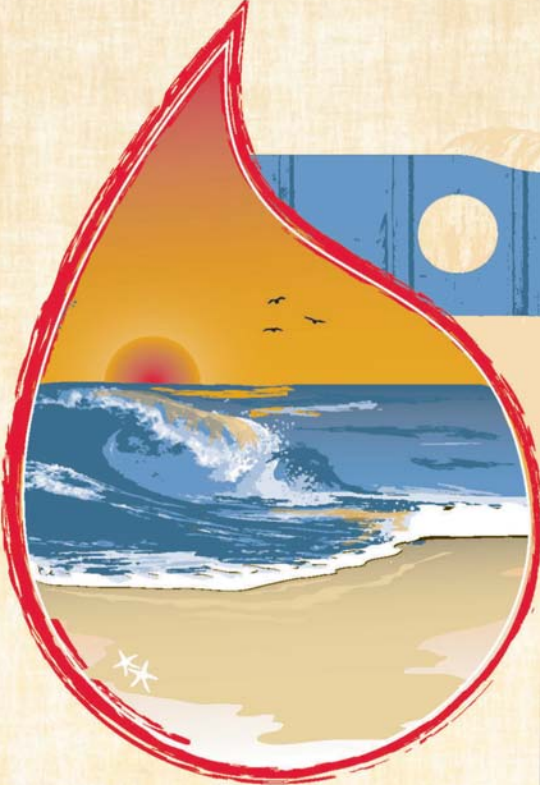
pany can send to an accident scene depends on how many volunteers are available at the time.

Adding to the challenges that the responders were facing that day was the weather. Fitzgerald said that the accident occurred during a torrential nor'easter.

How many of the responders at the scene were qualified to drive the ambulance and what left the EMS without a driver from within the ranks of rescue personnel are what the company and the town are asking MEIMSS to find out.

Information obtained by state officials would likely be forwarded to the MEIMSS Incident Review Committee to determine if any action is warranted.

According to the MEIMSS Web site, the committee consists of the MEIMSS chief of compliance, the state EMS medical director, and one of the agency's assistant attorneys general.



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# Homeowners memorandum challenges rezoning approval

By Sheila R. Cherry  
Associate Editor

OCEAN PINES — Five Ocean Pines property owners filed a petitioner's memorandum in the Worcester County Circuit Court on Jan. 2 to ask for a judicial review of the basis behind the Worcester County Commissioners' 4 to 3 vote in September to approve reclassifying farmland so it could be used for commercial purposes by local developers.

Jack Burbage of the Burbage Group owns the 30-acre property, which is located just south of Ocean Pines off Route 589.

The petitioners are contending in the memorandum that the county commissioners incorrectly found that there has been a substantial change in the character of the neighborhood where the property is located and also found, incorrectly, that the rezoning is compatible with the county's comprehensive plan. The group had filed a lawsuit on the matter in October 2012 after the commissioners voted 4-3 the previous month to approve Burbage's rezoning request.

Commissioners Madison Bunting, Bud Church, Merrill Lockfaw and James Purnell voted in favor and Commissioners Judy Boggs, Louise Gulyas and Virgil Shockley voted in opposition.

The petitioners said in the memoran-

dum, "Because a rezoning applicant's burden is onerous, it must present 'strong evidence' of the requisite substantial change in the character of the neighborhood since the last comprehensive rezoning in order to obtain a piecemeal rezoning of just one or a few parcels."

Petitioners Walter and Pamela Stansell, Jeanne Lynch, Carole Schauer and Paul Bredehorst asked for a judicial review of what they called a "piecemeal rezoning of property for commercial use in the neighborhood where they reside."

In the petition, the homeowners argued that the county commissioners "acted arbitrarily and capriciously" in rezoning Burbage's property and had incorrectly found that there had been a substantial change in the character of the neighborhood.

The homeowners said the commissioners had disregarded their own policy on the types of criteria required to justify a rezoning, which are a change in the neighborhood or a mistake in the zoning. They also expressed skepticism about whether additional commercial development in the area was needed and whether the stated intention for the property was accurate.

According to the court document, the Burbage Group offered no evidence that there is an unmet demand or need for ad-

*Continued on Page 11*

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*Lester Johnson is a retired Delaware State Trooper. In March of 1999 he began working for the Office of the Attorney General as a Senior Investigator for the Senior Fraud Unit. His main focus is on financial exploitation. He will talk about financial exploitation including scams such as fraudulent lotteries, home construction scams and many other types of consumer fraud. He will also discuss personal financial exploitation by people known to the victim. Learn how to protect yourself from becoming a victim.*



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## Blood Bank brings annual drive back to resort

By Lisa Capitelli

Assistant Editor/Ocean City Today

OCEAN CITY — It's no secret the resort community is a generous one. Next week, the Blood Bank of Delmarva will demonstrate just that, when it presents its 2013 Beach Blanket Blood Drive, "OC Cares."

"We've had such great support in that area," Christine Serio, external communications specialist for the Blood Bank of Delmarva said of the Ocean City event, held annually at the convention center on 40th Street. "We appreciate how much they care about their community by donating blood."

Last year, nearly 600 people donated blood during the resort's two-day event; organizers hope to attract at least 700 donors this year.

"Obviously, the more the better," she said. "In the last few years we've seen a little bit of a growth and we're expecting it to continue."

This will be the 15th year the Blood Bank has held the drive in Ocean City. The 2013 blood drive is scheduled for Tuesday, Jan. 15, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Wednesday, Jan. 16, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Those interested in donating blood may contact the Blood Bank to make an appointment, which is encouraged, by calling 1-888-8BLOOD8 or online at [www.delmarvablood.org](http://www.delmarvablood.org). Walk-ins are also welcome.

Donors must be 17 or older, weigh at

least 110 pounds and be in good health on the day of the donation. Anyone who received a body piercing or tattoo in the last 12 months will not be accepted. Serio said many people give blood annually, but there are also a number of first-time donors each year.

Donors will begin the process by answering questions about their medical history and lifestyle. They will then receive a mini-physical to check blood pressure, pulse and iron count before the actual donation begins. The entire process takes about an hour. The blood donation only lasts from five to 10 minutes, Serio said.

"It's a simple, painless process, and it goes pretty quickly," she said.

After the donation is complete, participants are asked to spend 15 minutes resting in the canteen area where a variety of snacks will be offered. Blood donors will also receive a free T-shirt.

After the blood is tested and deemed safe, the Blood Bank of Delmarva provides blood and blood products to 16 hospitals on the Delmarva Peninsula.

More than 300 blood donors are needed every day in this area to meet the needs of the 16 hospitals, Serio said. "In 58 years, we've never had a blood shortage, thanks to the very generous blood donors."

One in three people will need blood during their lifetime. More than 4.5 million patients need blood transfusions

each year in the U.S. and Canada. One pint of blood can save up to three lives.

According to the Blood Bank of Delmarva Web site, [www.delmarvablood.org](http://www.delmarvablood.org), blood donations are separated into three components: red blood cells, platelets and plasma. Red blood cells are primarily used for trauma victims. Platelets are used for cancer and leukemia patients. Plasma is mainly used for burn victims.

The Ocean City Beach Blanket Blood Drive was established in 1999 to promote blood donation during the winter, a time when blood supplies traditionally decrease as donors are kept away by colds and flu, bad weather and holiday travel. January is National Blood Donor Month.

Nearly 83,000 blood donations are needed each year for patients across Delmarva. This year, about 20,000 patients will need blood transfusions.

Last year, approximately 48,000 people on Delmarva donated blood, producing about 80,000 blood products (red blood cells, platelets and plasma).

Blood Bank of Delmarva operates four blood donor centers — Salisbury in Maryland, and Dover, Wilmington and Newark in Delaware — as well as more than 30 established mobile donation locations.

For additional information, visit [www.delmarvablood.org](http://www.delmarvablood.org), [www.facebook.com/delmarvabloodbank](http://www.facebook.com/delmarvabloodbank) or call 1-888-8BLOOD8.

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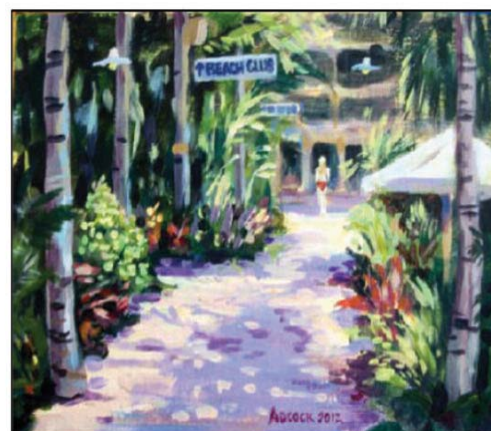
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# Board of Public Works OKs offshore wind farm land survey

## Panel accepts contract for ocean floor survey off coast of Ocean City

By Alexander Pyles

The Daily Record NewsWire

MARYLAND — Maryland energy officials have checked another item off a long list of tasks the state must complete before it can produce power through offshore wind turbines.

The Board of Public Works on Wednesday unanimously approved a contract that will allow the state to survey the ocean floor 10 miles off the coast of Ocean City.

St. Petersburg, Fla.-based Coastal Planning & Engineering Inc. will "conduct a high-resolution geophysical survey" of the area designated by the U.S. Department of the Interior as the location where energy-producing wind turbines could be built, according to the state spending panel's agenda.

The \$3.3 million award authorizes Coastal Planning & Engineering to conduct the survey and provide the state with data that can turn over to a future developer. The data will help that developer speed construction and operation of the wind farm, said Abigail R. Hopper, acting director of the Maryland Energy Administration.

Before ultimately voting to approve the contract along with Lt. Gov. Anthony G. Brown and Treasurer Nancy K. Kopp, Comptroller Peter Franchot showed some concern that the state was picking up a tab that should rightfully belong to a future developer.

"Why do we feel compelled to subsidize [their development]?" Franchot asked.

Hopper said companies might be reluctant to apply to develop an offshore wind farm without some investment by the state. She added that nine companies have told federal regulators they are interested in developing such a farm in Maryland waters.

An application should be ready for distribution in the first quarter of 2013, and the land could be leased this summer, Hopper said.

The federal Bureau of Ocean Energy Management in November announced that an area off the coast of Virginia and a shared area off the coast of Massachusetts and Rhode Island were ready to be leased for development. Hopper said Wednesday that Maryland would not be far behind.

"I think we are very close to the front of the pack," she said.

Legislation pushed by Gov. Martin O'Malley last year that would have guaranteed wind energy developers a market while limiting the cost of wind energy production to consumers

passed in the House of Delegates, but did not come to a vote in the Senate Finance Committee. O'Malley intends to introduce a similar bill in the General Assembly session that begins next week.

Senate President Thomas V. Mike Miller Jr., D-Calvert and Prince George's, appears committed to getting offshore wind legislation to the floor of his chamber in 2013. The longtime presiding officer has said he could shuffle the lineup of the Finance Committee in order to find the votes necessary to bring the legislation up for debate in the full Senate.

"I am going to try and move the wind bill this year," Miller said in an interview Wednesday.

While the state works to establish its own regulatory framework, federal inaction had threatened to derail offshore wind energy production until late New Year's Day, when Congress included an extension of tax credits for wind energy production and investment in its fiscal cliff agreement that also prevented broad federal tax increases and spending cuts.

Local and national wind energy advocates immediately commended lawmakers. Jim Lanard, president of the Offshore Wind Development Coalition, said in a statement that the extension of the investment tax credit in particular offered "the certainty

that developers need" and the agreement was "a major step forward for the offshore wind industry."

"The industry is poised to create thousands of jobs for manufacturing, construction, operation and maintenance of utility-scale offshore wind farms," Lanard said. "While offshore wind is a proven technology — it's been operating successfully for more than 20 years in Europe — it's new to the U.S., and tax credits are a necessary component to support the growth of this emerging industry."

Environment Maryland Executive Director Tommy Landers said existing wind power usage in Maryland saves as much pollution as taking 35,000 cars off the road each year.

"We applaud our leaders for recognizing these tremendous benefits to our health and environment and for acting to ensure the continued development of pollution-free wind energy," Landers said.

If an offshore wind farm is built off Ocean City, it would constitute a "very small percentage of Maryland's energy mix," Hopper said. The state's Renewable Portfolio Standard, pushed by O'Malley, requires 20 percent of Maryland power to come from renewable resources by 2022. How much of that would come from offshore wind depends largely on the legislature.

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# BUSINESS

BAYSIDE GAZETTE

## FINANCE

### 'Fiscal Cliff' deal helps make taxes more palatable

So what does the "fiscal cliff deal" mean for you? Taxes are going up for many of us this year, just not as much as they would have without this deal. Here are some of the major tax changes:



Chip Gordy,  
MBA, CRPC

■ **Income tax rates.** The deal permanently extends the lower tax rates as well as all of the other tax cuts enacted in 2001 and 2003 for single filers with taxable incomes below \$400,000, and for joint filers with taxable incomes below \$450,000. The top income tax rate will permanently increase from 35 percent to 39.6 percent (as scheduled under current law) for single filers with taxable incomes above \$400,000 and joint filers with taxable incomes above \$450,000.

■ **Limits on exemptions and deductions for higher wage earners.** It reinstates the phase-out of personal exemptions and the limitation on itemized deductions for single filers with adjusted gross income above \$250,000 and joint filers with AGI above \$300,000.

■ **Payroll tax.** The agreement restores the employee Social Security payroll tax contribution to 6.2 percent on income up to \$113,700 in 2013. This payroll tax contribution had been temporarily reduced to 4.2 percent.

■ **AMT (alternative minimum tax)**

*Continued on Page 9*

## Water, sewer connection leads to laundromat

By Sheila R. Cherry  
Associate Editor

BERLIN — When the town of Berlin expanded its water and sewer connections to Route 113 through annexation two years ago, John Derrickson saw it as an opportunity to use the former Sherwood Ford building he has owned since 2002. The building at 9040 Worcester Highway had been sitting vacant next to his John's Autobody Repair and Towing service.

But in late February, Derrickson will open his second "Sunshine Laundry" with state-of-the-art washers and dryers in a newly renovated facility with 24-hour high-tech surveillance. He is planning to have a grand opening for the laundromat, which is on the south side of the building.

The paint is still drying and the lights were being turned on the day Bayside Gazette visited, but the first thing you notice is the upscale décor with its warm colors, café tables and potted plants. Beach-themed murals by local artists Eric Huntington, Pam Mason and Kathy

Denk, along with whimsical signs throughout, give a whole different feel from what usually competes with watching the spin cycle.

Sunshine Laundry comes equipped with flat screen televisions —

complete with remotes — so you won't have to miss your favorite team sports or shows to do the laundry.

The second thing you notice, are the rows of highly polished stainless steel Dexter EXPRESS washers and dryers with their digital read-outs and huge capacities, the stainless steel work tables and the chrome handcarts with valet bars. The 16 washers have wash load capacities from 80 lbs. to 18 lbs. and the 22 dryers can handle loads that are slightly larger than their washer counterparts.

According to Derrickson, the duration of the wash cycles range from 22 to 27 minutes and the minimum dry cycle is 15 minutes. He credits the 200G-force spin cycles for the reduced laundry time.

"When you take the clothes out of the washers they are virtually dry," he said, adding that in 42 minutes clothes are

"washed, dried and done."

Derrickson said he decided to open a laundromat at the site because he felt there was a need for one in the area and he wanted to provide one for clientele whom he felt would really appreciate the nice clean environment he had in mind. "We clean twice a day," he said.

Meanwhile, workers are busily constructing an equally upscale beer, wine and convenience store on the north side of the building.

The opening for the beer and wine store is scheduled for April 1. The liquor license and permits have been approved, Derrickson said. He said he is even considering adding a deli or small pub at some point in the future.

What will make that type of plaza-like complex feasible is the 24-hour camera system that constantly monitors the site, although the laundry will not be open 24 hours.

The hours will be from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. seven days per week.

Derrickson's first Sunshine Laundry is located in Pittsville, off Sixty Foot Road.

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## FINANCE

# Taxes go up, but not as much as they would without a deal

Continued from Page 8

patch. It extends the AMT patch with annual inflation adjustments.

■ Estate and gift tax. The deal extends the lifetime estate and gift tax exemption of \$5.12 million (with annual inflation adjustments), but increases the top tax rate from 35 percent to 40 percent. Provisions for spousal portability and reunification of the estate and gift tax are also permanently extended (possibly allowing some more wiggle room to remain in terms of estate planning).

Capital gains and dividends. It extends the 0 percent and 15 percent tax rates for long-term capital gains and qualified dividends for single filers with taxable incomes below \$400,000 and joint filers with taxable incomes below \$450,000. The top rate will permanently increase to 20 percent for filers with taxable incomes above these amounts.

The new 3.8 percent Medicare tax enacted under the healthcare law is not repealed and takes effect as scheduled in 2013. The new 3.8 percent tax applies to single filers with modified AGI above \$200,000 and joint filers with

modified AGI above \$250,000. As a result, the tax law will include four different rates for long-term capital gains and qualified dividends depending on the investor's modified AGI and taxable income: 0 percent, 15 percent, 18.8 percent, and 23.8 percent, respectively.

■ Annual expiring provisions. Two-year extension (through 2013) of dozens of tax provisions that expired in 2011, including the ability to make tax-free rollovers from an IRA to a qualified charity. The charitable rollover provision includes two transition rules. The first would allow individuals who make qualified charitable rollover distributions in January 2013 to count the rollover as if it were made in 2012. The second would allow individuals who took a distribution in December 2012 to contribute that amount to a charity and count it as an eligible charitable rollover.

— Chip Gordy, MBA, CRPC is a financial advisor with Coastal Wealth Management, LLC, located at 10441 Racetrack Road, Unit 1, in Berlin, who specializes in wealth and retirement planning. He can be reached at 410-208-4545 or [chip@coastalwealthmgmt.com](mailto:chip@coastalwealthmgmt.com).

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# OPINION

BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Please send all letters to editor, notices, calendar events and community announcements to [editor@baysidegazette.com](mailto:editor@baysidegazette.com) by 5 p.m. Monday to make sure your ideas and events are printed.

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INTERN

## EDITORIAL

### Wait until MIEMMS reports its findings

The story on Page 1 this week concerning who did or did not do what at the scene of a Dec. 26 accident at routes 818 and 50 comes after a week of sorting through rumors, speculation and conjecture in search of facts.

Although what was written was documented and double-checked, facts are at a premium at this point, which is why the Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems has been asked to look into the situation.

Its panel of reviewers will determine the facts of the case and respond accordingly. That's as it should be, since any dispute between two community institutions — in this case, town government and the volunteer fire company — is bound to be fraught with emotion and driven by personal opinion.

As is the case in just about any disagreement, people will pick sides and support positions based on who they know and what they want to believe.

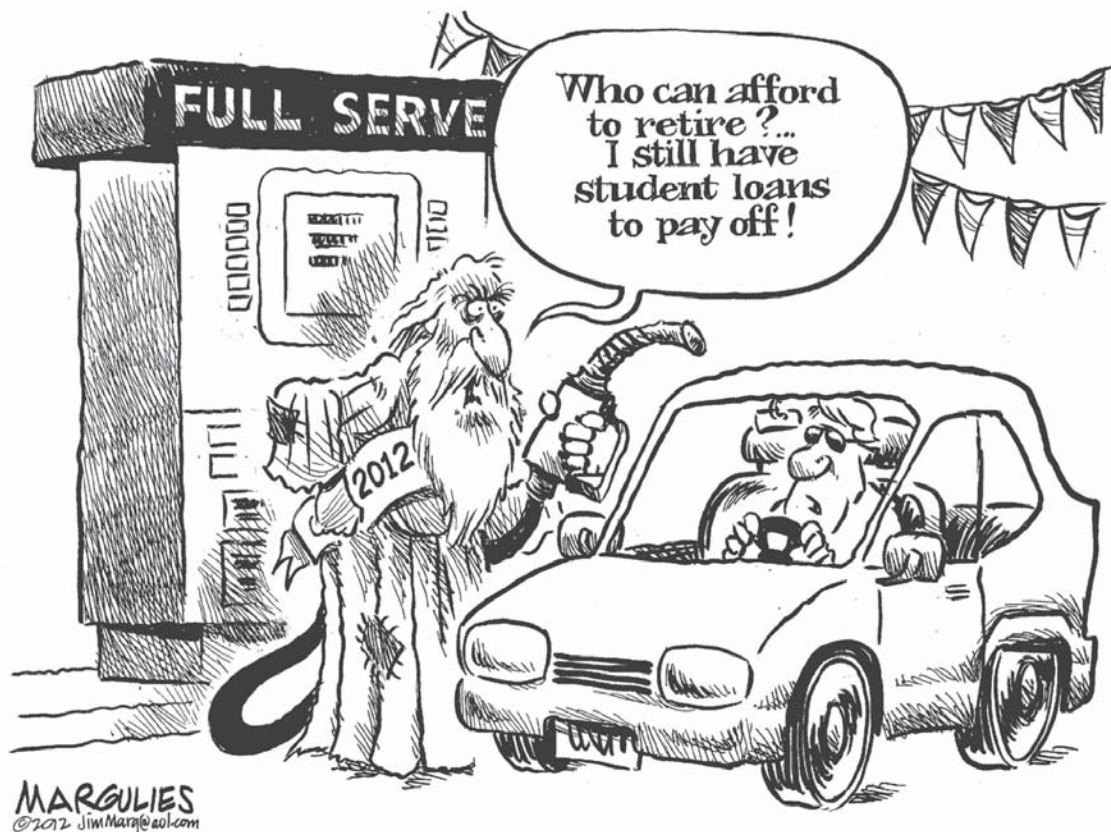
That's much different than waiting to see the hard evidence as collected by dispassionate and impartial investigators. That's what MIEMSS does and it takes its role of protecting the public very seriously.

There is no need, in other words, to rush to judgment before a judgment has been rendered. MIEMSS will complete its tasks and a report will be issued. Then the public conversation can continue with the facts in hand.

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## LETTERS

### Thanks for support of New Year's event

*The following letter was sent to Berlin Mayor Gee Williams and members of the Town Council, and forwarded to the Bayside Gazette for publication:*

Dear Mayor Williams and Council members,

I would like to thank all of you and the town employees for your support to this year's New Year's Eve celebration. Berlin Public Works, Berlin Electric and Berlin Police did

an excellent job with the event set-up, dropping the ball, crowd control and the late-night clean-up. I really appreciate all of the staff that worked so late at night to make the celebration a success.

We again had a great attendance and a beautiful night for this premier event. I wanted to improve the event this year by investing in a new, first-class, 48-inch diameter New Year's Eve ball. I was able to reuse most of last year's materials, including the original mirror ball and lights, but I also

added 340 new LED lights. I also added a new, heavy-duty metal frame, which was custom made by a Maryland craftsman who supports our local economy. The new ball was a great hit. There were so many people who commented on how beautiful new ball is.

Thank you, again, for your support of this event and to the town employees who worked so hard and so late for the enjoyment of the New Year's Eve event!

Barbara J. Stack  
owner/designer  
Design Resources, LLC

## What's On Your Mind?

Please send your thoughts, issues, concerns, and opinions to  
[editor@baysidegazette.com](mailto:editor@baysidegazette.com)  
by 5 p.m. Monday to ensure there is time  
for them to be considered for print.



# Maryland's casinos report their highest revenue since summer

By Alexander Pyles

The Daily Record Newswire

MARYLAND — Maryland casinos generated \$45.2 million in December on the strength of Maryland Live Casino at Arundel Mills mall best month ever.

The monthly revenue figure was released Monday by the Maryland State Lottery and Gaming Control Agency.

Maryland Live, by far the state's

largest casino with 4,750 slot machines, generated \$35.9 million last month. Maryland Live spokeswoman Carmen Gonzales said casino officials attributed the revenue increase to starting 24/7 operations and a "strong holiday week in general."

The Casino at Ocean Downs' revenue was up 10.9 percent year-over-year, as the 800-machine slots parlor generated \$3.3 million in December.

Hollywood Casino Perryville, the state's first casino, saw revenue dip 37.1 percent year-over-year to less than \$6 million last month. The 1,500-machine casino's slide has been attributed to the opening of Maryland Live in June.

The casino revenue total is Maryland's highest since July, when Ocean Downs was still drawing Eastern

Shore vacationers.

More than \$22 million of last month's revenue goes to the state's Education Trust Fund.

Maryland Live is the only casino in the state that is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week. All casinos were able to start operating 24/7 on Dec. 27 but Ocean Downs and Hollywood decided on more limited hours.

## Unhappy property owners continue to fight OP project

Continued from Page 5

ditional commercial development in or near Ocean Pines.

"Instead, they presented officers of Atlantic General Hospital, who opined that the property could possibly someday become the site of auxiliary facilities operated by that institution, but did not state or suggest it planned to purchase or develop the property for that purpose," the

petitioners argued.

The document said that hospital officials who spoke to the commissioners on behalf of the property owners did not dispute other testimony that Atlantic General Hospital's Strategic Plan for 2011-15 made no mention of expanding its facilities or services in the Ocean Pines neighborhood.

The Burbage Group has 30 days to file a response to the memorandum.



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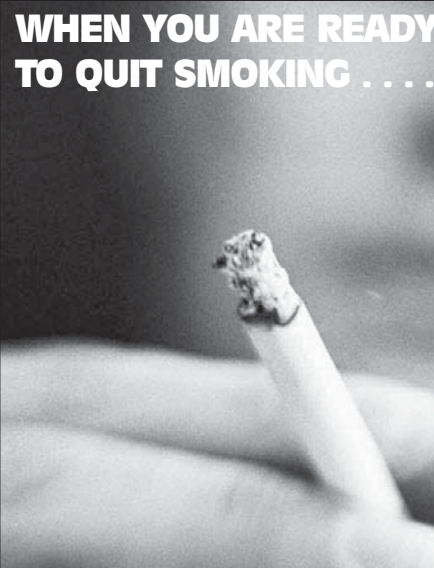
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# OBITUARIES

## Mary D. Zentgraf

CRISFIELD — Mary D. Zentgraf, 78, died peacefully on Sunday, Dec. 16, 2012, at Alice B. Tawes Nursing Home in Crisfield. Born in Newville, Pa., she was the daughter of the late Walter Knaube and Pearl Nace Knaube.

Ms. Zentgraf owned and operated A Woman's Touch Cleaning Service for many years in the Baltimore area. After relocating to Ocean City, she opened Rainbow Learning Center, where she provided loving care and education to many children throughout the years. Her favorite things were spending time with family, flowers and gardening, and living in Ocean City.

She was preceded in death by her husband of 50 years, Robert F. Zentgraf Sr., in 2003; a brother, Vincent Knaube; and a sister, Janet Kruger.

She is survived by her three children, Donna Nefferdorf and her husband, Bob, of Marion, Robert Zentgraf Jr. and his wife, Beverly, of Glen Burnie, and Lori Simon of Ocean City; eight grandchildren, Heather Brooks and her husband, John, April Saathoff, Robert Zentgraf III, Justin Zentgraf, Logan Zentgraf, Amber Markov, Bryan Simon and his wife, Stacey, and Bethany Simon; and five great-grandchildren, Annika Saathoff, Savanna Brooks, Avery Simon, Chloe Simon and Brynn Simon. She is also survived by two sisters, Ardella Gray and Yvonne Ruff, and many nieces and nephews.

A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 12, at Berlin First Baptist Church, 613 Williams St., Berlin, Md. 21811.

## Dorothy H. Varvaris

Dorothy Heitman Varvaris, 85, began her new life in Christ on Thursday, Dec. 20, 2012, at the Barbara J. Egan Nursing Home in Shrewsbury, Pa. Born in Manhattan, N.Y., she was the daughter of the late George Heitman and Elsie Hergenhan Heitman. She was preceded in death by her husband, Peter Vasil Varvaris in 2001.

She is survived by her sons, the Rev. Peter W. Varvaris and his wife, Cathy, of Statesville, N.C.; John M. Varvaris and his wife, Jody, of Jarrettsville, Md.; daughter, Dorothy Lynn Henry Bauer and her husband, Paul, of Hampstead, Md.; 10 grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren. Also surviving is a cousin, Kenneth Hergenhan and his wife, Jane, of Portland, Ore.

Mrs. Varvaris was head nurse at St. Luke's Hospital in New York City, and a nurse at St. Peter's Hospital in New Brunswick, N.J. She and her husband retired to West Ocean City. They also lived in Mystic Harbour in Berlin for 21 years. She was a member of St. Peter's Lutheran Church in Ocean City, the Women's Club, the Ocean City Lioness Club (as well as the Lioness Club in Jarrettsville, Md.), and AARP Chapter

1917. She volunteered at Atlantic General Hospital, Grant-a-Wish Foundation, and Meals on Wheels. Mrs. Varvaris loved her Lord, and worshipping at St. Peter's Lutheran with her church family. She enjoyed the ocean and was an aerobics enthusiast.

A funeral service was held Saturday, Jan. 5, at St. Peter's Lutheran Church, 10301 Coastal Highway in Ocean City. The Rev. Gregory Knepp officiated. Interment followed in Evergreen Cemetery.

A donation in her memory may be made to St. Peter's Lutheran Church, Worship and Music Fund, 10301 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, Md. 21842; or Lutheran Hour Ministries, 660 Mason Ridge Center Drive, St. Louis, Mo. 63141.

## Michael Warren Cowles

BERLIN — Michael Warren Cowles, 57, of Berlin passed away Sunday, Dec. 23, 2012, surrounded by his family and friends. He was born Feb. 2, 1955, in Washington, D.C.

Mr. Cowles was a licensed clinical social worker. He enjoyed his job and, in his own words, loved "helping others to find hope, sometimes joy, and glimpse at what is possible." He obtained his bachelor's degree from Salisbury University in 1997 and later obtained a master's degree in social work from the University of Maryland at Baltimore County in 2000.

From 2000-2011, he served as a social worker at MedStar Montgomery General Medical Center in Olney, Md. Most recently, he served as a therapist at Go Getters in Salisbury. He married the love of his life, Gale, on Sept. 26, 2010, in Ocean City.

Mr. Cowles is survived by his wife, Gale Cowles; his mother, June Herrity Cowles; and six sisters, Nancy Smith, Judy Sturm, Cathy Boyce, Margie Hamner, Ruth Soisson and Karen Pullen. He also is survived by seven brothers-in-law, two sisters-in-law, 16 nieces and nephews, four great-nieces and nephews, as well as many friends and his most beloved dog, Shelby and cat, Trickster. He is preceded in death by his father, Fred D. Cowles.

Mr. Cowles loved living near the ocean and watching sunsets with his wife. He loved to kayak, body surf and drive his jeep and surf fish on Assateague Island. He had a great sense of humor and loved to play jokes on his family and friends. His favorite saying was "life is good."

The family will hold a memorial service at 2 p.m. on Sunday, Jan. 27, at the Garrett Park Town Hall, 10814 Kenilworth Ave., in Garrett Park, Md. In lieu of flowers, donations in his memory will be used to purchase a bench in Michael's name on the Ocean City Boardwalk. Send donations to Michael Cowles Memorial Fund, Sun Trust Bank, 5702 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, Md. 21842.

## Cynthia Talbot Miller

OCEAN CITY — Cynthia Lea Talbot Miller, 54, died Friday, Dec. 28, 2012, at her home in Ocean City. Born in Phoenix, Ariz., she was the daughter of the late Barton and Eloise Bell Talbot. She was preceded in death by her husband, Paul Scott Miller in 2001.

She is survived by her two sons, Eiaan Daniel Miller of Ocean City and Matthew Cody Miller and his wife, Ashley, of Berlin.

Mrs. Miller had worked in the hospitality industry as a front desk clerk at the Quality Inn Oceanfront, where she enjoyed building new relationships with patrons. She grew up in Spain, where she became fluent in Spanish, which allowed her to help translate information between parents and teachers for the local school systems. She was an equestrian and had a great love for horses, teaching riding and all animals. She had been a member of the 1980 Equestrian Olympic team.

She was also a member at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Berlin.

A funeral service will be held at 3 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 4, at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Berlin. The Rev. Michael Moyer will officiate. Interment will be in St. Paul's Episcopal Church yard in the columbarium.

## Delores 'Dea' Green

PRINCESS ANNE, Md. — Delores "Dea" Green, 61, died peacefully at her home on Monday, Dec. 31, 2012 surrounded by family. Born in Washington, D.C., she was the daughter of the late Jack and Dorothy Wert. She is survived by her beloved husband, Doug Green of Princess Anne.

Dea was a 1969 graduate of the Academy of Holy Names in Silver Spring, Md. She graduated magna cum laude from Salisbury University with a degree in accounting. She worked for more than 30 years as a CPA at Faw, Casson & Co. in Ocean City, becoming a partner in 1995.

Her passions in life were family, her town of Ocean City and traveling abroad; she just fulfilled a lifelong dream to visit Italy. Her positive outlook on life was contagious to all who knew her. To her, the glass was always half-full.

In addition to her husband, Dea is survived by her son, Chad Vent and his wife, Angel, of Ocean City; two grandchildren, Gavin and Summer; four brothers, Wesley Wert and his wife, Angela, Michael Wert and his wife, Michele, Matthew Wert and his wife, Amy, and Ted Wert and his wife, Scarlet; three sisters, Patrice Bryant and her husband, Rick, Jackie Petersen and Laura Vance; and numerous nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her younger brother, John Wert in 1998.

A Mass of Christian burial will be offered at noon on Saturday, Jan. 5, at St. Luke Catholic Church in Ocean City. Friends may

call from 10:30 a.m. to noon. Interment will be held at Beechwood Cemetery in Princess Anne. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center ([www.mskcc.org](http://www.mskcc.org)) or Autism Speaks ([www.autismspeaks.org](http://www.autismspeaks.org)).

## Mary Catherine Blackwell

DELMAR, Del. — Mary Catherine Blackwell, 84, died Tuesday, Jan. 1, 2013, at the home of her daughter. Born in Canton, Ohio, she was the daughter of the late John Harold Austin and Evalyn Saylor Austin. She was preceded in death also by her stepfather, Marshall William Motter, and by her husband, Linwood Lacy Blackwell in 1992.

She is survived by her daughters, Catherine Jane Hearne and her husband, William, of Pittsville, Evalyn R. Andrews of Elkton, Md., and Kathleen Margaret Liller and her husband, Steven of Delmar, Del.; stepson, Guy Blackwell and his wife, Alice, of Washington, D.C.; seven grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren. Also surviving is a brother, Larry Motter of Ocean City and two nephews.

She was preceded in death by three sons, Ronald, Donald and Linwood Lacy Blackwell Jr.

Mrs. Blackwell had worked for more than 40 years as a seamstress and had also been associated for many years with her late husband, "Blackie" Blackwell, at the Ocean City airport.

A graveside service will be held at 1 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 4, at Sunset Memorial Park in Berlin. In lieu of flowers, donations may be the Mary Catherine Blackwell Memorial Fund, c/o Bank of Ocean City, 627 William St., Berlin, Md. 21811.

## Roman D. Miller

PITTSVILLE — Roman D. Miller, 71, died Thursday, Jan. 3, 2013, at Peninsula Regional Medical Center in Salisbury. Born in Dover, Del., he was the son of the late David B. Miller and Cassie A. Miller. He is survived by his wife of 40 years, Louise E. Miller; children, Willis Miller of Felton, and Barbara Miller and Susan Harrington, both of Dover; three grandchildren; and a great grandson.

Also surviving are two brothers, David Miller and Samuel Miller, and a sister, Suzanne Miller, all of Dover; as well as numerous nieces and nephews.

Mr. Miller had been an owner, trainer and driver of standard bred harness racing horses. He was a member of the Cloverleaf Racing Association.

A memorial service will be held from 1-4 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 11, at the Pittsville Volunteer Fire Company in Pittsville. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Roman D. Miller Memorial Fund, c/o Farmers Bank of Willards, 7233 Main St., Willards, Md. 21874.




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## OBITUARIES

### Herman Albert Zenk Jr.

OCEAN PINES — Herman Albert Zenk Jr., 93, went to his rest Thursday, Jan. 3, 2013, at his home in Ocean Pines. Born in North Braddock, Pa., he was a son of the late Herman Albert Zenk Sr. and Clara Steigerwald Zenk. He is preceded in death by his wife of 69 years, Elva Irene Zenk, and is survived by his loving family and many good friends.

Mr. Zenk was a U.S. Army veteran. As a resident of the Eastern Shore for 26 years, he reveled in his life as a loving husband, father and grandfather.

A Mass of Christian Burial was offered Monday, Jan. 7, at St. John Neumann Catholic Church in Ocean Pines. Interment followed in Maryland Veteran's Cemetery Eastern Shore, where military honors were provided. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to The Little Sisters of Jesus and Mary, P.O. Box 1755, Salisbury, Md. 21802. Arrangements were handled by Burbage Funeral Home in Berlin.

### William Edward Fisher Jr.

SALISBURY — William Edward Fisher Jr., 89, died Friday, Jan. 4, 2013, at Coastal Hospice at the Lake in Salisbury. Born in Berlin, he was the son of the late William E. Fisher, Sr. and Edna Birch Fisher.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Alice Donnelly Fisher; four stepbrothers, Clarence, Wilson, Norman and James Birch; a stepsister, Miriam Birch Cropper; and numerous nieces and nephews. He was also preceded in death by beloved companion, Joe Ann Ewell Keyser.

Mr. Fisher, a lifelong resident of Berlin, was a World War II Army veteran. He had worked for Silco, and was a regional manager when he retired. He loved traveling and meeting people. He had friends at every stop in his territory.

Mr. Fisher and his wife had owned the Spindrift Apartments in Ocean City for many years. He spent winters in Vero Beach, Fla., where he enjoyed the warm

weather and golf. He was also an accomplished wood worker and took many trips to the Lancaster, Pa. area to admire the workmanship and develop new ideas.

A funeral service was held Wednesday, Jan. 9, at Burbage Funeral Home in Berlin. The Rev. Dr. Olin Shockley officiated. Interment followed in Evergreen Cemetery. A donation in his memory may be made to the Alzheimer's Association, 1850 York Road, Suite D, Timonium, Md. 21093.

### James 'Jim' Robinson

OCEAN PINES — James Franklin "Jim" Robinson, 85, died Sunday, Jan. 6, 2013, at Atlantic General Hospital in Berlin. Born in Charlestown, W.Va., "Bucket" was the son of the late Frank Edgar Robinson and Mary Teresa Hammerschmidt Robinson. He was preceded in death by his wife, Kathleen Marie Lease Robinson in 2012, and by a granddaughter, Melanie McKenzie in 2003.

Mr. Robinson is survived by his daughter, Robin Jo McKenzie, of Smithsburg, Md.; two grandchildren, Jessica Wilson of Smithsburg and Angela McKenzie of Frederick, Md.; and three great-grandchildren, Tyler McKenzie and Lanie McKenzie of Frederick, Md., and Kaylei Keefer of Cumberland, Md.

Mr. Robinson had retired from the United States Postal Service, where he had worked for many years as a postal carrier. He was a United States Army veteran, and a member of St. Luke's Catholic Church in Ocean City. He had been a member of the Ocean City and Cumberland Elks.

A Mass of Christian burial will be held at 11 a.m. on Thursday, Jan. 10, at St. Luke's Catholic Church on 100th Street in Ocean City. Friends may call one hour prior to the service. Interment will follow in Sunset Memorial Park in Berlin.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the American Kidney Foundation, 11921 Rockville Pike, Suite 300, Rockville, Md. 20852. Arrangements are being handled by Burbage Funeral Home in Berlin.

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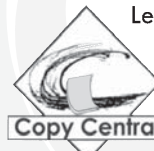
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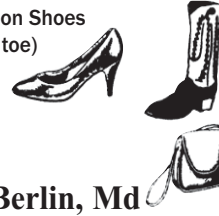
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# CALENDAR

## BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Please send calendar items to [editor@baysidegazette.com](mailto:editor@baysidegazette.com) by 5 p.m. Monday to make sure your events are printed. All community-related activities will be published at no charge.

### ONGOING EVENTS

#### BINGO NIGHT

American Legion Post 166, 2308 Philadelphia Ave., in Ocean City, every Thursday, year round. Doors open at 5:30 p.m., games start at 7 p.m. Food available. Open to the public. Info: 410-289-3166.

#### SQUARE DANCING

Wednesdays  
Ocean Pines Community Center, 7:15-9:15 p.m. All are welcome. For more info call 410-208-6777.

#### SHEPHERD'S NOOK THRIFT SHOP

Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays  
Shepherd's Nook Thrift Shop open 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Community Church, Rt. 589, Racetrack Road, Ocean Pines. Accepting donations of gently worn clothes and small household items.

#### DIAKONIA FURNITURE CENTER

Wednesday thru Saturday, 10 am-4 pm, 'Used to be Mine' Furniture Center. Corner of Rte 611 and Sunset Ave. 410-213-0243.

#### PINE'EER CRAFT & GIFT SHOP

Saturdays and Sundays  
Pineëer Craft and Gift shop open 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. White Horse Park, Ocean Pines. Handcrafted items created by members.

#### BUILDING MATERIALS SALE

Every first & third Saturday  
Habitat for Humanity, 310 E. Market St., Snow Hill, 8 a.m. to noon. Building materials, appliances, doors, windows, cabinets, vanities, fixtures, furniture and more. Selection and prices vary depending on inventory. Proceeds fund the Flower Street, Berlin house construction.

#### STORY TIME FOR CHILDREN AGES 3-5

Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 10:30 a.m. Stories, rhymes, finger plays, music and crafts. Info: 410-208-4014.

#### KIWANIS CLUB

Wednesdays  
Meeting 7:45 a.m. at the Ocean Pines Community Hall, except for third Wednesday which meets at The Woodlands in Ocean Pines. Meeting at 5:30 p.m., dinner at 6 p.m. For more info: 410-641-7330.

#### DELMARVA CHORUS

Mondays  
The Delmarva Chorus under the direction of Carol Ludwig meets 7-9 p.m. at the Ocean Pines Community Center. Women interested in learning and singing in a barbershop format are welcome. For more information call 410-208-4171.

#### SALTWATER SPORTFISHERS

Atlantic Coast Chapter of the Maryland Saltwater Sportfishing Association meets on the fourth Tuesday of the every month except for July, August and December at the Ocean City Lions Club, Airport Road, West Ocean City, 7:30 p.m.

#### DEMOCRATIC WOMEN

Democratic Women of Worcester County meets 9:30 a.m. for coffee followed by a meeting at 10 a.m., the third Monday of the month at the Ocean Pines Community Center. Guests and new members welcome.

#### PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Saturdays  
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, includes coffee and juice. Bloody Marys cost \$3. Info: 410-524-8196.

#### SANCTIONED BRIDGE

Mondays: noon  
Tuesdays: 10 a.m.  
Weekly open duplicate Bridge games. Ocean Pines Community Center. Cost is \$5, special games \$6. 1 p.m. on the third Sunday of every month is Swiss Teams. Partners guaranteed. Info: Felicia Daly, 410-208-1272, Pat Kanz, 410-641-8071.

#### FRIDAY NIGHT BINGO

Fridays  
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.

#### BEACH SINGLES

Thursdays  
Beach Singles 45-Plus meets for happy hour at Clarion Hotel, 10100 Coastal Highway in Ocean City, 4-7 p.m. Info: Arlene, 302-436-9577; Kate, 410-524-0649; or [www.beachsingles.org](http://www.beachsingles.org).

#### BERLIN FARMERS' MARKET

Fridays, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.  
On the corner of West and Main streets. Fresh produce, eggs, garden plants, fresh cut flowers, seafood, meat and breads.

#### TACO NIGHT

Thursdays  
VFW Post 8296, 66th Street, Ocean City. Benefits veterans. Three tacos and a Corona plus dessert, \$8 per person.

#### BREAKFAST

Knights of Columbus #9053, every second and fourth Sunday, 9 a.m. to noon.  
\$8 per person, half price for 12 and younger. 9901 Coastal Highway,



### PINES QUILTERS DONATE TO DIAKONIA

Quilters by the Sea of Ocean Pines donated eight handmade quilts to the children at Diakonia on Dec. 12. Pictured holding two of the blankets are quilters Shirley Schaefer and Diane Spartzak.

SUBMITTED PHOTO / BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Ocean City, rear St. Luke's Church. Info: 410-524-7994.

#### SI BOC GROUP

Second Tuesday of every month, the Woodlands in South Ocean Pines, 6 p.m. dinner, social time meeting begins 6:30 p.m. Info: President Marty Cropper, 410-213-1592.

#### LIFE AFTER LOSS

Non-denominational support group will meet 11 a.m. on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at The Community Church at Ocean Pines, room 38 in the Thomas McKelvey Family Life Center. Info: 410-641-5433.

#### AARP

Ocean City AARP Chapter 1917 meets at the Elks Lodge, 138th Street and Sinexpuent Avenue, 9:30 a.m., on the second Thursday of the month (January, June, October and November)

#### SURVIVORS OF SUICIDE

Meets the third Wednesday of every month 6 p.m. at the Worcester County Health Department, 9730 Healthway Drive, Berlin (adjacent to At-

lantic General Hospital). Open to anyone who has lost a friend or loved one to suicide. Hosted by a survivor and a licensed social worker. Free of charge. Info: 410-629-0164 or [www.jesses-paddle.org](http://www.jesses-paddle.org)

#### WEEKLY SALE

Fridays  
Stevenson United Methodist Church Thrift Shop, 5 Stevenson Lane, Berlin, 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m..

#### BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP

Atlantic General Hospital, chapel, 9733 Healthway Drive in Berlin, 7-8 p.m. The group gathers the fourth Wednesday of each month. Pre-registration is not necessary. Info: Pastoral Care Services, 410-641-9725 or [gmansell@atlanticgeneral.org](mailto:gmansell@atlanticgeneral.org).

#### DELMARVA HAND DANCING CLUB

Meets every Wednesday at Skyline Bar & Grille at The Fenwick Inn, 138th Street and Coastal Highway in Ocean City. Beginner and intermediate lessons, 5:30-6:30 p.m., followed by dancing until 9 p.m. Jitterbug, swing, cha-cha to the sounds of the '50s, '60s and

Carolina beach music. All are welcome. Discounted food and drink prices. Info: 302-337-3638.

#### TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY

Mondays  
Berlin group No. 169, Atlantic General Hospital, conference room 2, 9733 Healthway Drive in 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.

#### ELKS BINGO

Every Wednesday at Ocean City Elks Lodge 2645, 138th Street across from Fenwick Inn. Doors open at 5:30 p.m., games start 6:30 p.m. A \$1,000 jackpot available, food, snacks and non-alcoholic beverages. No one under 18 years allowed in the hall during bingo. Info: 410-250-2645.

#### FIRESIDE CHAT

Berlin library, 220 N. Main St., 3 p.m. Monthly book discussion. Take a book you've enjoyed or one that you want to discuss. Get ideas for new authors to try. Free and open to the public. Info: 410-641-0650.

### FRIDAY, JAN. 20

#### O. P. BOOK OF THE MONTH

Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 1 p.m. Group will discuss "Never Let Me Go" by Kazuo Ishiguro. All are welcome. Info: 410-208-4014.

#### 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.

### SATURDAY, JAN. 12

#### FAMILY GAME DAY

Pocomoke library, 301 Market St., 9 a.m. to noon. Play old family favorites. Reserve your place: 410-957-0878.

#### WE DO ROBOTICS

Ocean City library, 10003 Coastal Highway, 10:30 a.m. Children, 8 years and older, can build, create and program their own robotic creations. Pre-registration is needed for this free  
*Continued on Page 19*



# CALENDAR

*Continued from Page 18*  
program. Register: 410-208-4014.

## 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.

## SCRAPBOOKING DAY

Sponsored by Willards Volunteer Fire Company Ladies Auxiliary. Event costs \$30 and takes place from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Breakfast, lunch and dinner will be provided. Prizes. RSVP: Danielle, 443-880-8590

## NEW YEARS INDOOR FLEA MARKET

Ocean Pines Community Center, 235 Ocean Parkway, 8 a.m. to noon. Vendor space includes one table and two chairs. Spaces cost \$15 for Ocean Pines residents and \$20 for non-residents. Register: 410-641-7052.

## SUNDAY, JAN. 13

### STAR PARTY

Meet at fire pit outside Assateague Visitor Center, 6-9 p.m. See Milky Way. Activities include Jr. Ranger Night Explorer, make a planisphere, telescopic star gazing and dark skies presentation. Take warm clothes, flashlight and binoculars. Free program. Info: [www.nature.nps.gov/night/](http://www.nature.nps.gov/night/); Christina Hulslander, 443-614-3547; [assateagueislandalliance@gmail.com](mailto:assateagueislandalliance@gmail.com); or Jay Johnstone, 410-629-6607.

## MONDAY, JAN. 14

### WRITING FOR WELLNESS

Ocean Pines library, small meeting room, 11107 Cathell Road, 1:30 p.m. Writing group that uses expressive writing exercises to stimulate writing process for creative expression and to process emotions. No prior writing experience needed. Info: 410-208-4014.

### HAND DANCING

House of Welsh, 1106 Coastal Highway, Fenwick, Del. Free lessons from 6-7 p.m., open dancing 7-10 p.m. No cover charge. Info: DC Hand Dance Club, 302-541-0728.

## TUESDAY, JAN. 15

### BEACH BLANKET BLOOD DRIVE

Sponsored by Blood Bank of Delmarva, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Ocean City convention center, 4001 Coastal Highway. Appointments, call 1-888-8BLOOD8. Walk-ins accepted. Info: [www.delmarvablood.org](http://www.delmarvablood.org).

### LAP TIME

Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 10:30 a.m. Children, infants to 2 years old, will be introduced to songs, games, finger plays and movement activities. Parents and caregivers will learn new ways to interact with their toddlers. Info: 410-208-4014.

### YOUNG AND RESTLESS

Pocomoke library, 301 Market St., 10:30 a.m. Creative science, art and music activities for children 3 to 5 years old. Dress for a mess. Reserve your place: 410-957-0878.

### 'MISTER DON' LEADS THE MUSIC FUN!

Berlin library, 220 N. Main St., 10:30 a.m. For children 2 to 5 years old. Info: 410-641-0650.

### THE MUSIC OF THE WW2UNES

Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 2 p.m. Musicians Frank Nanna, Dave Dalfonso and Carol Wolek take attendees back to the 1940s. Info: 410-208-4014.

### YOGA

James G. Barrett Medical Office Building, rotunda, 10231 Old Ocean City Boulevard, Berlin, 5:30-6:45 p.m. All levels welcome. Cost is \$72 for eight sessions or \$10 drop-in fee for first time. Info: Georgette Rhoads, 410-641-9734 or [grhoads@atlanticgeneral.org](mailto:grhoads@atlanticgeneral.org).

### LADY'S NIGHT OUT CPR TRAINING

White Marlin Club, 9659 Golf Course Road, West Ocean City, 5:30 p.m. Only 45 minutes and you're CPR trained. Cost is \$30. Register: Patti Miller, 443-880-7795 or [patti@peckmiller.com](mailto:patti@peckmiller.com).

### WORCESTER COUNTY COMMISSION FOR WOMEN MEETING

Worcester County Board of Education, 6270 Worcester Highway, Newark, 5-6:30 p.m. Open to the public and women of all ages are encouraged to attend. Volunteers sought for short-term assignments such as grant writing and event planning. Info: 410-641-1951.

## WEDNESDAY, JAN. 16

### BEACH BLANKET BLOOD DRIVE

Sponsored by Blood Bank of Delmarva, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Ocean City convention center, 4001 Coastal Highway. Appointments, call 1-888-8BLOOD8. Walk-ins accepted. Info: [www.delmarvablood.org](http://www.delmarvablood.org).

### PLAY TIME

Ocean City library, 10003 Coastal Highway, 10:30 a.m. Parents and children, infants to 5 years old, explore educational toys together in an interactive, free play program. Info: 410-524-1818.

### HYPERTENSION CLINICS

Sponsored by Atlantic General Hospital and takes place at Walgreen's, Bethany Beach, Del., 10 a.m. to noon and at Walgreen's, Selbyville, Del., 1-3 p.m. Free blood pressure screening and health information. Info: Dawn Denton, 410-641-9268.

### WEIGHT LOSS SURGERY SEMINAR

Berlin Main Place Complex, 9956 N. Main St., Berlin, 5-6 p.m. Receive information about the lap band and gastric sleeve weight loss procedures. Pre-register: 410-641-3960.

### 'SWEET 16' RELAY FOR LIFE

Route 50 Diner in the Francis Scott Key Hotel, 12806 Ocean Gateway, West Ocean City, 6 p.m. Cancer survivors, their caregivers and anyone registered or interested in registering for the May 10 Relay For Life event, hosted by Frontier Town, all are welcome to attend.

### BINGO

Every Wednesday at Ocean City Elks Lodge 2645, 138th Street across from Fenwick Inn. Doors open at 5:30 p.m., games start 6:30 p.m. A \$1,000 jackpot available, food, snacks and non-alcoholic beverages. No one under

18 years allowed in the hall during bingo. Info: 410-250-2645.

### DELMARVA HAND DANCING CLUB

Meets every Wednesday at Skyline Bar & Grille at The Fenwick Inn, 138th Street and Coastal Highway in Ocean City. Beginner and intermediate lessons, 5:30-6:30 p.m., followed by dancing until 9 p.m. Jitterbug, swing, cha-cha to the sounds of the '50s, '60s and Carolina beach music. All are welcome. Discounted food and drink prices. Info: 302-337-3638.

### TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY

Ocean City library, 10003 Coastal Highway, Wednesdays, 4:45-6 p.m. TOPS is a support and educational group promoting weight loss and healthy lifestyle. It meets weekly. Info: 302-436-3682.

### SUICIDE GRIEVERS' SUPPORT GROUP

Worcester County Health Department, 9730 Healthway Drive, Berlin, third Wednesday of each month, 6 p.m. Open to anyone who has lost a friend or loved one to suicide. Free of charge. Info: 410-629-0164 or [www.jessesaddle.org](http://www.jessesaddle.org).

Please send calendar items to [editor@baysidegazette.com](mailto:editor@baysidegazette.com) by 5 p.m. Monday to make sure your events are printed. All community-related activities will be published at no charge.

## THURSDAY, JAN. 17

### OC MAYOR'S PRAYER BREAKFAST

Buffet breakfast, 7-9:15 a.m., Clarion Resort Hotel, 101st Street. Ocean City Mayor Rick Meehan will deliver welcome message, followed by scripture readings and songs. Guest speaker will be last. Tickets, \$16, sold in advance only. Info: 443-235-2669 or [ocmayorsprayerbreakfast@comcast.net](mailto:ocmayorsprayerbreakfast@comcast.net).

### STORY TIME

Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 10:30 a.m. Stories, rhymes, finger plays, music and crafts for children 2-5 years old. Info: 410-208-4014.

### PLAY TIME

Snow Hill library, 307 N. Washington St., 10:30 a.m. Parents and children, infants to 5 years old, explore educational toys to

gether in an interactive, free play program. Info: 410-632-3495.

### ADULT KNITTING AND CROCHETING GROUP

Pocomoke library, 301 Market St., 11 a.m. An informal monthly group for people who love to knit or crochet to gather and share ideas, patterns and projects. Info: 410-957-0878.

### WORCESTER COUNTY TEA PARTY

Ocean Pines Community Center, 235 Ocean Parkway. Doors open at 6:30 p.m., meeting begins at 7 p.m. All interested citizens are invited to attend. The Worcester County Tea Party is a grassroots organization, not affiliated with any political party. Info: 410-430-7282, [WorTeaParty@gmail.com](mailto:WorTeaParty@gmail.com) or [WorcesterCountyTeaParty.com](http://WorcesterCountyTeaParty.com).



### MBS FOURTH-GRADERS RECOGNIZED

Cub Scout leader Peter Kangas presents Tommy Kangas and T. J. Gulyas, fourth-graders at Most Blessed Sacrament Catholic School, with the Cub Scout Catholic Emblem Award and certificate after a recent school Mass at St. John Neumann Church.

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# SNAPSHOTS



**GAME VIPS** SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE  
Stephen Decatur High School honored “VIPs of the Game” between quarters of the Dec. 20 basketball triple-header against Pocomoke High School. Recipients were art teacher Christy Powell and senior Tim VanVonno. Throughout the winter sports season, Stephen Decatur will be recognizing those who have made outstanding contributions to the school and community. Honorees are presented lifetime passes to Stephen Decatur High School events. Pictured are VIP Program coordinator Amy Fenzel-Mergott, Powell, VanVonno and Principal Tom Zimmer.



**PLATFORM TENNIS** SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE  
Ocean Pines Platform Tennis celebrated the arrival of the new year on the first Saturday of 2013. Typical for this winter sport was the brisk 40-degree weather. Initially, the 52 players were bundled in coats and gloves, but after an hour of play in the sun, coats and gloves were piled on the benches. All four courts were filled from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., and lines of players waited for their turn on the courts as the membership has climbed to 116 players. At noon, everyone feasted on Anita Robert’s chili, grilled hot dogs, potato salad, baked beans and beverages.



**ACTING PRINCIPALS** SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE  
Hayden March (first grade), Julian March (second grade) and Ashton March (pre-kindergarten-4 years old) serve as “Principals for the Day” at Most Blessed Sacrament Catholic School in Berlin. In their roles as principal, they greeted students as they arrived in the morning, visited classrooms during the day to present each student with a treat, monitored the lunchroom and served as recess monitors. At the end of the day, they offered the entire student body a “no homework” pass.



**SDHS STUDENTS RECOGNIZED BY BALTO. RAVENS** SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE  
For the sixth time in eight years, Stephen Decatur High School students were honored by the Baltimore Ravens for outstanding service to the school and surrounding communities as part of the NFL franchise’s annual Honor Rows program. One hundred National Honor Society students and Presidential Service Award recipients were treated to on-field passes, a jumbotron appearance and tickets to the Dec. 16 game against the Denver Broncos. Pictured are National Honor Society officers Connor Neville, Devynn Detzer, Ashley Trice and Noah McAleer.



**DISSECTION LESSON** SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE  
During their study of the human body, seventh-grade science students at Stephen Decatur Middle School dissect chicken wings to view the bones, muscles and skin. Omer Peled, Zerrick Collins, Tiffany Blankenship and Montrel Moore take notes and measurements while dissecting their chicken wing.



**POPEYES FUNDRAISER** SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE  
Salah Hassanein, right, owner of Popeyes Louisiana Kitchen in West Ocean City, presents Buckingham Elementary School Principal Roger Pacella a \$150 check, proceeds from a Dec. 12 fundraiser to benefit the Berlin school.





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Tuesday - \$5 Burgers All Day

Wednesday - AUCE Shrimp \$12.99

Thursday - AUCE Spaghetti & Meatballs \$10.99

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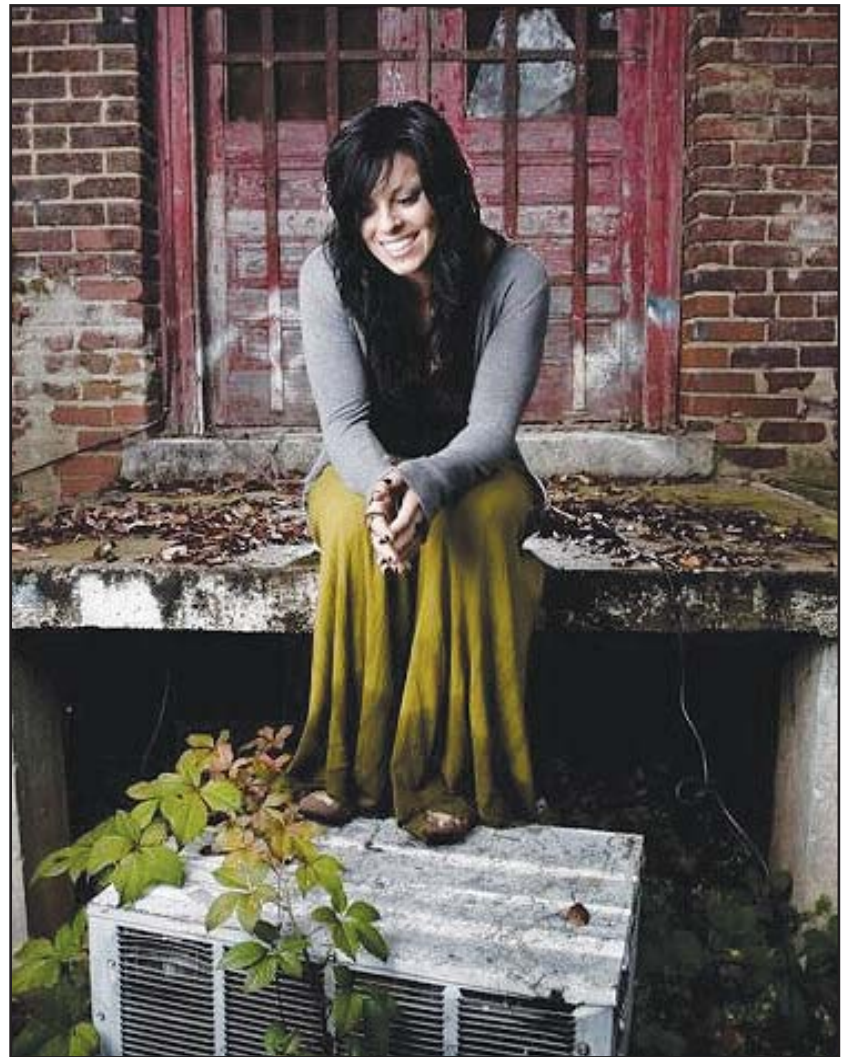
Happy Hour During All Games



Hours 6am to 11pm 9636 Stephen Decatur Hwy  
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# LIVE MUSIC



Melissa Alesi @ The 19<sup>th</sup> Hole

## ■ 19<sup>th</sup> Hole

9636 Stephen Decatur Hwy.  
410-213-9204

FRIDAY - Chris Button

SATURDAY - Melissa Alesi

## ■ BJ's on the Water

75th St. Bayside, Ocean City  
410-524-7575

FRIDAY - Full Circle

SATURDAY - Funkalicious

WEDNESDAY - Aaron Howell

## ■ Burley Oak Brewery

10016 Old Ocean City Blvd, Berlin  
443-513-4647

FRIDAY - Skribe

TUESDAY - Open Mic

## ■ Clarion Resort

101st St., Ocean City  
410-524-3535

FRIDAY - New Censation

SATURDAY - New Censation

## ■ Dead Freddie's

64th St. Bayside  
(410) 524-3733

FRIDAY - DJ Wax

SATURDAY - DJ Wax

## ■ DeNovo's

South Gate - Ocean Pines  
410-208-2782

THURSDAY - Al Prescott

SATURDAY - Al Prescott

TUESDAY - Al Prescott

## ■ Fager's Island

60th St. & the Bay, Ocean City  
410-524-5500

FRIDAY - DJ Hook

SATURDAY - DJ Groove

## ■ Harborside

12841 S. Harbor Rd.,  
West Ocean City  
410-213-1846

THURSDAY - Opposite Directions

FRIDAY - DJ Billy T

SATURDAY - Simple Truth / DJ Jeremy

SUNDAY - Opposite Directions

## ■ Harpoon Hannas

142nd St., Fenwick Island  
800-227-0525

FRIDAY - Dave Hawkins

SATURDAY - Dave Sherman

WEDNESDAY - Bobby Burns

## ■ Ristorante Antipasti

3103 Philadelphia Ave.  
410-289-4588

FRIDAY - Linda Sears & Michael Smith

## ■ Seacrets

49th & the Bay, Ocean City  
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SATURDAY - Full Circle /

Band Showcase



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**and Fireballs**  
**\$1 Miller Lt. & Miller 64 Bottles**

**Mon 5-10pm \$6 Cheesesteaks**  
**Big Sexy Bingo 7 - 9pm**

### Happy Hour 4-7pm, M-F

**\$6 - \$16 Cheese Pizzas**  
**\$5 1/2 lb. Steamed Shrimp &**  
**\$1 Miller Lt. 16oz. Cans**  
**plus more food & drink specials**

**Tue 5-10pm 1/2 Off Food Menu**

**Wed All Day 1/2 Off Big Salads**

**9pm - 1am: DJ Wax**

**\$3.50 Fireballs, \$1 Natty Lt. cans**  
**\$2 Domestic Bottles**

**Thu 5-10pm \$6 Burgers**  
**& Chicken Sandwiches**



PUZZLES

PUZZLE ENVY By Dan Feyer and Andrea Carla Michaels / Edited by Will Shortz

Across

1 Pop

4 Court statistic

11 Kid's game with a ball

16 A Bobbsey twin

19 Constellation near Scorpius

20 Start to make a living from something

21 W.W. II marine threat

22 Israeli weapon

23 What some goggles provide

25 10,000,000 ergs

26 U.S.A. neighbor

27 Represent at a costume party

28 \_\_\_ minute

29 It may be tightly coiled

30 "Let us part, \_\_\_ the season of passion forget us": Yeats

31 Designer Mizrahi

32 Old lad's wear

34 Like pulp fiction

36 Onetime enemy

38 Reggae's \_\_\_ Kamoze

39 Exposed

40 Kazakhstan, once: Abbr.

41 Shot blocker

45 Mrs. Mitt Romney

48 Place for runners

50 Far-out experience

54 Greenish creature

55 Diagonal

57 Wastage

60 Bit of negativity?

62 Flubbed

63 Squeeze for dough

65 Wine taster's destination

68 Beetles, briefly

69 Slick

70 Bad sign for a traveler?

71 Land of Zion?

73 "That's \_\_\_-brainer"

74 1942 Bette Davis film

76 Go downhill, in a way

78 Department-store department

80 Fix one's eyes

81 Chip away at

83 Hornswoggle

84 Huzzahs

86 Singer/songwriter Laura

88 Make, as one's way

90 Northern California's \_\_\_ River

91 Breed of cat or dog

93 Baseball "twin killings," for short

96 Chicago's county

98 Alternative to a bus

99 Home of the world's largest naval base

107 "Done, O.K.?"

109 Head of London

110 Seemingly forever

111 NetZero competitor

112 Ladderlike in arrangement

114 Sports org. of the early 2000s

115 Until now

116 Statehouse resident, informally

117 Solitaire unit

118 "My Big Fat Greek Wedding" writer and star

120 Purpose

121 Quarter back?

122 Pastoral poem

123 Mich. neighbor

124 Stroke

125 Slammin' Sammy

126 Prop up

127 Miss identification?

10 Heir, maybe, but not an heiress

11 Immature

12 Cancels

13 One at a sidebar

14 Moolah

15 Unblemished

16 3.14159..., for pi

17 Baku resident

18 Gave the thumbs-down

24 Qualifiers

29 "Just like that!"

32 Ralph in the Baseball Hall of Fame

33 Cameo, for one

35 Remove from a mailing list, informally

37 Where springboks graze

42 One of Mozart's?

43 Subtitle of "Star Wars Episode IV"

44 Cat's dogs?

45 '60s prez

46 Late '60s and early '70s, politically

47 Hit 1944 film starring a 12-year-old actress

49 One-named pop singer

51 Wreak havoc on

52 More ridiculous

53 Paragraph symbol [¶]

56 Fifth tone

58 Mouth-watering

59 Vet, at times

For any three answers, call from a touch-tone phone: 1-900-285-5656, \$1.49 each minute; or, with a credit card, 1-800-814-5554.

1	2	3		4	5	6	7	8	9	10		11	12	13	14	15		16	17	18
19				20								21						22		
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111				112	113						114				115					
116				117						118				119						
120				121						122								123		
124				125						126								127		

- 61 West Coast beer, familiarly

64 Rembrandt van \_\_\_

66 Here, in Juárez

67 Brynner of "Taras Bulba"

70 Its capital is Yellowknife: Abbr.

72 Smidgen

73 Choices of time

75 Ending with psych-

76 Sir abroad
- 77 Gibson of "The Beaver"

79 "Norwegian Wood" strings

82 To say, in Spanish

85 Grows old

87 Kardashian spouse Lamar \_\_\_

89 Well-intentioned activist

92 Supersize, say

94 The N.F.L.'s \_\_\_ Burrell
- 95 James Bond's childhood home

97 Somewhat, informally

100 "Bee-you-tiful!"

101 Like "Knocked Up" and "The Hangover"

102 Subj. of the 2008 biography "Traitor to His Class"

103 Some Swedish models
- 104 Kevin of "Weeds"

105 Cantillate

106 Carol starter

107 Advice to a base runner

108 Provide a place to stay

113 Scott of "Hawaii Five-0"

115 "How \_\_\_!"

118 It's S. of S. Dak.

119 15%-er: Abbr.



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HARD - 3

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.

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

Answers to last week's puzzles

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

U	P	T	I	M	E		D	R	O	P		G	P	S		B	O	U	T			
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G	R	E	G	S		P	R	O	D	U	C	E	S		N	E	E	D	L	E		
E	Y	R	E			L	A	D		P	A	S	O		A	S	S	A	Y	S		



# CUISINE

BAYSIDE GAZETTE

## Lamb and wine have symbiotic relationship

"Life is a chaplet of little miseries which the philosopher counts with a smile. Be philosophers, as I am, gentlemen; sit down at the table and let us drink. Nothing makes the future look so bright as surveying it through a glass of chambertin." Or so said Athos as he invites his friends into his abode to discuss the follies of the days preceding.



By Paul Suplee,  
CEC PCIII

"The Three Musketeers" is a new addition to my meager library, and as I had finished "The Count of Monte Cristo" last year, I was fearful of Dumas' lengthy tomes, superfluous description and minutiae. What I found was a swashbuckling tale — with a touch of the aforementioned descriptive copy — but a fascinating book, nonetheless.

Believe me, if you can sit through "The Count," you can sit through anything, but I digress.

Chambertin is one of the most sought after wines of France and the Premier Crus can fetch a handsome price per bottle, so suffice it to say that I do not get to drink it very often. But when I do think Chambertin, I think Lamb.

Based in the Burgundy region of France in the subregion of the Cotes de Nuits, the Chambertin are Pinot Noirs. White burgundies are Chardonnay and red burgundies are Pinot Noirs (there are accessory grapes, but don't worry about that right now). Maybe this will help to demystify a small group of French wines. Known for their finesse and their full body, Chambertin may not be as over-extracted as some South American and American Pinots and for that matter, South Africa and Australia could be thrown in this category.

When looking at Continental wines, while they will have a formidable body, you might not get that "jammy" and mouth-exploding fruit bomb that we find here. In reality, many of the wines of the New World are made to be consumed alone. On the continent, however, food and wine share a symbiotic relationship and have for millennia.

While they might not be as huge in every case, they are still robust, well founded and have their own terroir that the world has spent centuries trying to emulate. When the terroir of the wine matched that of the food (think local, no trains or planes, etc.) it was a no-brainer. As time and conquest have marched on, the wines have grown fur-



ther apart from the food.

Just a little food for thought with your glass of Chambertin.

### Lamb Loin

20 ounces fresh lamb loin  
Ras al hanout (recipe follows)  
red wine sauce (recipe follows)  
cauliflower Puree  
brussels sprouts (recipe follows)  
vegetables of your choice

Step 1: Dry loins with a paper towel and then season with Ras el Hanout

Step 2: Heat butter and olive oil in a frying pan (a la Ferdinand Point) and make it almost smoking hot

Step 3: Carefully place loins in pan and sear on one side for about 4 minutes or until dark but not burnt

Step 4: Flip loins over and cook until medium rare

Step 5: Remove loins from pan. Keep warm

Step 6: Place pan back on stove and continue with sauce (recipe follows)  
4 servings

### Ras el Hanout

All dried spices:  
3 cardamom pods  
1 tsp. ground ginger  
1/2 tsp. cinnamon, ground  
1/2 tsp. allspice  
1/2 tsp. nutmeg  
1/2 tsp. turmeric  
1/2 tsp. coriander seeds

4 black peppercorns  
2 white pepper corns

Step 1: Toast whole spices until aromatic, but do not burn. Allow to cool

Step 2: Place whole spices in grinder and pulverize

Step 3: Combine with ground spices

Step 1: Store in sealed container for up to two weeks

Makes enough for a few dinners

### Red Wine Sauce

Fat from searing lamb loin  
1/4 medium white onions, finely minced  
1 medium shallot, finely minced  
3 cloves garlic, finely minced  
2 cups Dry red wine  
2 cups Demi-glace or Espagnole (article a couple of years ago)  
2 sprigs fresh thyme  
salt and pepper to taste  
4 Tbsp. Unsalted butter, cool and in chunks

Step 1: Heat fat and sauté onions and shallots until moisture has left them. Cook until translucent but not brown

Step 2: Add garlic and make sure that you do not burn it. If you do, start over. Otherwise cook for 3 minutes and add the thyme

Step 3: Add wine and bring to a simmer and reduce to 3/4 cup

Step 4: Add Espagnole and reduce to 1 1/2 cup

Step 5: Season and pull off heat

Step 6: After it is off heat and no longer

simmering, swirl pan in big circles being careful not to spill any of the molten gold on your hands

Step 7: Mount with butter, meaning that you add the butter chunks two at a time and slowly incorporate them

Step 8: For a traditional Bordelaise, one would poach, cube and add bone marrow, but as I have yet to have a reader request that I work with bone marrow, I will let you work on that all on your own. It gives the sauce a magnificent finish, but for most guests, the bone marrow is not necessary. Plus, for a true Bordelaise, one wouldn't start with Ras el Hanout

Serves 4

### Brussel sprouts

20 brussel sprouts  
olive oil as needed  
salt and pepper as needed

Step 1: Cut stem off of sprouts

Step 2: Peel outermost layers and then halve sprouts

Step 3: Toss in olive oil and season

Step 4: Roast in 425-degree oven for approximately 15 minutes or until outside is nice and dark, and sprouts are tender

Step 5: Remove and keep warm until service

Serves 4

— 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](http://www.heartofakitchen.com).



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511 Nautical Lane

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I am dog-gone  
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