



JOSH DAVIS/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

EVER GREEN

Even though winter is still very much in its infancy, some plants, like this one at the Worcester County Veteran's Memorial in Ocean Pines, are threatening to bloom.

Coffee house gone, but not forgotten as old friends meet

By Josh Davis
Associate Editor

(Jan. 19, 2017) On an unseasonably warm Thursday last week, a small group of about a dozen old friends gathered at Crush N Crab in Berlin over coffee and breakfast.

They sat together in a booth with a handful of extra chairs pulled to the side of the table. The sun was still coming up and beaming brightly through the window, facing Route 113, and the weekend of snow had just melted, as one patron said, as if it had been painted over by a single brush stroke overnight.

The meeting was familiar to many of them, although this time was different. The venue, for one, had changed.

When Berlin Coffee House closed last month many of them suddenly had nowhere to go, including former owner Peggy Hagy.

"I miss it dearly – not the aggravation, but the people. But retirement is nice," Hagy said. She said she has been working on finishing closing the store, and is devoting much more time to her artwork.

Mike Wiley is the ringleader of the group, which he affectionately dubbed "Refugees from Berlin Coffee House."

"I individually talked to a couple of people and everybody said they missed getting together at Peggy's in the morning," he said. "I said, well let's have a little reunion and I hit the Internet and made a couple of phone calls. We'll see how it works here."

Wiley joked that the group had been going through withdrawal.

"It's great to see everyone again. It's like a high school reunion almost. Maybe it will become a one-a-week thing."

Berlin Town Councilman Thom Gulyas was among the devoted coffee house "refugees," and he was only too happy to accept Wiley's invitation for coffee, to talk about what was going on around town, and to catch up with his friends.

"We miss the shop a lot," he said. "We wish Peggy hadn't gone out [of business] – and she still won't let us come to her house."

Gulyas joked that the next meeting would be at Firehouse Coffee on Buttercup Court, at the Wiley residence. Wiley is a former firefighter.

"It really is good to see everybody again," Gulyas said. "I missed them all."

OPA budget draft: assessments flat

By Josh Davis
Associate Editor

(Jan. 19, 2017) If Brett Hill gets his way, homeowners in Ocean Pines will not see an increase in assessments or membership fees during the next fiscal year.

Hill, the interim general manager, presented his first budget draft during public meetings last week. That document was also posted online as of Jan. 9.

The total proposed budget for fiscal year 2017-18 includes \$13.5 million in total revenues against \$13.5 million in total expenses, a decrease of more than \$985,000 in both columns. Basic assessment rates would stay at \$921, while the waterfront rate would remain at \$1,367.

The proposed budget eliminates the controversial "five-year funding plan," which was renamed "legacy funding" in 2015. That component, established eight years ago to fund major capital replacements, was deemed no longer necessary according to Hill, who said all of the projects it addressed had either been completed or were undergoing renovations.

The elimination of that portion of reserves would account for a roughly 12 percent decrease in the overall reserve contributions.

The reserve balance as of May 1 is expected to be about \$4.91 million. As of April 30, 2018 that number is projected to drop about 5 percent, to \$4.68 million.

In a budget overview section of the document, Hill said payroll expenses were significantly impacted by a 50-cent increase in the minimum wage, affecting both the lowest wage earners and "the respective positions directly above them who now become at or near minimum wage." Health care benefits also increased roughly 10 percent.

Casino revenues, generally allocated for road repairs in Ocean Pines, were reallocated for renovations to the administration building, namely expanding the police department.

Bulkhead replacement reserves would remain flat pending a "long term investment strategy."

Amenity revenues were projected to increase about \$1 million, largely driven by a 38 percent (\$200,670) expected increase in beach club rev-

enues. There, Hill hopes longer hours during both the summer and the shoulder season will allow the association to tap into a larger market base. Yacht club revenues are also expected to increase by 26 percent, or \$394,485.

Meetings with the OPA Budget and Finance Committee were scheduled to run three days last week, although they were wrapped up after just one day, last Wednesday.

Hill, who was elected to serve on the board last August and appointed general manager just weeks later, said he didn't know what to expect during his first set of budget hearings.

"I was not a part of the [budget] process at all last year and I only heard horror stories from both the board and the staff as to it was a fairly painful process, so I was prepared for, I guess, much worse than what I walked into [during the meetings]," he said.

He said the flat level of assessments came from a mandate from the board, and that he expected that to remain in the final, approved budget.

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Pines unable to avoid NYE 'disaster'

Changes coming at yacht club after apparent poor showing during holiday

By Josh Davis
Associate Editor

(Jan. 19, 2017) "Everything that could go wrong did" at the Ocean Pines Association Yacht Club on New Year's Eve, according to interim General Manager Brett Hill.

That apparently set off a chain reaction within the association and sped up a major rebranding effort that began early 2017.

Hill, speaking during a public meeting with the budget and finance committee last Wednesday, said he was called into the club on Dec. 31, a date when half the staff was apparently "day laborers" – not official employees of Ocean Pines.

Yacht Club Manager Jerry Lewis had been fired the day before, which was at least partially responsible for the additional workers being called in, Hill said.

"When I found out we did not have the staff to run the event we reached out everywhere possible to get people in there," he said. "I knew the event was a disaster going into it and I did the absolute best possible [job] to turn it around and try to pull it off."

The association had advertised a package that included a cocktail reception, live music and raw bar that started at 7:30 p.m., followed by a seated dinner at 9 p.m. and a dance party that would run until 1 a.m.

Hill said two employees manned the kitchen that night, aided by six contractors.

Things got off to a poor start. "My dishwasher sliced his hand on a broken dish early in the evening, which is what caused the problem of no dishes being available for the cocktail hour," Hill said. "And the only person who could get him out of the kitchen was my executive chef ... [who] took him to the hospital for stitches, so I had a kitchen with no executive chef and no dishwasher."

The situation did not improve. "It wasn't good," Hill continued. "That was one of the reasons why we

had transitioned when we did."

At midnight on Jan. 1 the yacht club, now being called "Mumford's Landing," released an ad on its Facebook page proclaiming, "NEW YEAR NEW BAR." The post touted a new 20-foot-long bar called "Tuffy's Tavern" and changes to the restaurant at the facility, now being called "The Cove at Mumford's."

An official statement was released on Jan. 3, confirming that Event Coordinator Brian Townsend had replaced Lewis, at least temporarily.

Hill elaborated on the issues at the club during a phone interview, last Thursday. He said he had been consulting with other restaurant owners in the community, seeking help.

"As someone not familiar with the industry, my experience was strictly working at a pool snack bar when I was 14 years old, flipping hamburgers," he said. "I can't say by any means I am experienced in the restaurant or hospitality profession, but having knowledgeable local help down here that understands the market and has been successful in this area really is helping me understand the operation, understand what I should be looking at as manager and guiding me on where the goals really need to be for it to be a successful."

A portion of the club was shut down for renovations following New Year's Eve, although Hill said parts would remain open on weekends in order to fulfill contracts with live entertainment.

"It is, for Friday and Saturday nights, being opened on a limited basis," he said. "I believe the intention now is going to our full operating hours of Wednesday-to-Sunday night at the end of the month."

Hill said he expected a soft opening during the first week, with "some type of grand opening" scheduled between the Super Bowl (Feb. 5) and Valentine's Day (Feb. 14).

Most of the renovations, he said, consisted of "a heavy-duty deep cleaning" and cosmetic work being performed by Ocean Pines staff.

"We have people that were committed as salaried employees who are pitching in and doing most of the

work," he said. "Outside of a lot of paint and a couple hundred dollars across Home Depot and Sherwin Williams, that's about the bulk of our expense."

He said some furniture that had previously been ordered would go into the building, and that the existing bar had been reconfigured.

"It's utilizing a lot of the same stuff with the same staff, but just getting in a better position to work more efficiently," he said.

Hill said 11 staff members remained at the club, including part-time help. Rob Sosonovich will continue as the executive chef.

He said the association had about a 90-day window to find a full-time replacement for Lewis, before the busy season starts.

On the apparent abrupt firing of Lewis, Hill said, "There were several factors and it just kind of came to a head. The decision had to be made to move on."

Jim Beisler, a member of the association's budget and finance committee, broached the subject during the meeting last week.

He said he had been in the community for 17 years and had often seen Einstein's "Theory of Insanity" enacted with regards to the yacht club.

"Keep doing the same thing over and over again and expecting different results," Beisler said. "The latest example of that was New Year's Eve."

Beisler said the yacht club historically had issues, dating back well before the new building was opened in 2014.

"We have continually gone back to the yacht club, let's give it another chance, give it another chance and we've been, for the most part, disappointed. I hope like hell that this is going to be fixed this time," he said.

Water-main break leaves dozens in OP without water

(Jan. 19, 2017) A water main broke late Tuesday morning at the intersection of St. Martins Lane and Ocean Parkway, leaving many homes without running water for about an hour.

The Worcester County Water and Wastewater Division were on scene working to repair the break.

It is unclear what caused the disruption.

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BRIAN GILLILAND/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

FIND YOUR FAVORITE

Three Snow Hill downtown vendors: The Olde Town Candy Company, Jerry's Woodcraft and Harvest Moon Tavern are offering gift certificates to people who find their favorite downtown snowman and either post it on social media, or tell a participating merchant about it in person.

Discovery Center celebrates culture

By **Brian Gilliland**
Associate Editor

(Jan. 19, 2017) This year, the Winter Waterman's Festival is scheduled a little later than normal, moving from December to January to give both the participants and audience a little time to breathe.

"There [were] too many things already going on in December. People are jammed up with things to do," Delmarva Discovery Center President and CEO Stacey Weisner said. "Moving the event worked out for the watermen too."

This year's offering will be similar to those of years past, but with the obvious addition of Mac and Tuck, the center's river otters, and a few new activities for children.

"There will be lots of kids activities, like making a float for Mac and Tuck," Weisner said.

Face painting and other hands-on ac-

tivities should keep the children entertained, while the center is also offering in-depth looks at how watermen do what they do. Interactive exhibits, demonstrations and local seafood will also be available.

"A lot of people say they like crabs, but they don't know how they are caught or who caught them — people tend to take stuff like that for granted," Weisner said. "Some people have never seen an oyster shucked — we'll have them being shucked right there."

Food sampling is a certain bet, as well as regional decoy carvers. And, of course, where you have watermen you have stories.

"We're going to have roundtable discussions and panels with a moderator," Weisner said.

However, the event will be anything but scripted — once a waterman goes off on a tangent it's best to just let them fin-

ish.

"There will be some question and answer sessions too, but sometimes the answers meander off into better stories," Weisner said.

Environmental regulations, increased hardship and a disappearing way of life are certain to come up during the discussions.

"Celebrating the history and culture of the area is in our mission statement, and working watermen maintain the traditions of the area," Weisner said.

The event is scheduled to run during the Delmarva Discovery Center's normal business hours on Saturday, Jan. 21 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. There is no admission cost for members of the center, and nonmember adult admission is \$10, while nonmember child admission is \$5.

For more information, call 410-957-9933 or visit www.DelmarvaDiscoveryCenter.org.

Citizens gather during Snow Hill Fire info session

By **Brian Gilliland**
Associate Editor

(Jan. 19, 2017) More than three-dozen affected citizens, town residents and local officials attended an information session hosted by the Snow Hill Fire Company last Wednesday concerning the addition of another station north of town.

"The big thing we're looking for is to get the ball rolling. We're looking for land anyone is willing to sell or lease to us," Fire Chief Trey Heiser said.

The fire company had a list of 10 properties Heiser said they were already interested in, in the Nasawango Hills area — preferably between Iron Furnace and Millville roads.

Fire Co. member Jeff Page said the department envisioned a two-bay station featuring a pull-through design with a small bunk room and living quarters. The plan calls for a 4,800-square-foot footprint.

Heiser said he expects the new facility to cost about \$335,000 plus the cost of the land, site work and associated fees, and the company would seek donations and perhaps a loan to finance the development of the station.

The company would not be seeking a contribution from the town, Heiser said.

Responding to an audience question, the current design does not call for a fire whistle, and the reason for the pull-through design is to reduce noise from back-up alarms as equipment returns to the station.

Heiser said his fire company has one of the largest service areas in the state at 138 square miles. As most of it is rural, there are a limited number of routes available to certain places.

In 2014 the National Fire Protection Agency released an updated standard for the organization and deployment of fire suppression, emergency medical and special operations by volunteer fire departments. According to that standard, volunteer fire departments should be able to respond with six emergency-personnel

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Heroin among big issues being dealt with by Pines PD

By Josh Davis

Associate Editor

(Jan. 19, 2017) "Police work is different in every community – you police to the nature of your community," Ocean Pines Association Police Chief David Massey said during budget meetings last week.

Ocean Pines, he said, is the largest residential community in Worcester County and statistics show it is one of the safest in the state. According to SafeWise.com, Ocean Pines is the sixth-safest community in Maryland.

SafeWise.com's mission is to help potential customers make home security decisions. It released a report in August 2016 naming the ten safest cities in Maryland. Ocean Pines placed sixth. It placed ninth on the same list last year.

Massey formerly served with the Ocean City Police Department.

"Having been in Ocean City, I can tell you it's two different environments," he said. "Ocean City is a transient tourist community where a lot of people come and go. There's not a lot of year-round residents."

Police in Ocean Pines, he said, primarily deal with family issues – things like domestic violence, theft, juvenile crime, minor traffic stops – and drugs, namely heroin.

"We are a very safe community, but we're not immune to the challenges in this country. And the biggest challenge that we're seeing [now] is the use of drugs," Massey said. "The heroin problem affects every community."

Massey said heroin was both cheap – about \$10-15 per hit – and easy to find.

"As a matter of fact, it's more available than pills," he said. "We're dealing with that issue, and once someone is addicted there are dire consequences."

He said Ocean Pines Police were working closely with county and state police agencies and task forces, adding, "[the problem] doesn't start or stop in Ocean Pines." Massey said there have been about 70 overdoses



Ocean Pines Police Chief David Massey, left, speaks on the low crime rate in the community, difficulties of recruiting and retaining officers, and struggling with the heroin epidemic during budget hearings last Wednesday.

JOSH DAVIS/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

in Ocean Pines over the last two years, including 10 deaths.

"It's a problem, but it's a problem everywhere. It's not unique to Ocean Pines. It's across this country," Massey said. "We're addressing it."

Police spending is projected to increase about four percent during the next fiscal year. Massey said his department was having trouble keeping up with an increasing number of calls, as well as recruiting and retaining new officers.

He said stories in the national news played a part in that, as well as the fact that Ocean Pines Police salaries are on the low end in the county. The association makes up for some of that with a robust benefits package, and there have been talks about offering take-home vehicles to officers who live in the Pines.

A proposed budget developed by interim General Manager Brett Hill reallocated casino revenues, about \$250,000 annually, to help renovate the administration building, which

includes Ocean Pines Police. Most of that money would be used to increase the footprint and quality of the police facilities.

"We do a good job of keeping our officers as far as, they want to work

here. It's a great community to work as a police officer," Massey said. "We have a great citizen base and we're fortunate to have this community. I thank my stars every day that I'm lucky enough to be here."

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Berlin Briefs

By Josh Davis
Associate Editor

(Jan. 19, 2017) The Berlin Mayor and Council discussed the following items during a public meeting at town hall on Monday, Jan. 9.

Berlin Youth Club

Amanda Chaffee from Worcester Youth and Family Counseling Services provided the council with an end-of-year update on activities of the Berlin Youth Club. An annual grant from the town helps support the activities of the club.

In 2016, Chaffee said children in the program went on a number of field trips, often aided by members of the Berlin Police Department, Robin Tomaselli from Baked Dessert Café and others. Outings included Jolly Roger in Ocean City, Stratosphere Trampoline Park in Fruitland and the Salisbury Zoo.

Chef Phil Cropper from the Worcester Technical High School also surprised the children by decorating the “Ray” room at Worcester Youth in Berlin and throwing them a Mexican fiesta. Thirteen children from the program participated in the Berlin Christmas Parade, and several were involved in the United Spirit Christmas campaign, and given \$100 to spend on Christmas presents for their families at the Berlin Wal-Mart.

The Berlin Youth Club included 31 children last year. The next meeting of the club is Friday, Feb. 3.

Voicing concern

During discussion on approval for 32 town events in 2017, Councilman Thom Gulyas said he was concerned by those happenings that included special exceptions for alcohol consumption. Gulyas said he had heard reports about some destruction of property and public urination – among other things – during the town’s New Year’s Eve Celebration.

Berlin Police Chief Arnold Downing, however, noted more arrests had been made on Christmas than during New Year’s Eve.

Growing up in Ocean City, Gulyas said he had seen bad behavior fueled by the public consumption of alcohol on an almost-daily basis, and he was concerned about that kind of conduct in Berlin. He said he could not support the six requested special exceptions unless something was changed, and was the lone “no” vote against those exceptions.

S’no biz like snow biz

Water Resources and Public Works Director Jane Kreiter joked that her team was a little busy over the week-end, clearing snow from the streets and sidewalks.

“It was a lot of work – not much sleep. And if everybody got here safe tonight, you can thank the public works and water resources crew,” she said.

Downing added that only one accident had occurred during the storm and its aftermath.

“That is unbelievable,” he said, crediting the town’s CodeRED notification

system, drivers staying off the roads after a state of emergency was declared and town staff working together.

Henry Park bathrooms

Administrative Services Director Mary Bohlen said a successful bid to install new bathrooms at Dr. William Henry Park had included an error, and the town could now not accept the bid. She said staff would analyze two other bids and report back to the council, likely by the next council meeting on Jan. 23.

Building stats

Planning Director Dave Engelhart said his department granted 199 total permits last year. In 2014, 161 permits were granted, and in 2015 that number “bulged out at 271,” Engelhart said.

That included 10 new single-family dwellings. Not counting Cannery Village, Engelhart said 11 single-family dwellings were granted last year.

“We’re continuing some pretty good infill on the lots that are in the subdivisions in town,” he said. “In 2014 we only had four, so we are definitely ‘America’s coolest small town.’ People want to come here and build their home, whether it’s for their family or for their retirement.”

Façade grants

Economic and Community Development Director Ivy Wells said façade grants had been approved for improvements at the NEST and Bayside Gazette building, Burley Oak Brewing Company and at the new Island Creamery ice cream shop.

She said additional money had also been found for the façade grant at the Berlin Visitor’s Center, which would cover the entirety of the cost. Normally those grants fund 50 percent of improvements.

Construction to continue

Town Administrator Laura Allen said work on Flower Street, interrupted by winter weather, would likely continue to close the street for another three-to-four weeks.

On West Street, Allen expected repairs to start before the end of the month. Kreiter estimated that work would last about 60 days.

Drug drop-box

Councilman Zackery Tyndall said he had been attending meetings of the Worcester County Warriors Against Opiate Addiction to learn more about the heroin epidemic. While there, he learned about drop-off boxes placed at police stations where residents could turn in their expired or unused prescription medications.

Downing said the Maryland State Police Berlin Barack had such a box, and that residents could drop off items there or at the Berlin police station. The new station, under construction, would also have such a box, Downing added.

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STILL FIT
Atlantic Health & Fitness Center in Ocean Pines recently celebrated its 10-year grand reopening with a ribbon-cutting ceremony. The group is pictured in the gym area which is open to the public and now offers classes such as kettlebells, yoga, Zumba, spin, functional strength and bootcamp. Owner Bobby Hammond is pictured cutting the ribbon. Also in the picture are Robin Cummins, corporate office manager; Ann Thompson, personal trainer; Mike Healy, RnR Tours; Ashley Cummins, Ed Weeks, Jay Fickes, Ed Downs and Michele Herold; along with Ocean Pines Chamber of Commerce representatives; Pastor Bryan Pugner from Ocean City Worship Center; and Phil Turke, Delmarva Media Group.

Not much change in Pines budget; wait ‘til next year

■ OPA BUDGET continued
“I think, with where we stand right now waiting for the reserve study back [and] input from our outside consultant on payroll and salaries, we really don’t have strong guidance to make any big changes,” he said. “The most conservative route is to maintain the assessment level until we have the proper information to really document which way it needs to go – and when.”
Hill said it was fair to say that major changes could come in the following fiscal-year budget.
A special session was called for Friday, Jan. 20 at 10 a.m., when Hill is scheduled to present the proposed budget to the board. He will submit the budget draft to the public during a meeting on Jan. 28 at 12:30 p.m.

All meetings were scheduled in the community center on 235 Ocean Parkway.
To view the budget draft, visit [www.oceanpines.org/wp-content.../uploads/.../01/Budget-Report-1.pdf](http://www.oceanpines.org/wp-content/uploads/.../01/Budget-Report-1.pdf).



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Food Rite expands, upgrades local and organic offerings

Patel working hard to keep business in family and says more changes could come

By Brian Gilliland
Associate Editor

(Jan. 19, 2017) About a year ago TJ Patel began the process of upgrading Snow Hill's grocery store, the Food Rite — though still known colloquially as the IGA — to include a host of new goods including gluten-free, organic and non-GMO products.

On the other side of the health craze, Patel said he recently added Krispy Kreme donuts as well.

"It took almost four years to get Krispy Kreme to come," he said. "I'm trying to get a Redbox too, but they look at the ZIP code 21863 and see 1,250 people."

Larger, national brands often have their own measurements indicating the probability for success in a given area. Those metrics keep popular stores away from Worcester communities partly because of population, and partly because of the seasonal nature of the county's economy.

Still, Patel has even more improvements in mind.

"I'd like to do seafood in the back — no one has it around here," he said. "The watermen come here in the morning to get gas, so I might as well get it from them. I always try to go local for supplies," he said.

Patel said he would like to offer clams and shrimp — items that could easily be steamed and put out for sale, although this addition is still in the idea phase.

"I'm committed to my people here in Snow Hill," Patel said, though he's had offers from other municipalities to bring his services there too. "We're doing really good, and the people don't have to drive to Salisbury or Pocomoke."

In fact, sometimes it's just the opposite.



TJ Patel

"People come up here from Pocomoke, grab their five items and go," he said. "It's faster and more convenient than the other options there."

Because of necessity, Patel said he sometimes ends up shopping at other grocery stores, like many residents in southern Worcester County. He finds the delays there unacceptable and strives to ensure fast, effective service.

"I'm open 365 days a year," he said.

Patel employs a staff of 18 full and part time, in addition to his family members. His father, Yogi, his mother, Kanak, wife Bijal and sister Janki Patel all work at the grocery or adjoining liquor store.

"I'm always here," he said.

Patel said he found Snow Hill during trips to the beach while his family was working at Yogi's liquor store in Harrington, Delaware.

"Pocomoke was too big with too many cars. Snow Hill is a nice, quiet peaceful town, and it takes me two minutes to get to work in the morning," he said.

New Snow Hill fire station could help response times

■ INFO SESSION continued within 14 minutes to a rural area, which is defined as less than 500 people per square mile. The goal should be met 80 percent of the time, according to the standard.

The distance from the current and only station to some of the farthest points in its district, Heiser said, is 15 miles, creating a virtual lock on failing the standard for that call.

A new station at the north end, and closer to some personnel who already live in the area, would help the company meet the standards. Heiser hoped it would also aid in recruitment.

"There used to be a waiting list for

membership," he said. "We currently have 17 openings."

The additional station would also come in handy during weather events, like the flooding last fall.

During the flooding, call volume doubled while access to the response area was halved because of the washout at Snow Hill Road, which took about a month to reopen to traffic. The fire company used an unorthodox, but all-too-familiar tactic for members to serve the area, despite limited access.

"We stationed a truck and an ambulance at my parents' house and had personnel there," Heiser said.

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Deadline extended on equal protection claim

Attorneys for Town of Berlin, Shockley continue to have talks on settlement, lawsuit

By Josh Davis

Associate Editor

(Jan. 19, 2017) The deadline to settle an alleged equal protection claim against the Town of Berlin has been pushed to the end of the month.

Luke Rommel, a Salisbury attorney representing complainant Ronshell Shockley, said talks are continuing with an attorney for the town's insurance company. A Jan. 15 deadline had been set on whether to file a case in federal court.

Shockley contends she was forced to leave a public park – under threat of arrest – after an officer with the Berlin Police Department found her sitting on top of a picnic table at William Henry Park on June 30. Shockley is African-American and the

officer was white.

"We had a fairly good discussion with the attorney handling the case on Friday," Rommel said. "In light of that, we've agreed to wait until the end of the month to see if the case could be resolved."

Rommel said both sides have presented settlement offers.

"There's a lot of work to be done to compromise and get a number that works for both sides, but hopefully we can get there,"

he said. "The alternative probably would be two or three years of federal litigation."

Shockley had sought an apology from either the police department or the town, but Rommel said that would not be a part of any settlement

deal.

"Initially, the client was just looking for an apology – that never happened," he said. "An apology at this point – we would have no assurance that it was sincere. It is about a dollar

amount, and it's not a lot of money that we're looking for by any means, but the litigation process at the end of the day is just about money.

"There's no other thing the court can do or a jury can do. It's not like they can

discipline the officer or change the system – money is the only way to resolve the grievance."

Rommel said his client believes the incident was racially motivated.

"I've never been the victim of any sort of racism, so I don't really know

exactly how that feels," he said. "I know that it feels like racism to her. Whether the town admits that or does something less than admit that, she doesn't want to be told she's dry when she's wet, so to speak."

When he first heard the story, Rommel said, his first question was "and then what happened?"

"[I was] thinking that she would have been getting into the arrest or something much more damaging, and that never happened," he said. "But the more I thought about it, the second time she told the story [he thought] 'I kind of get this.' I can see why she's pretty upset about it."

"There's a little bit of a scale-tipping component to it where she's just kind of fed up with this stuff," Rommel added. "And I kind of get that, even though I'd never experienced it first-hand."

Town officials declined to comment.

'It's not like they can discipline the officer or change the system – money is the only way to resolve the grievance.'

Luke Rommel

Fazzalaro fired: Pines IT guy lasts one month

Herrick hopeful applicants from previous search could still help fill tech position

By Josh Davis

Associate Editor

(Jan. 19, 2017) After only about a month on the job, Ocean Pines has parted ways with its network administrator, Paul Fazzalaro.

Board President Tom Herrick, last Friday, confirmed Fazzalaro "didn't work out."

"He didn't fulfill our needs and it was unfortunate, but it does happen," he said.

The association has struggled to fill that position for several years, often budgeting for, but not hiring an

information technology specialist. Herrick, however, was optimistic a replacement could be found and said that could be aided by an IT workgroup formed last fall.

"Thank God we have that committee, because that committee is doing a great job assessing what we need and where we need to go in the future," Herrick said.

"We have a lot of people in this community that have a lot of different intelligences in different fields, and it's nice to be able to tap into that. It's great to be able to do that, and it's great that they're willing to volunteer."

Herrick said there could be several qualified applicants left over from the previous search who could fulfill the

role, and that the workgroup and interim General Manager Brett Hill were looking into it.

"It's a position that we have a need for," Herrick said.

Hill announced the hiring of Fazzalaro during a public meeting on Dec. 5, noting that he came from Tennessee and had family in West Ocean City.

"I think he brings a very valuable skillset that's really going to be a great asset to us," Hill said at the time.

According to a press release issued last month, Fazzalaro was previously the deputy director of IT operations and a senior project manager at the Tennessee Department of Children's Services.



Paul Fazzalaro

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OPA anniversary committee tackles 'elephant'

Group initially struggled without support from Pines brass; situation improving

By Josh Davis

Associate Editor

(Jan. 19, 2017) The bulk of the second-ever meeting of the Ocean Pines Association 50th Anniversary Committee was devoted to what one member called "the elephant in the room" – an apparent lack of support from association leadership.

According to Executive Assistant Michelle Bennett, the initial rezoning that established Ocean Pines was approved in June 1968, and the marketing campaign for the association kicked off on July 12, 1968.

A volunteer committee was formed late last year to plan a series

of celebrations in 2018, and that group had apparently asked for assistance from Ocean Pines staff. Interim General Manager Brett Hill, however, denied that request in an email exchange and committee chairs Mike and Cathy Sabine promptly stepped down.

Last Wednesday, only days later, both were in attendance during the meeting, when the membership attempted to do damage control.

"I gathered from the email we received that once we have a plan and once we have a budget and once we know where we're going, we will have staff support," committee member Jenny Cropper-Rines said.

Director Slobodan Trendic, the board liaison to the group, admitted what he called a "slight setback" and said the confusion had occurred be-

cause advisory committees in Ocean Pines are, traditionally, not permitted to communicate directly with staff. This body, he said, was different.

"The committee is being treated like any other committee in terms of how the staff is being used," he said. "I exchanged messages with the GM and Tom [Herrick], who is the president of the board, and I expressed my disagreement with their take on this."

"What I basically told them is that you're just in the process of getting all this together and you need to be looked at differently from other, regular committees."

Cathy Sabine, who has lived in Ocean Pines for almost four decades, said she was surprised by the apparent snub.

"I took it as no support," she said. "Being a resident for 37-38 years and

doing as much as we used to do in the past, I was really taken aback – and I was hurt."

Peer pressure and some soul searching, she said, brought her and Mike back to the fold. The couple had previously planned successful events that marked the 25th anniversary of Ocean Pines.

"I never wanted to be a quitter of anything and always raised my kids never to be quitters. This is the first time I'd ever stepped down from anything," Cathy said.

According to Mike, Herrick reached out to him by phone after the email exchange, with Trendic playing the role of mediator.

"Even though I didn't like the answer I tried to be as diplomatic as possible," Trendic said. "I communicated back with Tom and Brett formally via emails, expressing a strong difference of opinion and saying why I felt that way – and I haven't given up. I really think, truthfully, this should've never happened. And I'm glad that Mike and Cathy are back."

"The reason I volunteered to be a part of this committee is I really felt it was going to be a lot of fun – and I still do," Trendic added. "This is just an unfortunate thing and I am sure that if any of us could undo it we would."

He said he believed both Hill and Herrick were 100 percent behind the volunteers.

"What I plan to do at the next board meeting is to bring this up so the full board is aware that you need extra help – we can't treat you the way we have treated every other committee. It's just not right," Trendic said.

Along with philosophical support and staff assistance, committee member and former director Sharyn O'Hare said the committee would need some seed money from the association. O'Hare chaired the 35th anniversary committee and was able to turn a \$5,000 investment into a more than \$20,000 profit.

That money would later be used to build a community playground and to help establish the Worcester County Veteran's Memorial in Ocean Pines.

"There's something positive that comes out of these committees," O'Hare said. "It's not just the events. It doesn't mean that this committee will make a profit, but it could ... be something special."

The committee discussed five potential events with tentative dates: a sign ceremony and kick-off party on Jan. 27, 2018; a parade on May 12, 2018; a golf tournament in June 2018; a time-capsule unveiling on Aug. 11, 2018 and a winter ball in November 2018.

Trendic and at least one member of the committee plan to present that schedule to the board during a work session on Monday, Jan. 23, and to request \$10,000 in seed money.

The committee will meet again on Monday, Feb. 6 at 9 a.m.



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Dorman forms Property Reuse Cmte.

By **Brian Gilliland**

Associate Editor

(Jan. 19, 2017) In late 2015, Snow Hill began a program where the town would turn over eligible buildings to its occupants once certain renovations and conditions were met.

The first takers were Richard and Debbie Seaton, who are in the process of relocating their Berlin shop, Toy Town, to the former Outten Theater at the corner of Washington and Market streets. To complete this process, the Seatons signed a memorandum of understanding with the town after negotiations with Michael Day, the economic development coordinator.

Mayor Charlie Dorman has now formed a five-member Property

Reuse Committee to take over that negotiation process. Any agreement between the committee and the interested parties would still need to be ratified by the mayor and council, Dorman said.

During the council's regular meeting last week, Dorman named the five members of the committee, whose nominations were accepted by council members Michael Pruitt and Jenny Hall. Councilwoman Alison Cook was absent.

The members are Ron Geese, Randy Coates, Jan King, Sylvester Dale and Ed Phillips, and they will serve five-year terms, Dorman said.

"It's a wide variety of people, so they'll have lots of ideas and a lawyer to make sure they do it right," Dorman said.

man said. Coates is an attorney.

Of concern to the committee at this time, Dorman said, were the Oscar Purnell house, which was granted to the town from the county, and another property on Willow Street.

The committee will begin formulating rules next week, he said, and should have a set of basic rules to present to the council in 30-45 days. After that, the committee will meet as necessary, Dorman said.

Dorman said board membership is closed and would not increase from the five members he appointed himself.

"These are people who live in historic homes and have been in town a long time," he said.

After prom, SDHS students can go to 'Under The Big Top'

(Jan. 19, 2017) Stephen Decatur High School's After-Prom event will be held on May 13, from 10 p.m. to 3 a.m.

This free event for juniors and seniors of SDHS and their dates will be held at the Berlin high school and take place in the cafeteria, gyms and numerous hallways. This year's theme is "Under The Big Top."

After-Prom keeps teens safe on prom night. Junior and senior students do not have to attend prom to come to the After-Prom event, which will feature huge inflatables, tons of games, a simulated casino, fake-tattoo artist, money grab machine, music, photo ops and trivia.

Feeding more than 500 hungry teenagers for five hours takes an enormous amount of food, so there will be a buffet open all night. It will include an array of food donated by area restaurants including pizza, sandwiches, chips, veggies and dip, along with an ice cream sundae bar, donuts and coffee. Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD) will provide frozen "mocktails."

With almost 150 volunteers, concerned parents and the generous donations from parents and community businesses, this event has been offered every year since 1995.

After-Prom costs between \$15,000 and \$20,000 to implement each year. It is not funded by the Board of Education or the school. Any monetary donations from parents, businesses and community groups would be greatly appreciated and can be mailed to: Stephen Decatur High School, 9913 Seahawk Rd., Berlin, Maryland 21811 to the attention of After-Prom with "After-Prom" in the memo.

Donations of prizes or food from businesses are also welcome. Email sdhsap@gmail.com. Contributors will be recognized in local newspaper ads.

Volunteers are still needed. With Mother's Day and Relay For Life sharing the weekend of May 13, the volunteer pool is a little thin. For more information, find "Stephen Decatur High After Prom" on Facebook or email sdhsap@gmail.com.

Wor-Wic announces Worcester grads

(Jan. 19, 2017) The following students from Worcester County completed their program requirements to graduate with a certificate (CT), associate of applied science (AAS), associate of arts in teaching (AAT), associate of science (AS) or associate of arts (AA) degree from Wor-Wic Community College this past summer.

Berlin: Asiya Abdrakhmanova, AA, Business; Zachary Bounds, AA, General Studies; Morgan Brown, CT, Nursing; Lauren Buckman, AA, General Studies; Kelly Renae Clary, AA, Business; Timothy J. Coyle, AAS, Computer Studies; Michelle Lynn Craig, AAS, Occupational Therapy Assistant; Trent Crame, AA, General Studies; Christopher Alan Denny Jr., CT, Criminal Justice; Nathan Alan Denny, CT, Criminal Justice; Logan Brooke Duncan, CT, Nursing; Elizabeth Espinoza Fonseca, AAT, Education; Allyson M. Grinnan, AS, Nursing; the late Jill Jenkins, AAS, Office Technology; Brooke E. Johnson, AAS, Office Technology; Kirsten Elizabeth Jones, CT, Nursing; Cory Lee King, CT, Nursing; Rachel Arlene LaBrunda, AA, General Studies; Stacey M. Landrie, AAS, Chemical

Dependency Counseling; Kayla L. Lantz, AAT, Education; Brittany Nicole Mumford, CT, Nursing; Megan A. Newcomer, AS, Nursing; Alana Purnell, AAS, Criminal Justice; Krasimira N. Purnell, CT, Nursing; Bobbi Sue Sadler, AS, Nursing; Danielle Louise Sanders, AS, Nursing; Amber Nicole Shaffer, AAS, Chemical Dependency Counseling; William G. Shea, CT, Emergency Medical Services; Kristina L. Smith, AS, Nursing; Abigail Taylor, AAS, Education; Arielle L. Toulotte, AS, Nursing; and Krista Young, CT, Nursing.

Bishopville: Jessica Anne Collins, AAS, Criminal Justice; Rita Sue Godfrey, AS, Nursing; Nate Langan, AS, Science; Christian J. Rodden, AAS, Criminal Justice; and Gabriella Thompson-Riviere, AAS, Hotel-Motel-Restaurant Management.

Newark: Brandi Sierra Rush, CT, Nursing; and William Daniel Tyndall, AAS, Emergency Medical Services.

Ocean City: Kiley Cooke, AA, General Studies; Dragana Donovic, AAS, Hotel-Motel-Restaurant Management; Jennifer Lee Hetherington, CT, Nursing; Catherine Marie Hunter, CT, Nursing; Monique Jeanne Maher, AAS, Occupational Therapy Assistant;

Jessica Anne Malicki, CT, Nursing; Alexis Reynolds, CT, Nursing; Bruss Jersey Saldana-Aldazabal, AAS, Hotel-Motel-Restaurant Management; Julia Kathryn Shockley, CT, Nursing; Anna Rae Smith, CT, Nursing; and Daniel Benjamin Townsend, AA, General Studies.

Pocomoke City: Nichole L. Adams, AS, Nursing; Ashley Lynn Blake, AAS, Chemical Dependency Counseling; Ryshaela Dionne Donaway, AAS, Office Technology; Tyler Forrest-Hill Gillespie, CT, Criminal Justice; Gabriel Lucas Holland, CT, Emergency Medical Services; Leah Rose Pettit, AAT, Education; Kiara Pinder, AS, Nursing; and Melissa Ann Webster, CT, Nursing.

Snow Hill: Jonathan Clark Adams, CT, Criminal Justice; Tennille M. Gear, AS, Nursing; Sara Howell, AA, General Studies; Claire Maria Klingenberg, CT, Nursing; April Danyielle Powell, AAS, Office Technology; Zachary J. Shenal, AA, General Studies; and Curtis A. Shockley, AAS, Computer Studies.

Stockton: Christine J. Kuhner, AA, General Studies.

Whaleyville: Samantha Lynn Burton, AA, Education.

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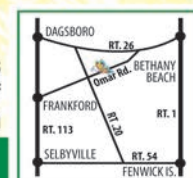
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Snapshots



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

STYLING AT SDHS

The Stephen Decatur High School PBIS (Positive Behavior Interventions and Support) program sponsored a Holiday Sweater Day to celebrate the season, and donning their best, from left, are teacher Courtney Bova, Assistant Principal Wynnette Handy, student Megan Corcoran, teacher Brenda Hommel and Assistant Principal Kathy Cater.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

SDHS NJROTC INSPECTION

The NJROTC program welcomed United States Navy Capt. Jim Daniels during its annual inspection on Dec. 20. The event, which combines a formal personnel inspection of uniforms and grooming with an evaluation of the understanding of Navy values, is designed to allow cadets to demonstrate what they have learned as a participant with the program. Capt. Daniels inspects Stephen Decatur High School student Lt. Commander John Revel.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

‘SANTA RUN’

Coastal Hospice volunteer and Santa, Gary Hutson, of Salisbury, visits with hospice patient Rex Gravenor in Salisbury during Coastal Hospice’s annual “Santa Run” in December. Coastal Hospice volunteers – dressed as Santa and elves – visited 164 patients in the four Lower Shore counties hospice serves, bringing fruit baskets, stuffed animals, warm blankets and holiday cheer.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

SDHS SUPPORTS BIT

Stephen Decatur High School National Honor Society raised funds for two months and made a donation of \$2,000 to Believe in Tomorrow. Wayne Littleton of Believe in Tomorrow, accepts the donation from students, from left, National Honor Society officer Bethany Williams, President Rodney Murray, Vice President Noah Shockley and Principal Tom Zimmer. Since 2005, the organization has donated nearly \$30,000 to Believe in Tomorrow.



PHOTO COURTESY JACK BARNES

OP ANGLERS CLUB AWARDS

During the final meeting of the year, the Ocean Pines Anglers Club presented awards to the 2016 fishing tournament winners. Tournament Chairman Tim Mullin recognized nine anglers for the largest catches during the year in 12 species of fish. Top anglers, from left, are John McFalls, 41.5-inch striped bass (tie), 11-inch croaker and 15-inch fresh water trout; Tom Nelson, 29.5-inch black drum; Frank Watkins, 41.5-inch striped bass (tie) and 18.5-inch black sea bass; Pat Connelly, 20.5-inch tautog; Rich Patschorke, 48-inch tuna; and Jake Eichler 17.5-inch large mouth bass. Not pictured: Budd Heim, 25.5-inch flounder and 17.5-inch red drum; Finn McCabe, 23.25-inch weakfish; and Kevin Welkner, 36-inch bluefish.



PHOTO COURTESY D.J. LANDIS, SR.

SWEET TREATS

During holidays like Christmas, Kiwanis Club President Barb Peletier, center, has traditionally prepared edible gifts for recipients of Meals On Wheels delivered from the Northern Worcester County Senior Center in Berlin. She is pictured with Kiwanis member Carolyn Dryzga, left, and Kiwanian Pat Winkelmayer.

Snapshots



PHOTO COURTESY D.J. LANDIS, SR.

KIWANIS TOY DRIVE

Pictured with a car full of toys donated by Kiwanis members and supported by some club funds are Co-Chair Tom Southwell, club President Barb Peletier and Chair Dave Landis, whose wife, Rita, also shopped for the toys. About \$700 worth of toys were delivered mostly to Worcester County G.O.L.D. in Snow Hill and some to Diakonia in West Ocean City for distribution to the children.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

HOLIDAY FESTIVITIES

Ocean Pines platform tennis celebrated the holiday season recently at the Yacht Club in Ocean Pines. More than 60 people attended the festivities. Pictured, from left, are holiday planning committee members Sue Walters, Dawn Gallick, Ardell McNult, Jane Simcock, Audrey Wahl and Tracy Jones.



LUNCH GATHERING

The Ocean Pines Pine'er Craft Club held its annual Holiday Luncheon on Dec. 15 at the Captain's Table Restaurant in Ocean City. New officers for the 2017 year were inducted. Pictured, from left, are Jane Wolnik, Barbara Stillwell, Louise Lassiter, Linda Brindley, Sharon Puser, Lois Schultz, Jackie Kollar and Carole Quinto.

PHOTO COURTESY BARBARA BOONE



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

INTO THE SPIRIT

Worcester Prep's 45th Christmas Bazaar on Dec. 4, was another successful fundraiser for future school and program updates. (Left) Jenna and Corey Hoch shop in the Festival of Trees and Wreaths with their children, Keller, and WPS second grader, Laney. (Right) Pictured, in back, from left, are Bakery Booth volunteers Tami Collins, Ingrid Poffenberger, Kim McCabe, Elise Mumford, Kara Krause and in front, WPS fifth grader Lebbey Becker.

Business Briefs

McNeill named CFRE

Coastal Hospice announces Maureen McNeill, director of development for the nonprofit organization, has been named a Certified Fund Raising Executive (CFRE) by CFRE International.



Maureen McNeill

McNeill has been with Coastal Hospice since 2007, where she directs fundraising activities, including the capital campaign to build Coastal Hospice at the Ocean. A graduate of Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C., she currently resides in Salisbury.

Individuals granted the CFRE credential have met a series of standards that include tenure in the profession, education, demonstrated fundraising achievement and a commitment of service to nonprofit organizations. They have also passed a rigorous written examination and have agreed to uphold Accountability Standards and the Donor Bill of Rights.

Founded in 1980, Coastal Hospice is a nonprofit health care organization that cares for individuals facing life-limiting conditions but who want to remain as active and engaged as possible.

Coastal Hospice cares for patients in their home, nursing home, assisted living facility or at Coastal Hospice at the Lake, and serves Somerset, Dorchester, Wicomico and Worcester counties.

Becker Morgan ranked

Building Design + Construction magazine ranked Becker Morgan Group 60th on the Giants 300 list of the Top Architecture/Engineering Firms nationwide. This report ranks leading firms in the nation's architecture, engineering and construction industry.

The firm was also ranked among the top architecture firms in numerous building sectors, including K-12 (48th), Healthcare (82nd), Sports Facility (25th), Multi-Family (76th), State Government (37th), Local Government (40th), Green Building (126th) and Data Center (10th).

Additionally, the firm ranked 85th on the Top BIM Architecture Firms for use of 3D Building Information Modeling (BIM) in project planning and design.

Becker Morgan Group provides architecture and engineering services with offices in Delaware, Maryland and North Carolina. For more information, visit www.beckermorgan.com.

Jones earns LCSW-C

Caitlin Jones, a social worker with Coastal Hospice since 2010, has earned her Licensed Clinical Social Worker – Clinical (LCSW-C) from the Association of Social Work Boards (ASWB).

To earn her LCSW-C, Jones performed at least 3,000 hours of supervised clinical social work experience in direct service to clients, and supervised in the assessment and formulation of diagnostic impressions. She also passed the required examination administered through the ASWB, the nonprofit association that tests a social worker's competence to practice ethically and safely.

Jones earned her BA and MSW from Salisbury University. Born in England and raised in Canada, she now resides in Salisbury with her husband and two children. She currently is a member of the Coastal Hospice Fair Winds team that services Worcester and Somerset counties.



Caitlin Jones

Bassett joins Harim

Allen Harim, a leading producer and processor of chicken on Delmarva, has named veteran communications expert Catherine M. Bassett as the new director of Public Relations to help share positive news about the company and oversee community relations.



Catherine Bassett

A graduate of George Washington University, Bassett began her career in Salisbury as a newspaper reporter for The Daily Times in 1989. She later served as communications director for Congressman Wayne T. Gilchrest (R-Maryland-1st), where she worked in Washington, Annapolis and later in the Salisbury District Office during her 16-year career.

She started her own public relations company in 2009, and has worked with a range of clients including Delmarva Power, the Ocean City Air Show, Maryland Capital Enterprises and the Delmarva Zoological Society.

She lives in Salisbury with her two children.

BOC welcomes Connelly

Reid Tingle, president & CEO of Bank of Ocean City along with the Board of Directors, welcomes Chief Risk Officer/VP, Edward Connelly, as the newest addition to their staff.



Edward Connelly

Connelly joins Bank of Ocean City with 29 years of banking experience. He is a CPA and graduate of the University of Baltimore and the Stonier Graduate School of Banking. He most recently

served as SVP chief operating officer at a community bank in Anne Arundel County.

Connelly is community minded, and has served as past chairman of the NAACCC Foundation, Inc., a 501(c) (3) formed to fund requests by teachers to help them teach, as well as past chairman of Maryland Bank Services.

He was involved with programs at Anne Arundel Community College, the Northern Anne Arundel County Chamber of Commerce and other local community events. He is looking forward to becoming an active volunteer in the Sussex/Worcester community.

Bank of Ocean City is a locally-owned, independent community bank. Established in 1916 and headquartered in West Ocean City, the bank has six offices; three in Ocean City, one in Ocean Pines, one in Berlin and its newest addition, in Fenwick Island, Delaware.

For more information, contact Tingle at the 59th Street office at 410-524-6144.

Jones joins EXIT

EXIT Realty At The Beach in Ocean Pines announces the addition of Karena Jones to its team of real estate professionals.



Karena Jones

Jones graduated from Fleet Business School in Annapolis in 1994 and she had the advantage of some online courses with Ashworth Career College in Georgia. She also completed the Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage Realty classes before obtaining her real estate license.

EXIT Realty is a by-invitation-only company focused on the business of real estate. EXIT's MIND-SET Training Systems offer the industry's best hands-on, interactive sales training. State-of-the-art technology, including geolocation Smart Signs™ provides innovative marketing solutions to home sellers and gives EXIT Realty agents the edge in a competitive marketplace.

A portion of every transaction fee collected by EXIT Realty Corp. International is applied to its charitable fund. To date, \$3.5 million has been pledged to Habitat for Humanity.

EXIT Realty At The Beach is located at 11002 Manklin Meadows Lane Suite 3. For more information, call 410-208-3948.

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Looking for a Local Event?

Check out

Our Calendar Pages

In the

OCToday and Bayside Gazette

Teachers encouraged to participate in competition

MAR Fair Housing Calendar Contest winner will travel to Annapolis to meet officials

(Jan. 19, 2017) The Coastal Association of Realtors (CAR) is encouraging local teachers to participate in the annual Fair Housing Calendar Contest, which sends the winning student to Annapolis for a meeting with the governor or other state official.

Sponsored by the Maryland Association of Realtors (MAR), the contest is a means for Realtors across the state to help increase awareness of this important issue.

“Fair housing” pertains to the Fair Housing Act, which prohibits discrimination in the sale and rental of housing based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, familial status or handicap. The contest aims to teach children that discrimination is not only wrong, but illegal.

Artwork submitted by students must illustrate this year’s calendar theme, “I ♥ Fair Housing.” CAR will choose a local winner from each of three counties: Somerset, Wicomico and Worcester. These winners will receive Visa gift cards, courtesy of CAR. Their entries will be forwarded to

MAR, who will choose one for inclusion in the 2017 statewide calendar. The winner will travel to Annapolis, where they will be honored along with 12 other students from across the state.

Contest packets have been mailed to the principals of public and private schools in Somerset, Wicomico and Worcester counties. Home schools, aftercare programs, churches and other children’s centers are encouraged to participate.

For a contest packet, contact Sarah Rayne, CAR Government and Public Affairs director, at 410-641-4409 or sarah@coastalrealtors.org. Deadline for submissions is Friday, Feb. 10.

Last year’s top local winner, whose entry is featured in the 2016 Fair Housing Calendar, was Lindsay Birkhead-Morton Snow Hill Middle School. Birkhead-Morton traveled to Annapolis in April for a recognition ceremony at the Maryland State House where she received a certificate and gift card from Ken Holt, secretary of the Department of Housing and Community Development.

Last year’s other local finalists were Ayati Sangwan of North Salisbury Elementary School and LaNazia Goeins of Princess Anne Elementary School.



JUST MARRIED
Marcus A. Swisher and Kristy M. O'Connor, both residents of Berlin, were married on Monday, Jan. 9, in Snow Hill.

PHOTO COURTESY MARCUS A. SWISHER



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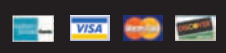


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Opinion

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

Heroin problem in Pines

The last thing anyone would have expected 49 years ago, when Ocean Pines came into existence, was that the community would find itself with a heroin problem. But that's what's happening, according to Police Chief Dave Massey, who said that this, one of the safest population centers in the state, saw 70 overdose cases in the last two years.

If that many overdoses don't qualify as a "problem" nothing does. Even more worrisome is that Ocean Pines is not the typical Eastern Shore community. It has no deep pockets of poverty, derelict neighborhoods or other areas that foster the growth of criminal elements, and that suggests the tragedy of heroin addiction, as a percentage of the population, is worse in other Worcester County towns.

As has been said numerous times in the past few years, opiate addiction is no longer the secretive habit of murky city dwellers who exist on the fringes of society. Neither is this affliction limited to the type of person you try not to see as he or she huddles near a steam vent in the city or sleeps on the landing at the subway station.

Those were city-type matters then and just didn't happen on the Eastern Shore, where no one would ever have entertained the notion of sticking a needle into him or herself to get high.

That, obviously, has changed, as people here gravitate toward heroin as a substitute for the more expensive prescription pain pills they might have encountered in the medicine cabinet at home, or were introduced to by a "friend."

As Chief Massey is aware, heroin addiction is not a problem the police will solve alone. They can only respond to reports of illegal drug-related behavior; they can't necessarily prevent an individual from slipping into that abyss.

Public education and public awareness play big roles in that regard, beginning with being sure those prescription pain pills are secure at home, insisting on knowing who family members associate with, and being ready to intervene if friends or family members begin to exhibit risky behavior.

Heroin addiction is no longer someone else's trouble. It's everyone's concern and everyone needs to help stop its spread.



Letters

In response to Jan. 5 campground story

Editor,

Anyone who hears someone say a development will have "no runoff" should be extremely suspicious. Without denigrating Mr. Cropper's credentials as the representative of the proposed site's developers, there is no way any such development will not have runoff.

Even if it is into existing ponds, that water and the dissolved ingredients will impact the local waterways and aquifers. He can check with any Maryland farmer who has to regulate the type and amount of fertilizer placed on their fields no matter how far from a water body.

Next, keep in mind that the original zoning development plans for the property was E-1 or five or six mini-estate properties. If he believes that customers visiting and staying at over 300 campsites will have less impact than these estates, well, I have a bridge in Brooklyn to sell him.

He should also note that the existing golf course has not been in use for over ten years and appears to have not harmed the environment while sitting there unused. In fact, he should also note that as a member of Lower Shore Land Trust there is an adjacent property set up for limited development that is doing quite well.

Has his developer thought of putting it under this type of positive environmental protection? It is an excellent program. Some may also question why no one uses the golf course. Wasn't it profitable?

I should note that I have kayaked Ayers Creek for years, even going up the canals adjacent to the proposed development. It is a pristine environment with loads of wildlife. It is quite easy to put over on the causeway along Route 376 to kayak the Creek.

I ignored the "No Trespassing" sign they had on the wooden bridge over the canals. As Mr. Cropper knows, no one can be caught 'trespassing' on a public water body. I have seen bald eagles on some of my trips and numerous ducks on others.

I know it is Mr. Cropper's job to paint a rosy picture of this proposed development. But surely he knows that the impact of over 300 campsites on the sewer infrastructure will be massive. And costly.

Does he expect local residents to willingly pay large sums of money to connect to this system no matter what? Surely he knows about the new Best Management Practices required for septic systems. If not, I can show him as I was required to put it in on my residential property. Just the huge numbers of people flushing into his proposed development will create a much greater impact on the environment than he seems to recognize.

Finally, regarding the safety issue, let me assure Mr. Cropper that Route 611 (and Castaways) is heavily used during the summer. But he would know that since he is proposing to put a profitable campground on that road. He knows customers will drive large caravans to and from his operation using 611 and adjacent roads. I can tell you from personal experience that the road is dangerous.

My accident last summer occurred across from Mystic Harbor entrance when someone unfamiliar with the road pulled out into 611. The county and state roads had not placed a white warning stripe in the side road for those unfamiliar with the road to know where to stop. It was just an accident but trust me, the traffic is very heavy on Route 611.

Regarding Mr. Cropper's uncalled for comment that local residents are "just selfish," I would only ask him one question. Why do he and his patrons want to put a large campground at this location? Could it be that they saw where Castaways and Frontier Town campgrounds were sold to a large out-of-state conglomerates for tens of millions of dollars? Are Mr. Cropper and his patrons being selfish? Don't leave it as a park. Develop it as was called for a long time ago. Estates.

Tom Wieland
Bishopville

BAYSIDE



GAZETTE

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AGH cuts ribbon on new surgical office in Barrett building

(Jan. 19, 2017) Atlantic General Hospital and Health System recently held an open house at the new location for its Surgical Associates and Bariatric Center offices in the James G. Barrett Medical Office Building in Berlin.

Atlantic General Surgical Associates and the Atlantic General Bariatric Center provide advanced minimally invasive surgical procedures performed by board certified doctors including bariatric, oncology and vascular surgeries.

The bariatric center is led by Alae Zarif, MD, who performs gastric bypass and gastric sleeve procedures for Atlantic General Bariatric Center and general surgeries. Zarif is certified by the American Board of Surgery and performs multiple advanced laparoscopic procedures.

Xin Zhong, M.D. recently joined Atlantic General Surgical Associates and the staff of Atlantic General Bariatric Center from North Shore University Hospital in Manhasset, New York, where she completed a minimally invasive surgery fellowship in robotic and bariatric procedures.

She is a fellow of the American College of Surgeons and specializes in advanced laparoscopic procedures, hiatal hernias, complex abdominal wall hernias and bariatrics.

Meshach Heenatigala, M.D. recently joined Atlantic General Surgical Associates from York Hospital in York, Pennsylvania, where he completed a rural track surgical residency.

Heenatigala is a member of the Society of American Gastrointestinal and Endoscopic Surgeons, the American College of Phlebology and a fellow of the American College of Surgeons.

He specializes in surgical procedures involving the head and neck, thoracic, breast, skin/melanoma, abdominal, colorectal, endoscopy, vascular/veins, carpal tunnel anal incontinence.

Angela Simmons, CBN, CRNP is a seasoned nurse of 15 years. She is credentialed as a Family Nurse Practitioner through the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners and is a certified bariatric nurse.

Simmons has worked with surgical patients for the past six years and serves as the program coordinator for Atlantic General Bariatric Center.

More information about Atlantic General Surgical Associates can be found at www.atlanticgeneral.org/surgicalassociates.

Information about Atlantic General Bariatric Center can be found at www.atlanticgeneral.org/bariatrics.

AGH has been providing quality health care to residents of Maryland and Delaware since May 1993.

Built by the commitment and generosity of a dedicated community, the hospital's state-of-the-art facility in Berlin combines old-fashioned personal attention with the latest in technology and services.

It provides quality specialty care such as weight loss surgery, orthopedics, outpatient infusion and chemotherapy for individuals with cancer or blood/autoimmune disorders, and a comprehensive women's diagnostic center.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Atlantic General Hospital and Health System recently held an open house at the new location for its Surgical Associates and Bariatric Center offices in the James G. Barrett Medical Office Building in Berlin. Pictured, from left, are Todd Ferrante, chair of the Atlantic General Hospital Foundation; Meshach Heenatigala, MD; Honorable Charlotte Cathell; Xin Zhong, MD; Michael Franklin, president and CEO of Atlantic General Hospital; Lou Taylor; chair of the Atlantic General Hospital Board of Trustees; Alae Zarif, MD; Angela Simmons, CRNP; Krystle Lewis; Cheryl Aydelotte; Amy Gehrig; Daniel Hakeem, PA-C; and Michael Cyle, Atlantic General Hospital Foundation member.

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Worcester County Education Grant Award recipients from Berlin Intermediate School, Pocomoke Middle School, Snow Hill Elementary School, Snow Hill High School, Snow Hill Middle School and Stephen Decatur High School pose for a photo.

CFES awards nearly \$60K in education grants

(Jan. 19, 2017) The Community Foundation of the Eastern Shore (CFES) honored Maryland Lower Shore schools and educators with \$59,919 in grants through the organi-

zation's 2016 Education Award Grants Program. Education awards are made annually in conjunction with National Education Week through a competitive

process to public and private schools on the lower Eastern Shore of Maryland. Grants are made to those schools that have developed innovative programs to be particularly beneficial to their students and communities.

"This awards program is the Community Foundation's principle vehicle for recognizing and rewarding those schools that are engaged in making a particularly creative contribution to the education of our children," said Erica Joseph, CFES president. "These awards highlight truly remarkable things our dedicated teachers and school administrators are accomplishing."

The following Worcester County schools received Education Award Grants for 2016 during ceremonies held at the Community Foundation of the Eastern Shore's Nonprofit Support Center in Salisbury:

- Berlin Intermediate School will purchase a google expedition virtual field trip kit for 20 students.
- Pocomoke Middle School will pilot an after-school journalism club that uses social media and photography.
- Snow Hill Elementary School will partner with many community organizations to create a pilot school-operated community garden.
- Snow Hill Elementary School will pilot a core language and writing program with dynamic communication devices. This will be done in partnership with Cedar Chapel Special School.
- Snow Hill Elementary School is going to implement a mindful social and emotional needs program.
- Snow Hill High School will enhance its theater programs and create two high school theater events.

- Snow Hill Middle School will pilot a personalized learning program (PLP) for sixth grade students.

- Stephen Decatur High School will improve its Seahawk Writing Center by creating a more formalized training program for writing lab tutors

The Community Foundation honored three literacy programs with the Mary Gay Calcott Award of Excellence. The winning schools were Stephen Decatur High School, Wicomico Middle School and Bennett Middle School. In addition to the Calcott Award, these schools received grant funding from the Foundation's Mary Gay Calcott Memorial Fund.

The award is named for the late Mary Gay Calcott, a professor of English at Salisbury University whose life embodied her ideals of teaching students to think, to express themselves with clarity and to care about the world they live in. To date, the Mary Gay Calcott Memorial Fund has awarded \$10,500 to area public schools.

As leaders, grant makers and stewards of philanthropy, The Community Foundation of the Eastern Shore serves the common good of the Lower Eastern Shore. CFES is a 501c3 nonprofit with an inspiring history of fostering charitable endeavors, and has provided more than \$60 million in grants and scholarships to the local community since 1984.

CFES collaborates with individuals, families and businesses to match their charitable interests with community needs and strengthen local nonprofits through grants and resources. CFES is devoted to improving the regional community and believes in people helping one another to provide positive impact. Visit CFES.org or call 410-742-9911.

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www.bourbonstreetonthebeach.com
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Jan. 25: Open Mic, 8-11 p.m.
Jan. 26: Chris Button, 7-10 p.m.

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Jan. 20: DJ Billy T, 4 p.m.
Jan. 21: Simple Truth/Side Project, 2-6 p.m.; DJ Jeremy T, 8 p.m.
Jan. 22: Opposite Directions, 2-6 p.m.; DJ Billy T, 6:30 p.m.
Jan. 25: Karaoke w/DJ Jeremy
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Cuisine

The Clash, Minor Threat, and smoked fish

There was something very special and exciting about growing up in the mid-80s in Annapolis. I played piano as a kid, and studied at Peabody Prep for a few years, but once I realized that I was never destined to play Carnegie Hall (I hated all of those Czerny exercises and the hours of concentration that a career in serious music would entail), I turned to a louder, faster and crazier music.



By Paul Suplee,
MBA, CEC, PC-3

Hardly will you find a better time to have been in the scene in the Annapolis/Baltimore/DC triangle. We were second generation punks, and while we relished tunes by The Stooges, Sex Pistols, The Clash and the like, our standbys were bands such as Minor Threat, Government Issue, Bad Brains, Black Flag, SOA, Teen Idles et al. Local bands included The Spastic Rats, The Hated and more, and we regularly attended concerts at skating rinks, local community colleges or bars in town or in DC.

The music was intentionally loud, fierce and disruptive. Later turning our interests to SoCal-style bands such as Social Distortion, we were in our heyday, touring as much of the mid-Atlantic as we could to soak in another set by The Ramones, The Dickies or Bad Religion. If nothing else, they were wild times and I'm sure that my parents must have been having fits about it. In hindsight, though, my parents had pretty much already hit the road by the time I hit my teen years, so maybe they were blessed not to have known too many of our doings. I guess we'll never know.

During this time, I was already entrenched in the restaurant scene in Nap Town, having worked at the Chart House, Griffin's, McGarvey's, Dimitri's and Riordan's so I was used to the late nights and the mayhem. The music just seemed to fit right in with the lifestyle at the time.

It was also around this time that I was introduced to Southern Pride Smokers at Key West Shipping Company, a unique if nothing else restaurant perched on the second floor at the base of Main Street. We smoked so much food in that place, it was staggering. And the three fish that we smoked more than any were trout, salmon and bluefish. Thirty-some years ago, not too much good food (note that I wrote 'good') was coming out of bags and freezer boxes, so just about everything was from scratch. There simply was no substitute.

The brine that I learned to make then is the basis for what I do now, and it's a standard ratio of one gallon of water to one cup of salt. From there, you can throw in sugar, herbs, spices, fruits and the kitchen sink if you like. That's up to you. But just make sure that you start with the ratio and go from there. Pay attention to the brining times, and do some research and experimentation as many grillers, smokers and BBQ champs vary greatly in opinion. Just try a batch, and try again if it's not perfect. If it happens to be perfect, for god's sake write it down.

Now that I'm shortly approaching 50 (I still have one more year), I get odd looks as I take my own kids to shows in bars, concert halls and arenas in the region. Every year they get one big concert for straight-A's and then we usually have a show every



month or so thrown in for good measure. But, my sweet little ones like it when I don't stay with them. I'm still Dad, and that can never be cool.

I relish in wearing my 9:30 Club lanyard at work and enjoy a good, youthful t-shirt; I find them all good for the soul. But more than anything, I like that they, just like this smoked salmon, can transport me back thirty-five years as though it were yesterday.

Smoked Salmon

for 2 sides of salmon

2 sides fresh salmon, skin-on
1 gallon brine (recipe follows)
Wood chips (cedar and alder are great)

1. Combine all ingredients for the brine, and submerge salmon completely
2. Refrigerate and allow to brine (notice that it's a noun and a verb; cool word) for no more than 6 hours. You can go longer with a dry rub, but if you go too long with a brine, you will end up with cured salmon as opposed to smoked
3. Remove from brine and pat dry. Air on a rack, refrigerated overnight or for at least four or five hours until a pellicle or tacky surface forms
4. Preheat your smoker and smoke the salmon using whichever chips or chunks your heart de-

sires. Mind your wood (hickory, mesquite et al since they can overpower the fish)

5. When smoked, retire to the refrigerator to cool and air out (do not cover). The fish typically tastes acrid at this point. Airing it out will mellow the flavors and get rid of the "cigarette" taste

6. When cool, serve with fresh fruit, horseradish sauce, chopped onions, hardboiled eggs or whatever suits your fancy

Brine

makes a little over 1 gallon

- 1 gallon water
1 cup Kosher salt
1/2 cup Brown sugar
1 orange, halved
1 lemon, halved
Handful of herbs, such as dill, parsley, thyme (not too much thyme, though)
1/4 cup black peppercorns
1. Combine all ingredients until salt and sugar are dissolved
 2. Set aside until ready to use

— Paul G. Suplee is an Associate Professor of Culinary Arts at Wor-Wic Community College. Find his ePortfolio at www.heartofakitchen.com.

Puzzles



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HARD - 21

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.

		3					4	
	6		8	9				
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				5	2		8	
	3					2		

Answers to last week's puzzles

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

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S	A	G				O	T	R	A		G	A	D	S		E	T	E	S		

GRAMMAR LESSON
BY JOEL FAGLIANO / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

ACROSS	55 Behave	101 Japanese soup	12 Makes fizzy
1 Kind of kick	56 ____ of reality	102 Specimen, for example: Abbr.	13 Network standard for smartphones, for short
8 Product of evaporation	57 Admitted (to)	103 Jailhouse?	14 Recipe abbr.
15 Apple product	59 Jacket material	108 Prohibitionists	15 Time to go home
20 Keep in	60 Percolate	110 Craggy peak	16 Skinny
21 Brunch-menu heading	62 The "kid" in "Here's looking at you, kid"	111 Several CBS dramas	17 Truck driver?
22 Parts of college courses	64 Kia model	112 Short, for short	18 And so on: Abbr.
23 Sources of stress for many modern workers	65 Common flower that's poisonous to eat	113 The Prada that one really wants?	19 Alphabet string
24 Utopia?	66 Santa's nieces and nephews?	118 Part of a postal address for a G.M. plant	25 Panegyric
26 Part of the Dept. of Transportation	71 Indiana Jones trademark	121 Thomas of the N.B.A.	28 Boater's wear
27 Channel buildup	74 ____ department	122 ____ Aquino, Time's Woman of the Year in 1986	32 Is off
29 Packers' grp.?	75 Uber-owned company that makes self-driving trucks	123 With 113-Down, product of flax	33 Foul-smelling
30 Old tabloid fodder	76 Agreement	124 Miners' aids	34 Set of principles
31 Piece still under consideration for a magazine?	80 Result of a year-end review, maybe	125 Women's fashion magazine	35 "Will ya look at that!"
37 Org. concerned with water quality	81 "That so?"	126 Warning before lunging	36 Kind of computing
40 Balsa or balsam	84 Also-ran for the golden apple, in myth		38 Foe of the Cheyenne
41 Budgetary excess	86 "I don't reckon"	DOWN	39 Something set in a meeting
42 Signal meaning "no disease on this ship"	87 Home to Weber State University	1 Genre for TV's "Stranger Things"	43 Insect that spends its larval stage inside a fruit
44 Hurt sharply	88 Obama's signature health law, for short	2 First name in late-night	44 Hot tubs
46 Workers in some labs, informally	89 Like shoppers worrying about getting the right gift?	3 Unseemly	45 Knight club
48 Interminable task	92 ____ pad	4 W. Coast air hub	46 Car company that owns SolarCity
49 "____ Must Die" (Claude McKay poem)	93 Top	5 When tripled, symbol of evil	47 Golfer's need
50 "Village" newspaper that's nambly-pamby?	95 Scheduled to arrive	6 Toddler garment	51 "There it is!"
53 Bull's urging	96 Like kitsch	7 Amber, e.g.	52 Grand
54 Fashion guru Tim	97 Fleet for many a commuter airline	8 Hand-held dish that doesn't crunch	58 Source for "Book of the Marvels of the World," circa 1300
	100 Doctor's orders, for short	9 Outback animal	59 Chinese philosopher Mo-____
		10 Blue Cross competitor	61 Part of a club selling clubs
		11 Muddy mixture	63 Well ventilated
			65 After ____ (to some extent)
			67 'Fore
			68 HBO political satire

1	2	3	4	5	6	7		8	9	10	11	12	13	14		15	16	17	18	19
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113	114						115	116				117			118		119	120		
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124							125								126					

69 Non-prophet group?	79 Not we	94 Almost falls	114 Troop grp.
70 Sch. in Knoxville	81 "That deep, blue, bottomless soul," per Melville	98 Amps, with "up"	115 Roll call response in une école
71 Dowdies	82 Lacks	99 Vehicle at a ski resort	116 Wernher ____ Braun
72 Cafe	83 Part of un jour	101 Light cotton fabric	117 Scale note
73 Nickname for a Gilded Age businessman with a penchant for jewelry	85 Ghost story?	104 Wild	119 Dutch financial giant
77 "In Trump We Trust" author, 2016	88 Most fit	105 Long arm	120 Govt. org. that offers a monthly "Puzzle Periodical"
78 Distillery item	90 Awkward time at family movie night	106 Covered in frost	
	91 New York City's ____ River	107 Pass over	
		109 Gather	
		113 See 123-Across	

Calendar

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

THU, JAN. 19

PINE'EER CRAFT CLUB MEETING
Ocean Pines Community Center, 235 Ocean Parkway, Ocean Pines, MD, 9:45 a.m. Refreshments will be served at 9:45 a.m., meeting begins at 10 a.m. Following meeting discussion for activities for 2017. Guests welcome. Sharon, 410-208-3032

STORY TIME
Snow Hill library, 307 N. Washington St., Snow Hill, MD, 10:30 a.m. For 2 to 5 year old children. 410-632-3495, <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

YOUNG AND RESTLESS 'PAINTING FUN'
Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, Ocean Pines, MD, 10:30 a.m. For 3 to 7 year old children. 410-208-4014, <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

COASTAL HOSPICE GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP
Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, Ocean Pines, MD, 11 a.m. The group meets every Thursday. Free and open to anyone who has lost a loved one, not just Coastal Hospice families. 410-251-8163

BEACH SINGLES
Harpoon Hanna's, 39064 Harpoon Road, Fenwick Island, DE, 4 to 7 p.m. Every Thursday, Beach Singles 45-Plus meets for happy hour. Arlene or Kate, 302-436-9577 or 410-524-0649

TEEN ADVISORY GROUP
Berlin library, 220 N. Main St. Berlin,

MD, 4 p.m. Join the Teen Advisory Group to help plan teen programs and events. For 12 to 18 year olds. 410-641-0650, <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

'WORKING MAGIC WITH WORDS' FREE SEMINAR
Ocean City Center for the Arts, 502 94th St., Ocean City, MD, 5 to 7 p.m. Connie Hall will present this free seminar for adults and teens 16 and older. Hall, who has mentored budding local writers for many years, will engage students in a close study of prose, poetry and creative non-fiction. Preregistration is suggested by calling 410-524-9433. <http://www.artleagueofoceancity.org>

FRI, JAN. 20

FREE INTRODUCTORY PICKLEBALL CLINIC AND FREE WEEK
Ocean Pines Community Center, 235 Ocean Parkway, Ocean Pines, MD, 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. Free pickleball clinic for brand new players. Open to the public. Registration is required by calling or stopping by the community center's front desk by the day before. Participants can also register for a free week of pickleball starting the day of the clinic. 410-641-7052

STEAM PM
Pocomoke library, 301 Market St., Pocomoke City, MD, 3:30 p.m. Science, technology, engineering and math activities. For children 8 years and older. 410-957-0878,

<http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS BINGO
Columbus Hall (behind St. Luke's Church), 9901 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, MD, 6:30 p.m. Held each Friday night. Doors open at 5 p.m., games begin at 6:30 p.m. Refreshments for sale. 410-524-7994

SAT, JAN. 21

FARMERS MARKET
White Horse Park, 239 Ocean Parkway, Ocean Pines, MD, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Held every Saturday. Locally grown vegetables and fruits, eggs, honey, kettle corn, flowers, artisan breads, seafood, meats and more. New vendors welcome. 410-641-7717, Ext. 3006

WINTER WATERMEN'S FESTIVAL
Delmarva Discover Center & Museum, 2 Market St., Pocomoke City, MD, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. This family-friendly event will feature demonstrations, interactive exhibits, children's activities, local seafood and round-table discussions. Children can help make a bamboo raft for Mac & Tuck, the museum's North American River Otters. Members are admitted free, \$10 for adults and \$5 for children. contact@DelmarvaDiscoveryCenter.org, 410-957-9933, <http://www.DelmarvaDiscoveryCenter.org>

ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT FRIED CHICKEN DINNER
New Hope United Methodist Church, 7338 New Hope Road, Willards, MD,

11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Menu includes mashed potatoes, greens, string beans, macaroni and cheese, beets, biscuits, dessert and coffee. Cost is \$13 for adults. Carry-outs available. 410-543-8244 or 443-235-0251

12TH ANNUAL 'BASKETS AND MORE!' BINGO NIGHT
Stephen Decatur High School Cafeteria, 9913 Seahawk Road, Berlin, MD 21811, 6 p.m. Doors open at 5 p.m. Game prizes include Longaberger Baskets, Pampered Chef, Vera Bradley and more. There will be a 50/50, raffle, special games and a Chinese auction. Food and beverages available for sale. Tickets cost \$20. Proceeds benefit the Quota International of Ocean City, Inc.'s scholarships and community projects. Call to reserve tickets. permitink@verizon.net, 410-603-1397

SUN, JAN. 22

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS
Atlantic General Hospital, Conference Room 2, 9733 Healthway Drive, Berlin, MD, 12 to 1 p.m. Group shares experience, strength and hope to help others. Open to the community and to AGH patients. Rob, 443-783-3529

MON, JAN. 23

'SNOWFLAKE MAKING'
Snow Hill library, 307 N. Washington St., Snow Hill, MD, 4 p.m. Make your own unique snowflakes and help deco-



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

WORCESTER PREP SGA FOOD DRIVE

From Nov. 30 to Dec. 16, more than 500 Worcester Prep students from Lower, Middle and Upper School collected canned goods, non-perishable food and monetary donations to purchase meat products for the annual Food Drive sponsored by the WPS Student Government Association. All donations were transported to seven distribution centers located in Maryland and Delaware. The following organizations received items: Diakonia, Inc., West Ocean City; Atlantic United Methodist Church, Ocean City; The Joseph House, Salisbury; St. Paul's United Methodist Church, Berlin; Berlin First Baptist Church, Berlin; Stevenson United Methodist Church Spirit Kitchen, Berlin; and The Seaford Community Food Closet, Seaford, Delaware.

Calendar

rate the library with them. For children ages 5 to 13 years. 410-632-3495, <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

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

DELMARVA SWEET ADELINE CHORUS
Ocean Pines Community Center, 239 Ocean Parkway, Ocean Pines, MD, 7 to 9 p.m. The group meets each Monday. Women interested in learning the craft of a cappella singing welcome. 410-641-6876

TUE, JAN. 24

SNOW HILL ROTARY CLUB MEETING
All Hallows Church Parish House, 109 W. Market Street, Snow Hill, MD, 7:30 a.m. Contact agibb1@verizon.net or 410-546-1978 for more information.

STORY YOGA
Pocomoke library, 301 Market St., Pocomoke City, MD, 10:30 a.m. Inspire your little ones to move and learn with interactive books that introduce them to yoga moves. For 3 to 5 year old children. 410-957-0878, <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

YOUNG AND RESTLESS 'PAINTING FUN'
Berlin library, 220 N. Main St. Berlin, MD, 10:30 a.m. For 3 to 7 year old children. 410-641-0650,

<http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

COAST GUARD OPEN HOUSE
Coast Guard Station Ocean City, 610 S. Philadelphia Ave., Ocean City, MD, 12 to 4 p.m. The open house will be held noon to 4 p.m. and from 5-8 p.m. Recruiters will be available to answer questions. uscgroatlanticcity@uscg.mil, 609-484-8260, <http://www.GoCoastGuard.com>

TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY MEETING
Worcester County Health Center, 9730 Healthway Drive, Berlin, MD, 5:30 to 7 p.m. Berlin group 331. TOPS is a support and educational group promoting weight loss and healthy lifestyle. It meets weekly. jeanduck47@gmail.com

BINGO
Pocomoke Elks Lodge 1624, 1944 Worcester Highway, Pocomoke City, MD, 7 p.m. Doors open at 6 p.m., early bingo at 7 p.m. and regular games start at 7:30 p.m. Food and non-alcoholic drinks available. Open to the public. 410-957-3556

MARYLAND SALTWATER SPORTFISHING ASSOCIATION'S ATLANTIC COAST CHAPTER MONTHLY MEETING
Ocean City Lions Den, 12534 Airport Road, Ocean City, MD 21842, 7:30 p.m. Guest speaker is Wes Pollett, who works on the vessel Morning Star with Capt. Monty Hawkins. Pollett will be speaking on a variety of fishing techniques and tackle. Public guests are welcome. Doors open at 7 p.m.

WED, JAN. 25

KIWANIS CLUB OF GREATER OCEAN

PINES/OCEAN CITY
Ocean Pines Community Center, 235 Ocean Parkway, Ocean Pines, MD, 8 a.m. Meets every Wednesday. Doors open at 7 a.m., meeting begins at 8 a.m. 410-641-7330, <http://www.kiwanisofpoc.org>

STORY TIME
Ocean City library, 10003 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, MD, 10:30 a.m. For 2 to 5 year old children. 410-524-1818, <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

FAMILY NIGHT - SECRET AGENTS
Berlin library, 220 N. Main St. Berlin, MD, 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. Pick a secret agent name, break a code, and hunt for clues. Drop in for the whole family. 410-641-0650, <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS SIMPLE SUPPER
Columbus Hall (behind St. Luke's Church), 9901 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, MD, 5 to 6:30 p.m. Takes place on the last Wednesday of each month. Cost is normally \$7 but will be reduced to \$5 for January. This month is soup, sandwiches, salad and dessert. Cash bar. 410-524-7994

DELMARVA HAND DANCE CLUB
Elks Lodge, 13708 Sinepuxent Ave., Ocean City, MD, 5:30 to 9 p.m. Jitterbug, swing, cha-cha to the sounds of the '50s, '60s and Carolina Beach music. Meets every Wednesday. dance@delmarvahanddancing.com, 302-200-3262, <http://delmarvahanddancing.com>

OCEAN CITY/BERLIN ROTARY CLUB MEETING
Captain's Table Restaurant in the Court-

yard by Marriott, 2 15th St, Ocean City, MD, 6 p.m. The group meets every Wednesday. cliff0917@aol.com, 410-641-1700

BINGO
Ocean City Elks Lodge 2645, 13708 Sinepuxent Ave, Ocean City, MD, 6:30 p.m. Doors open at 5:30 p.m., games start at 6:30 p.m. All cash prizes; \$1,000 Jack Pot. Food and non-alcoholic drinks available. Open to the public. 410-250-2645

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP
Atlantic General Hospital, conference room 1, 9733 Healthway Drive, Berlin, MD, 7 to 8 p.m. The group gathers the fourth Wednesday of each month. Pre-registration is not necessary. Pastoral Care Services, gmsnell@atlanticgeneral.org, 410-641-9725

ONGOING EVENTS

KIWANIS WINTER PANCAKE BREAKFAST
Ocean Pines Community Center, 235 Ocean Parkway, Feb. 18, 8-11 a.m. Menu includes pancakes, sausages, scrambled eggs, orange juice, coffee and tea. Tickets cost \$6 for adults, \$3 for children ages 5-11 and free to those 4 and younger. Purchase in advance at 410-208-6719 or purchase at the door. Carryout available. Proceeds benefit the youth of the community.

MID-WEEK MANIA CASH BINGO
Ocean City Senior Center, 41st St., bay-side, Feb. 1, noon to 3 p.m. Advance tickets cost \$10 for 4 cards if purchased by Jan. 26. Tickets at the door cost \$10 for 3 cards. Rachel Zelkind, 410-632-1277, Ext. 114.

WSW SUPPORT GROUP
OC Office, 12216 Ocean Gateway, Unit 1500, West Ocean City, 1 p.m., third Wednesday of each month. Info: Mary Henderson, 410-213-1177.

FRIDAY NIGHT SERVICES
Temple Bat Yam, 11036 Worcester Highway, Berlin, every Friday, 7:30 p.m. A reform Jewish Synagogue. Info: 410-641-4311.

MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT & ADVOCACY
St. Peter's Lutheran Church, 10301 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, noon to 1:30 p.m. on the second and fourth Fridays of every month. Info: 410-524-7474.

AARP
Ocean City AARP 1917 meets the second Thursday of each month (except July and August) at the Ocean City Senior Center, 104 41st St., Ocean City. Social begins at 9:30 a.m., meeting at 10 a.m. Info: aarp1917.org.

WORCESTER COUNTY PARKINSON'S SUPPORT GROUP
Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, second Tuesday of each month, 2:30 p.m. Speakers, exercise, discussions and more. Info: 410-208-3132.



AMERICAN EDUCATION WEEK

Maryland Del. Mary Beth Carozza, center, visits Stephen Decatur High School Advanced Placement United States history students during American Education Week, Nov. 14-18. Del. Carozza shared her professional experiences in government, politics and public relations with the students.

SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

CALL

410-723-6397

BY MONDAY

5 P.M.

CLASSIFIED

MARKETPLACE

Classifieds now appear in Ocean City Today & the Bayside Gazette each week and online at oceancitytoday.net and baysideoc.com.

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HELP WANTED



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Date: SATURDAY, January 28, 2017
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#2 Continues at OC Mini Storage: Route 50
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