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# BAYSIDE GAZETTE

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FEBRUARY 7, 2013



## HELPING ECUADOR

Members of a group from The Worship Center in Berlin stand with one of their beneficiaries in Cuenca, Ecuador, where a Worship Center-sponsored mission spent a week helping residents. This was the center's fifth mission to Ecuador. See story on page 28.

SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

## Thompson discusses budget at 'town hall'

Major portion of new assessment fulfills plan begun five years ago

By Sheila R. Cherry  
Associate Editor

OCEAN PINES – Homeowners posed questions to Ocean Pines General Manager Bob Thompson about the summertime schedule for the Yacht Club pool, the reasoning behind a proposed \$43 increase in the annual assessment and the financial status of the Golf Club at a Feb. 2 town hall meeting to discuss the proposed fiscal year 2013-2014 budget.

Jack Collins commended Thompson on the comprehensive presentation of the proposed budget. But Collins added that he remained opposed to the proposed increase in the assessment. He said Ocean Pines has offered a sense of community, but homeowners who are no longer financially productive are experiencing downward pressure on their savings and investments.

Collins said he has experienced financial pressure on the federal level from increased taxes and on the state level from additional fees and taxes. "Any kind of income that moves seems to be taxable," he said. With talk of a possible increase in the gas tax, he said, "our wealth is decreasing."

Collins asked the Board of Directors to

give serious consideration to the financial burdens that Maryland taxpayers were already shouldering. "With the fee increases, the board may be creating a mindset that Ocean Pines is unaffordable," he said, given the cost of maintaining expected living standards. "Don't drive us across the street," he said to a round of applause from other attendees.

Another member told Thompson and the board members in attendance, "People are being devastated by the state of their retirement packages." He asked rhetorically when would trusted officials from all levels of government to homeowners associations "realize that we have reached the limit."

Thompson clarified a misconception about a portion of the fee increase – \$30 of that was the final increase authorized under a five-year funding plan.

Judy Ludwig asked whether the Yacht Club pool would be available for summer use with the renovations under way. She mentioned that returning deposits that have been made for reserved events might create a financial issue. Thompson said that he wanted the pool opened but at the board's direction he was reviewing the

*Continued on Page 2*

**The OPA's Bob Thompson talks about the budget in depth in a Q&A beginning on page 5**

## Berlin prepares to implement stormwater management plan

Town's first step will be to establish fee totals for commercial properties

By Sheila R. Cherry  
Associate Editor

BERLIN – The time line for fully implementing new stormwater management policies approved by the Berlin Town Council last week will probably be

a year, Water Resources Director Jane Kreiter said last week.

The process will be on two tracks: establishing the fees for commercial property owners in time for the July 1 effective date and submitting applications for grants and loans to help further fund the new program.

The council approved Ordinance 2013-01, which established a stormwater utility department, and Resolution 2013-01, which established a funding mechanism

for the new department, on Jan. 28.

The new rule asserted that "The costs of improving, maintaining, operating and monitoring the stormwater system should be allocated, to the extent practicable, to all property owners based on the impact of runoff from the impervious areas of their property on the stormwater management system."

The utility would be funded in part by a flat \$50 annual fee for residential prop-

erty owners and a \$25 annual formula-based fee for commercial property owners. The formula for commercial property would be based on the square footage of impervious area — where water cannot penetrate, such as paved parking lots, which creates runoff to the nearest pervious space, such as grass or pervious concrete — and is measured in equivalent residential units.

The fees would apply to each ERU in-  
*Continued on Page 3*



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#### HAVING THEIR SAY

Ocean Pines Association board members and homeowners discuss the proposed 2013-2014 budget at a Feb. 2 town hall briefing by General Manager Bob Thompson.

SHEILA R. CHERRY/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

## Boggs posts date for town meeting

OCEAN PINES — Worcester County Commissioner Judy Boggs will hold her first Town Meeting of 2013 at 10 a.m. on Saturday, Feb. 23, at the Ocean Pines library on Cathell Road. All are welcome to attend and participate in dialog about current issues of interest to Ocean Pines and northern Worcester County, including updates on natural gas and development along Route 589.

The guest speaker will be Dr. Jerry Wilson, superintendent of Worcester County Public Schools. A special surprise guest is also expected.

Seating and parking at the library are limited, so guests are encouraged to arrive early. For more information, call 410-641-6158.

## Hard times partly to blame for assessment woes

*Continued from Page 1*

possible scenario of allowing the general contractor Harkins Builders complete the construction on the Yacht Club pool complex with the pool closed.

Thompson also said that he was finalizing an addendum to the pre-existing contract with Harkins to encompass the damaged portion of the pool and deck renovation. The addendum would give the company oversight authority for the

work needed to repair damage inflicted on the pool and structure by Hurricane Sandy.

In response to Thompson's report on a new policy to release the names of delinquent homeowners and begin legal actions against them, Bill Lee asked why so many homeowners were allowed to owe such high assessment totals. Thompson pointed out that more than 95 percent of Ocean Pines homeowners pay their as-

sessments in a timely manner. But he added that hard times have created challenges that could hamper people's ability to pay.

After hearing about the Golf Club's financial losses, another homeowner suggested the possibility that the board consider leasing out the facility. A 30-year lease would remove the constant friction that the club's losses were creating in the community, he said.

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# Berlin entering first phase of stormwater program

Commercial properties will have to be analyzed to calculate fee totals

*Continued from Page 1*

crement, which would equate to each 2,100 square foot space of impervious cover within a property. Kreiter described the process for determining the ERU-based fees that would apply to most of the town's 290 commercial properties.

She said the department's evaluators would be looking at the footprint of the overall property to determine the square footage of the impervious space. That number would then be divided by 2,100 and then the quotient would be multiplied by the \$25 fee. For example, a property with 8,400 square feet of impe-

rious parking lot would be divided by 2,100, the ERU approximation of an average single family home. The quotient — four — would be the number of ERUs subject to the annual per ERU fee; in this case the annual fee would be \$100 (as in \$25 x 4, get it?). Prorated by 12, the monthly assessment outlay for the property would be \$8.33, she pointed out.

The town, for its part, will be kicking in \$300,000 a year as well.

But Kreiter also said that for some of the commercial properties, determining the square footage of impervious space could be much more tedious. Those properties may require the use of geographic information systems, which utilizes tools such digitalized mapping that can overlay boundary markers and provide aerial photographs, to get a clearer delineation of the pervious versus impervious sections of a property.

The ordinance also outlines the procedures and conditions under which property owners who contest their assessments can appeal the department's evaluation, according to Kreiter.

A request for proposals from contractors who can help evaluate the commercial properties was issued Feb. 3, according to Kreiter. Billing for the assessments begins July 1.

The design phase for the stormwater physical plant will begin by March, Kreiter said. She estimated that the process would take three to six months to complete. Officials hope to begin construction by spring or summer of 2014, she said.

The stormwater management process would implement a priority plan to alleviate flooding in a manner that would not negatively affect water quality, she said.

*Continued on Page 4*

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## Worcester County accepting 'Most Beautiful' nominees

WORCESTER COUNTY — Volunteers make Worcester County a better place to live, work and visit. To honor those whose contributions assure the continuation of vital services, Worcester County residents are invited to nominate individuals for the 2013 Worcester County's Most Beautiful People Volunteer Awards. Nominees should reside in and represent the volunteer spirit of Worcester County.

The deadline to submit nomination forms is Feb. 22, and a recognition cer-

emony for all volunteers nominated will be held at a later date.

Nomination forms are available at all five Worcester County branch libraries or by contacting Worcester County Volunteer Services Manager Cyndy Howell at 410-632-5656 or [chowell@co.worcester.md.us](mailto:chowell@co.worcester.md.us).

The annual Worcester County's Most Beautiful People Volunteer Awards program has been integrated into the annual Governor's Volunteer Service Awards recognition program.

## Construction permits take time

*Continued from Page 3*

The process would include the property evaluations, cleaning out ditches, culverts and drainage pipes, which would also require camera inspections.

The process of obtaining construction permits would probably take the longest amount of time, approximately six months, she predicted. But officials will immediately begin the process of applying for grants and loans to fund the new facility," before any big construction project commences," she said.

Officials will submit applications to the Maryland Department of the Envi-

ronment and Department of Natural Resources, The U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the Community Development Block Grant Program.

On Jan. 31, Gov. Martin O'Malley (D) praised Berlin for enacting the new ordinance. "I applaud Berlin for its progressive action in moving Maryland toward restoring our Chesapeake and coastal bays," he was quoted in a statement published on the town's Web site. "Through this utility, the people of Berlin are doing their part to protect our state's natural treasures for generations to come" O'Malley said.

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# Thompson details budget process and priorities

## Meetings, meetings and more meetings go into developing new budget

By Sheila R. Cherry  
Associate Editor

OCEAN PINES — General Manager Bob Thompson left the relative comfort of a mortgage and insurance brokerage business to manage the eclectic and economically diverse community of Ocean Pines, the largest year-round community in Worcester County.

He said wanting to be an impact player who could help by being connected with his community drew him to Ocean Pines. But one can only guess (because he's not saying) whether his 23 years in the military, active and reserves, prepared him for budget season in Ocean Pines.

Thompson was preparing for a Feb. 2 "town hall" event to explain the proposed fiscal 2013-2014 budget to a community that has few qualms with contention, when he agreed to this interview on Jan. 30.

**Bayside Gazette:** Could you describe what goes into developing the budget for a new fiscal year at Ocean Pines?

**Bob Thompson:** The process starts in September, when I have staff

meetings with our eight department managers. They compile their annual department budget reports based on three factors: 1) what they absolutely need to stay operational; 2) which important additions they would want in order to grow their respective departments; and, 3) what they would desire if money were no object. The exercise is meant to stimulate my department leaders out of conventional thinking and encourage them to consider all options for making improvements in their areas.

The reports cover everything in their areas of responsibility, from staffing to efficiency tools, and are submitted in October, at which time our comptroller, Art Carmine, and I evaluate them.

After a review, I sit down to discuss the reports with each department manager individually. This will occur two or three times throughout the pre-proposal budget process until November.

Concurrently, I receive guidance from the Ocean Pines Association Board of Directors and, new this year, I additionally received input from the Budget and Finance Committee. In prior years, the committee's considerations had been made once the new budget was officially proposed.

The final budget draft, which is completed in December, will include additional documentation, research,

additional capital items, as offered by either the board or the committee. That draft will then be redistributed back to the departments for final adjustments before printing the final budget proposal for distribution to the directors and budget committee the first week of January.

The next phase of the budget process begins with two to three days of meetings with the Budget and Finance Committee chair, who this year is Dennis Hudson; the Comptroller Carmine; and the respective department heads, as the group goes through the final draft section by section. From those meetings, Hudson compiles a recommendation from his committee that will be presented to the board during the January meeting.



SHEILA R. CHERRY/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Continued on Page 6 OPA General Manager Bob Thompson

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## "Part of the challenge facing the OP course is that the 'product' has continued to worsen over the years from wear."

Next, I give the board a pre-budget overview of the final budget proposal. That starts a series of formal board meetings – at the first, the budget committee presents its formal consultation to the board.

There is no set amount of board meetings needed to review, evaluate and amend the budget proposal. But once that has concluded, I then schedule a town hall meeting to present the budget proposal with the board's

changes, to the members of the Ocean Pines community.

**BG:** Why are the people who live in Ocean Pines called "members?" Why not "residents" or "citizens?"

**BT:** Glad you asked. Ocean Pines is a homeowners association, not a municipality. Our members are the 8,447 property owners here, some of whom rent out their properties. Each property has one vote and only property owners, in good standing, can exercise that vote. With just under 12,000 residents – in-

cluding renters and members – we are the largest year-round community in Worcester County.

**BG:** The board on Jan. 26 approved unanimously a motion by Director Martin Clarke to publish the names of, and to begin legal actions against, members with delinquent assessments. What do you think about that and how will you implement that new policy?

**BT:** I will provide an update on those accounts at the Feb. 23 regular board meeting. My biggest concern is there are many people facing genuine financial hardships in this economic climate. Publishing their names comes across as punitive, which I agree is justified for individuals with long-standing delinquencies who have been taking advantage of the system. But for the others, it will be hard for me.

**BG:** That being the case, how then do you justify the proposed \$43 dues increase?

**BT:** It is easier to explain if we break it down into three clear components included in that amount. First, \$30 of that dues increase represents the fifth and final increase that was authorized under a five-year funding plan of predictable increases in our annual assessments.

The additional revenues go into a separate reserve account earmarked to pay for facility infrastructure needs and for the replacement of major elements. For the past four years each board has approved that rate increase. This is the fifth and final \$30 increase amount, so it should not surprise anybody.

Next, \$3 of the proposed increased rate is directly related to our drainage improvement project. That is a plan to repair damage from erosion that has been occurring on the golf course over time. We are in the process of improving the golf course at holes 11 and 12 and re-piping the drainage system on

Hingham Lane.

So, the project will also help those 1,400 homes that surround the golf course, because stormwater runoff due to the lack of proper drainage has been creating flooding problems for those homeowners. The project costs \$550,000 and is being amortized over a 25-year period.

That leaves the remaining \$10 portion of the proposed increase amount. This would allow us to allocate \$84,470 to all of our operations across the board. Those departments received no increase for operational costs last year, even though costs for fuel, healthcare, and employer contributions for FICA and unemployment did increase. The proposed \$10 increase would help offset the increased expenses that have accrued over the past two years.

**BG:** Still, that is likely to be a tough sell considering the actual income from the Golf Club's operations do not appear to be living up to the budgeted projections. What's going on there?

**BT:** The Golf Club is operated by a third party management company, Billy Casper Golf (which describes itself as an owner or operator of more than 140 facilities in 28 states). Billy Casper is a top tier golf management company. Part of the challenge facing the OP course is that the "product" has continued to worsen over the years from wear.

Factors that have contributed to the depreciation of the course include homebuilding construction that has impacted the drainage system, landscaping changes, growth of vegetation in the surrounding areas, all of which can contribute to erosion over time.

This is a 42-year-old course, depreciation starts on day one. We have had a continued slide in memberships in part because of course conditions. So we have to ask what's causing this?

*Continued on Page 8*



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Drawings will be held at 7pm at Sunset Grille. You need not be present to win. Winners will be notified on Monday, Feb. 18th.



## "We have operated for several years with little to no increase in revenues by not proposing any new capital expenditures."

How do we manage or solve these problems when we have an outside expert?

So by 2015 we will be focusing on the 42-year-old product, by starting to improve the greens – the most important component of the course and where OP has experienced the most inconsistency. Through soil sampling, a U.S. Golf Association inspection [and] core test results, we have received recommendations to replace the greens. I made a recommendation to the board in 2011 to replace the greens with the backing of Casper, USGA, and a soil consultant.

The cost estimate was \$900,000 that was split into two projects, the front nine and the back nine. Work on the front nine was done last spring. The back nine consists of mostly drainage work and is expected to be completed by this spring.

**BG:** What is so important about the Golf Club and Yacht Club that justifies all the spending? A lot of resources seem to be directed toward their upkeep?

**BT:** The OP Homeowners Association is impacted by the features and amenities our community offers. When Boise Cascade first developed the area, it designed the Golf Club, Yacht Club and pools as vital elements of the com-

munity's amenities offerings. Prior to the last four years of overall real estate downturns, those amenities were what drove OP home values up, because our members and residents have immediate access to our amenities.

It is the amenities that provide the types of quality-of-life conditions that create the favorable value gap between the higher property values in OP in relation to similar property values outside OP.

**BG:** But in relation to the additional proposed dues increase, how do you explain the rising expenses related to the Yacht Club and Golf Club, especially as income from those facilities seem not to be living up to expectations?

**BT:** We have seen the greatest losses from those facilities over the past 10 years and we have had to make really tough decisions over the past two years regarding the types of clubs that are needed, what improvements can or will the community support, and will we put the money into rehabilitating and upgrading those amenities. Over the past 18 months, we put together a final plan for the Yacht Club that passed by referendum last year. While I expected it to pass, I didn't expect the level of support it ultimately received.

**BG:** How many pools does Ocean Pines have? What is the backup plan if

the Yacht Club pool has to close?

**BT:** Five. The Yacht Club pool will be open and operational by Memorial Day.

About the pools, all of our pools are open to the public on either a daily use basis, by payment at the door, or on a package basis, by purchasing a membership. Everything we have is open to everybody.

**BG:** Given the discussion over whether last year's Yacht Club pool shut-down procedures affected the OPA's ability to file an insurance claim for damage the pool sustained from Hurricane Sandy, will the OP change its off-season shut-down procedures to avoid damaging the pool in the future?

**BT:** There was a bit of a misunderstanding about the correlation between the way we shut down the Yacht Club pool and our inability to file an insurance claim for flood damage. Let me explain.

Flood damage is offered through the National Flood Insurance Program and OP has flood insurance through the NFIP. But our policy does not cover outdoor pools.

(NOTE: The NFIP on its Web site specifically lists "Property and belongings outside of an insured building such as trees, plants, wells, septic systems, walks, decks, patios, fences, seawalls,

hot tubs and swimming pools" as not covered.)

Moreover, a tidal surge is what damaged the Yacht Club pool. Our procedure would not change because our closing procedure for the Yacht Club pool, which is a deep well pool, was not to completely drain it anyway. Instead, the water already in the pool was topped off in an attempt to stabilize it in preparation of the storm. But despite that, the strength of the storm surge lifted the pool anyway.

Our other deep well pools might have been prepared differently, because the deep well pool at the Sports Core is covered and the deep well pool at the Swim and Racquet Club is elevated, so they might not have been similarly topped off in preparation of the storm.

**BG:** Why not scale back overall operations rather than propose the additional \$10 fee increase?

**BT:** We have operated for several years with little to no increase in revenues by not proposing any new capital expenditures. We have held employee payroll increases to a minimum and have avoided adding employees. The increase proposal this year would allow us to make sure we were whole with the expenditures already in progress before reassessing where we are going forward.

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## "Long-term and lasting improvements start incrementally. I absolutely believe that we are working in the right direction."

**BG:** Part of the budget discussion included a question about why employees are not being asked to contribute to the healthcare plan. What is your answer to that?

**BT:** Employee healthcare contributions fall under scrutiny every year. Often what is misunderstood is the amount of time and energy we already spend evaluating existing healthcare plans and comparing ours to other plans for cost effectiveness purposes. We examine multiple other plans, strategies, and employers. We migrated from our previous carrier last year to one that now requires more administrative procedures from our employees. But nationwide healthcare costs are still sky rocketing. OP has 56 employees in its healthcare plan and we have a well-designed plan that has helped us keep our costs down.

**BG:** Will the Affordable Care Act affect your plan? If so, how?

**BT:** We are looking closely at the issue and have conducted several reviews of it over the past six months. There are still question marks, such as whether a state-run exchange is an option, how will the new law impact us when it is fully implemented, and how will the federal government respond to various state actions. We are watching

and working closely with our carriers. Meetings are planned for October. So, as the year unfolds, we will continue to evaluate our position to see how to manage. (i.e. will work-hours have to be limited, what should be the extent of coverage; whether it would be better to choose to use the exchange, and what are the penalty rules.)

**BG:** Why is Ocean Pines paying for operational losses from its reserves?

**BT:** Typically, we would not; it would constitute a bad business practice. But we have been making significant capital investments with a focus on creating profitability. We are in a unique situation because the amenities we offer are for general use, which would typically be subsidized, but in our case they are designed to operate like a business, which would be expected to be self-sufficient. We must blend the two by making some tough decisions that will allow us to bring failing amenities back into profitability or at least to break-even status.

**BG:** And what are your assessments of the situation during the transition?

**BT:** Optimistic. For example, with the Yacht Club we have already taken appropriate steps forward and have started to see a turn in increased efficiency. Food and labor costs have begun improving under the new man-

ager. With the new facility we should see more increases by next year.

For the Golf Club, with the investments that were made over the last 18 months we will have a clearer understanding where we stand by the end of the year. There are still feature elements that are needed, but the signature investment is in the product, which the management company should help us turn around. If that continues to fall short of expectations after the needed investment options have been pursued,

all options should be on the table.

On the pools, we have made a lot of strides and are seeing a lot of improvements.

People tend to forget that we have had years of operating deficits in our amenities. We are making huge investment strides and it will take a little time to reap the benefits from them.

Long-term and lasting improvements start incrementally. I absolutely believe that we are working in the right direction.



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## POLICE BRIEFS

### Alleged assault

A 34-year-old West Ocean City woman was charged with disorderly conduct and two counts of second-degree assault after a Jan. 30 incident outside a downtown bar.

According to Ocean City police, an officer saw and heard Kelly Michelle Willey yelling obscenities at a woman. A man intervened to stop Willey from fighting with the woman and she pushed him out of the way. Willey then allegedly ran toward the woman and collided with her. She also allegedly punched the woman in her shoulder.

A crowd grew during the incident, but some people walked away to avoid Willey, police said.

### Fight in Berlin

Dyshawna Henderson, 24, and Nikita Hearn, 25, both of Salisbury, were arrested Jan. 30, after officers of the Berlin Police Department responded to a report of a fight at Route 113 and Flower Street. Deputies from the Worcester County Sheriff's Office along with Maryland State Police troopers were also called in to assist.

Upon arrival, officers saw a crowd of people in a parking lot and ordered them to leave the area. Henderson and Hearn refused to obey the order and continued to cause a disturbance, police said. Both

*Continued on Page 12*



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## POLICE BRIEFS

Continued from Page 11  
were charged with disorderly conduct.

### Identity fraud

A 24-year-old Princess Anne man was charged Feb. 3, with personal identity fraud to avoid prosecution and making a false statement to an officer.

Ocean City police stopped a van driven by Goshu Wogayehu Goshu at 28th Street because he had not moved into a lane farther away from a stopped police vehicle that had its emergency lights activated as required by law.

Goshu told police his driver's license was in Gaithersburg and he gave them the name of another man. A police officer saw a license wedged between the adjustment rails of the passenger seat. That was Goshu's license.

Goshu said the license belonged to his brother. Police then learned that Goshu's license was revoked.

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# BUSINESS

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## FINANCE

### Get retirement plan allocation on track in 2013



Chip Gordy,  
MBA, CRPC

It's already February and we're past that time of the year when we make New Year's resolutions. Many times they're goals we're likely to let lapse in the next 12 months. If there is one goal worth sticking to, though, it's retirement planning. Whether your retirement is decades away or just around the corner, make sure your portfolio allocation is where it should be.

As an opener, here's a framework for getting your retirement allocation on track.

Step 1 of a retirement allocation plan is to set your return objectives and determine your goals and then evaluate the return you need to achieve those goals.

Determining your goals is purely qualitative. At what age do you plan to retire? How many years away from now is that? Do you expect to have additional sources of income during your retirement years? What are the big-ticket items you imagine as part of your retirement lifestyle—such as a vacation home, extensive travel, or philanthropic activities?

Next, get a sense of how much your portfolio will need to grow each year to reach those goals. You might try to express this with an absolute number, say 5 percent or 7 percent, but a more effective approach may be to express it as a premium over inflation. "Inflation plus 2 percent" or "inflation plus 4 percent" are ways of expressing your retirement needs in relation to price changes over time. This approach is commonly used by professional financial planners.

Step 3 is to consider your risk tolerance. In the world of investments, risk and return are two sides of the

*Continued on Page 14*



COURTESY JOANNE HOWE/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

The sudden decision of major movie studios to stop printing first run features on 35 mm celluloid film is forcing smalltown theaters like the Clayton Theater in Dagsboro to convert to new digital equipment, which will require an \$85,000 investment to update the equipment.

## Theater uses classic cinema to help buy new technology

### Industry's conversion to digital forces old-time movie house to upgrade

By Sheila R. Cherry  
Associate Editor

DAGSBORO, Del. — If only Frank Capra was still around, he'd probably appreciate the irony of his films being used for Joanne Howe's "Save the Place" campaign to fund a needed upgrade to digital movie projector technology for her 65-year-old Clayton Theatre.

Howe, who bought the movie theater with her husband in 2000, is still showing first run movies like "Les Misérables" in 35 mm celluloid film on the original MotioGraph projector that came with the building, which was built in 1948. But MotioGraph went out of business because its products never broke down, she said.

Fast forward to the new era of cinema, where imaging in general is now going digital. "We knew it was coming," she said, with film manufacturers Kodak in bankruptcy and Fuji no longer making film stock.

But the sudden decision of major

Because studios stopped printing 35 mm films, the old MotioGraph, the projector that never breaks, has to go.

studios last year to save millions by no longer printing film in the 35 mm format has forced Howe to accelerate her conversion to the new digital technology, she said. Doing so, however, will require an \$85,000 investment to update her equipment.

The conversion is hitting small town theaters like Howe's hard, she said, because while the studios are offering theaters help with the costs of converting to digital, that help is available only when theaters order first run movies on opening day.

Since studios receive a percentage of ticket sales revenue, opening day receipts are key, Howe said, because ticket sales progressively decrease the farther away from opening day a movie is shown. Small theaters don't tend to qualify. Although they show first run movies, they might not show them on opening day.

So fire up the community, Howe is looking for the kind of pocketbook full of miracles George Bailey found at the end in "It's a Wonderful Life."

Hence, Howe is showing movie classics to save her classic theater. On Mondays the doors open at 6:15 p.m. and the movie begins at 7 p.m., when the theater is otherwise dark. Tickets for the classics series are \$4 across the board, unlike the \$8.50 per adults and \$6.50 for kid's ticket rates for the regular movies shown during the rest of the week.

During January the classic series featured Humphrey Bogart in "Casablanca," "The African Queen" and "The Maltese Falcon." Jimmy Stewart will be the headliner for February, leading off with "Harvey." In March, Howe will feature John Wayne movies, she said.

She said she is also selling theater memorabilia and accepting donations.

The theater is located at 33246 Main St., in Dagsboro, Del. The theater telephone number is 302-732-9606, and the box office telephone number is 302-732-3744.



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# Seaside Boat Show about to mark 30th anniversary in resort

Three days, 350 boats a fitting way to mark this Optimist Club tradition

OCEAN CITY — The Ocean City/Berlin Optimist Club will present the 30th edition of its annual Seaside Boat Show, dubbed “boat show that

works for kids,” Feb. 15-17, at the Ocean City convention center.

This three-day show traditionally draws thousands of water and boating enthusiasts.

Held during Presidents Day weekend, the show also provides the Optimist Club the opportunity to raise funds for club programs that support local youth.

The local affiliate of Optimist International has more than 120 members and is recognized as one of the best clubs in Optimist International. The Boat Show income supports many youth and community service programs.

The Boat Show will feature more than 350 boats, 150 exhibitors and 50 boat dealers. The dealers and ex-

hibitors will offer numerous special show prices. They will display their newest and most popular models and water-related items. The large number of boats sold each year at the show makes it one of the most popular shows on the East Coast.

Visitors will be treated to an array of sport cruisers, sport fishing, performance and “super boats.” Boat Show exhibitors will include marine electronics, trailers, canvas tops, motors, jewelry, art and fishing gear. The show will also provide financing and insurance for boaters and water enthusiasts.

Again this year, visitors will have an opportunity to win a boat donated by North Bay Marine owners, Scott and Mary McCurdy. Each person who purchases a show admission is entered to win.

The Optimists also sponsor a scholarship lottery with \$100,000 in prizes. More than 280 students have received over \$1,500,000 in scholarships during the past 24 years. The lottery drawing will be held at 5 p.m. on the last day of the Boat Show. Chances cost \$100 and can be purchased at the show.

Times of the show are Friday, Feb. 15, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Saturday, Feb. 16, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.; and Sunday, Feb. 17, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission costs \$9 for adults and \$1 for kids. A weekend pass is available for \$15.

## FINANCE

### Assessing risk depends on personal situation

Get right mix of assets, to weather short-term volatility in market

Continued from Page 13  
same coin. To enjoy a higher rate of growth you may want to be willing to tolerate more risk. For this purpose, “risk” means volatility — how much your portfolio will experience short-term swings.

If your retirement is 20 years or more in the future, you have a greater capacity to take on risk than you do if retirement is just a couple years away. Volatile assets like equities and com-

modities tend to return more over long time periods than fixed-income assets, but they are also more susceptible to wide price swings.

Finally, consider your psychological and emotional comfort level with risk. How did you feel when markets fell off the cliff in 2008? Do you get that stomach-churning feeling when the nightly news comes on and you saw those big downward-sloping arrows indicating another bad day in the markets? This is an important consideration when you’re figuring out the appropriate risk level for your portfolio.

Once you put all four pieces of your plan together, you should ensure that you have the right mix of assets to

generate the highest possible return for the level of risk taken. Known as the “efficient frontier,” this is a goal for all investors, and should align with your unique risk preference and situation.

As always, it’s suggested that you get expert financial advice when putting your plan together.

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

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Daily	Assateague Pointe	—	Mobile	From \$120,000	Resort Homes/Tony Matrona
Daily 11-4pm	Belmont Towers, Boardwalk & Dorchester #506	2 & 3BR/3BA	Condo, Townhome	From \$499,000	The Fritschle Group/Condo Realty
Daily 10-5pm	Bay Point Plantation, Rt. 589 to Gum Pt. Rd.	—	Estate Size Lots	From \$199,900	The Fritschle Group/Condo Realty
Saturdays 11-4pm	Harbour Island Sales Office, 14th St. & Bayside	2 & 3BR/2 & 3.5BA	Condo, Town, Slips	From \$300,000	ERA Holiday RE /Nanette Pavier
Saturdays 10-4pm	Eleven 11 Edgewater	3BR/2.5BA	16 Bayfront Condos	From \$595,000	Coldwell Banker/Bobby Jester
Saturdays 11-4pm	Heron Harbour Sales Office, 120th St., Bayside	1BR/2/BR/3BR/4/BR+	Condo, Towns & SF	—	ERA Holiday/Nanette Pavier
Sundays 10-1pm	Eleven 11 Edgewater	3BR/2.5BA	16 Bayfront Condos	From \$595,000	Coldwell Banker/Bobby Jester
Sundays 11-4pm	Harbour Island Sales Office, 14th St & Bayside	2 & 3BR/2 & 3.5BA	Condo, Town, Slips	From \$300,000	ERA Holiday RE/Sherry Dare
Sundays 11-4pm	Heron Harbour Sales Office, 120th St., Bayside	1BR/2/BR3BR/4/BR+	Condo, Towns & SF	—	ERA Holiday/Nanette Pavier



## Legislators offer school gun law and scooter bills

By Sheila R. Cherry  
Associate Editor

MARYLAND — Legislative proposals offered by State Sen. James Mathias (D-38th) in the Maryland General Assembly during the week of Jan. 28, included allowing temporary tags for mopeds and scooters, and in Somerset County burn bans and pension changes. Meanwhile, Del. Michael McDermott (R-38B) offered "guardian" proposals designed to relax school restrictions in a manner to allow designated individuals to use lethal and non-lethal weapons on school grounds.

Elsewhere, in the General Assembly, committees heard proposals to allow pit bull owners to argue their liability when their dogs prove to be dangerous, and to allow the Maryland Department of the Environment to meet its public notice requirement through Web site postings.

Motor scooter and moped dealers would be allowed to apply for temporary tags for their products under the provisions of a proposal (SB 0424) Mathias introduced Jan. 30. The proposal (SB 0472) would allow dealers to apply to the Motor Vehicle Administration for special dealer decals that could be attached temporarily to a scooter or moped.

With the temporary decals the vehicles could be operated on a highway, for demonstration purposes, by prospective buyers with either a driver's license or moped operator's permit. If approved the bill would become effective June 1.

The Senate Budget and Taxation Committee has scheduled a hearing on Feb. 7 to review Mathias' proposal (SB 0470) to add the Somerset County Economic Development Commission to the list of governmental entities whose employees would be eligible for the Employee Pension System. The proposed designation would be effective July 1, if approved.

Mathias has proposed (SB 0424) to authorize the Somerset County Commissioners to ban open air burning during times of prolonged drought or when environmental conditions could start or spread a fire. The commissioners would be allowed to establish a countywide ban against

*Continued on Page 17*

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# Bill proposes 'school guardians'

Continued from Page 15

burning any material either in the open or in an enclosed receptacle, such as a furnace, incinerator, or other equipment connected to a stack or chimney. The effective date of the proposal would be Oct. 1 and it is scheduled for a Feb. 19 hearing in the Senate Education, Health and Environmental Affairs committee.

McDermott on Jan. 25 introduced three legislative proposals he said were designed to enhance school safety. The House bills would allow school authorities to designate certain individuals to use deadly force or non-lethal electronic control devices in public schools in an effort to deter or counter violent attacks on school grounds. If approved all three bills would become effective Oct. 1.

The proposals McDermott described as tailored to promoting school safety included:

■ HB 0394, which would allow select school staff to be armed with electronic control devices (Tasers) with a range of up to 25 feet, following training and certification. McDermott said, "The commonsense use of these devices would ensure effective protection without the risk of inflicting mortal injury;"

■ HB 0395, which would allow qualified and trained school staff members to be designated by the superintendent, to use a handgun carry permit within the school. It would establish a guardian program that would serve as a last line of

defense against an armed intruder, according to McDermott; and

■ HB 0397, which would allow law enforcement officers to use their carry permits on school grounds.

In offering the proposals, McDermott referred to a mass shooting that left 26 children and teachers dead in an elementary school in Newtown, Conn. in January. He said, "The latest security measures were in place at Sandy Hook Elementary, yet they were defeated by a determined madman."

In other General Assembly actions, House and Senate committees were in the process of reviewing a proposal to replace an automatic liability standard on pet owners that was based on an appeals court decision that pit bull and mixed-breed pit bull breeds were inherently dangerous. The proposals (HB 0078/SB 0160) would allow owners of pit bulls that cause either injury or death to rebut presumptions that they knew or should have known their dog was dangerous.

The House has received a bill passed by the Senate (SB 0061) that would allow the Maryland Department of the Environment to satisfy its public hearing notice requirement by publishing new regulations under the Ambient Air Quality Control Title of the Environment Article on the MDE Web site, but would also allow interested persons to receive future notices by first-class mail or electronic mail.

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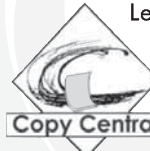
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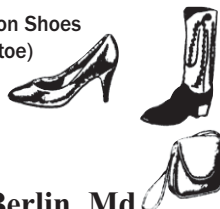
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# OPINION

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

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GRAPHIC DESIGNER

### EDITORIAL

## Publishing names a misguided idea

The recent Ocean Pines Board vote to proceed with publishing the names of people behind on their association dues is nothing more than a sordid attempt to embarrass those who are struggling their way through what has been an economically challenging time for many.

The demographics of the community have shifted in recent years, from second home owners with secure jobs and those on government pensions enjoying a comfortable retirement, to a community with a more diverse population.

The majority of those behind in their payments represent property owners who have fallen on tough times during the recession, many of whom are waiting for their home's short sale or foreclosure to take its course through a slow process.

Sure, there are certainly a few investors who may also be juggling cash flow to keep properties from going into foreclosure, and maybe even a family or two who decided a large screen TV was more important, as one board member tried to typify the majority of those who have fallen behind.

However, the association has an easy remedy for dealing with the problem by filing a claim with the court. Unlike many businesses, who have had to patiently wait out the financial storm hoping that those who owe them money are able one day to make good on the debt owed, OPA has the ability to put a lien on their debt, which they will at some point collect as those properties change hands.

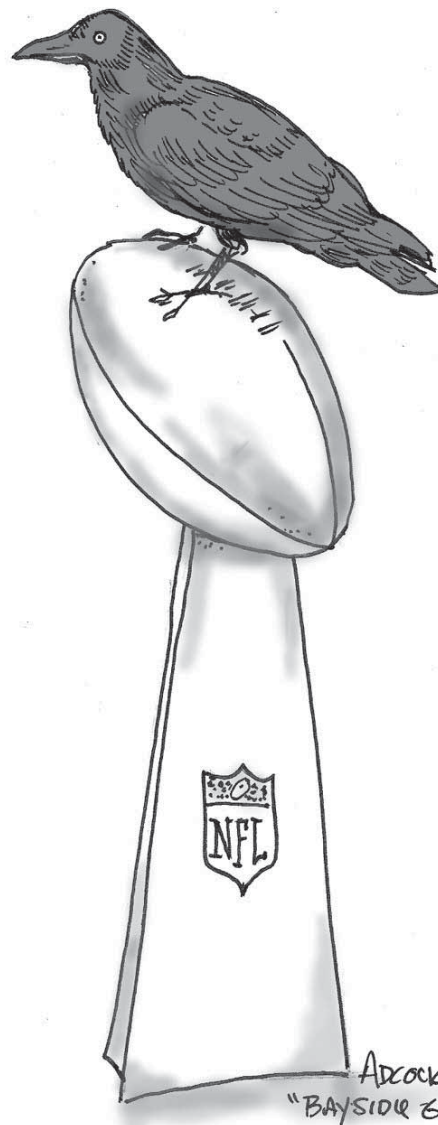
So while it's a burden to cash flow and an additional expense to file for a lien, it's an unfortunate business expense in an economically challenging time.

For the most part those behind on their association dues are willing to pay, if they had the money. Attempting to shame them serves no other purpose than to heap embarrassment on those already discomforted by their circumstances. It is not a policy the community should be proud of.

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### LETTERS

#### Foundation thanks its sponsors

Editor,

The Delmarva Education Foundation would like to thank the sponsors, donors and volunteers who made our second annual Scholarship Fair on Saturday, Jan. 12, an overwhelming success. More than 500 students from 20 high schools in nine counties on the Delmarva Peninsula, along with military veterans, returning adults learners and vocational education students, attended the Scholarship Fair held at The Centre at Salisbury Mall to find money to continue their education.

Scholarship Fair sponsors were the Community Foundation of the Eastern Shore, Bank of Delmarva, Pocomoke City Elks Lodge #1624, Centre at Salisbury mall, Wor-Wic Community College

Bookstore, Pepsi, Kitty's Flowers, Salisbury Area Chamber of Commerce and TD Digital Printers, Inc.

Special thanks to Scholarship Fair partners Kids of Honor & Horizons at The Salisbury School; Scholarship Fair spokeswoman Kaitlyn Austin; financial aid experts Amanda Brumfield of Wor-Wic Community College, James Kellam of the University of Maryland Eastern Shore and Janet Reed of Delaware Technical and Community College; high school counselors Derrick Fooks of Worcester County, Janice Cottman of Somerset County and Faye Stearns of Wicomico County; and all of our dedicated and hard-working volunteers.

The Delmarva Education Foundation is funded entirely through community support, donations and grants; all funding is re-

turned directly to the community through DEF's programs and services.

Rota L. Knott,  
executive director  
Delmarva Education  
Foundation

#### An advocate of CASA lost

Editor,

Mary Ann Baum, 47, passed away Tuesday, Dec. 25, 2012, after battling cancer for several months. She left behind family, friends and co-workers, who will all miss her terribly.

Mrs. Baum spent the last two years of her life advocating for the rights of local children through the Lower Shore CASA program at Worcester Youth and Family, a local, private nonprofit in Berlin. CASA stands for Court Appointed Special Advocate

*Continued on Page 23*



## LETTERS

Continued from Page 22

and refers to a specially trained adult volunteer who speaks up for the needs of mistreated children. These children have been placed under protective watch by the court system due to severe abuse and neglect by their caregivers, who are usually their parents.

Mrs. Baum was a wonderful advocate who made a difference in the life of Worcester County's CASA children. Her compassion and dedication were evident in her volunteer work with Lower Shore CASA.

Thank you to all who have graciously donated to the Lower Shore CASA program in her memory.

Lower Shore CASA  
Berlin

### Wounded soldiers benefit success

Editor,

Wow! The Star Charities Beef and Beer Fundraiser to benefit our wounded soldiers in Maryland was another sellout success! On Jan. 19, we more than \$3,000 and I cannot stop doing a "happy dance" every time I think of all the kind, generous and caring people who helped and supported Star Charities All Volunteers! We sincerely thank you from our hearts.

Here is a long, long list of those who donated to the event: American Legion

Post #166, Atlantic General Hospital, Girl Scouts of Chesapeake Bay, Atlantic Hotel, Embers, Casino at Ocean Downs, Fager's Island, Taylor Bank, Jim Trummel, Princess Royale, Democratic Women's Club of Worcester County, The Delmarva Chorus, Sue Burleston, Farmers Bank of Willards, Irgard Heinecke, Gilly Foults, Ted Page, David Landis, Ed Hurd, Johanna Hurd, Sons of Italy, Andrew Sorrell, Seacrets, Cyndy Spicknall, Jim Adcock, Ruark Golf Man O'War Course, Cheers, WSFS Bank, Bank of Ocean City, Republican Women's Club of Worcester County and Mr. and Mrs. Kennard MacMullin.

We thank the entertainers, auctioneers and volunteers, including the Star Charities committee of Peggy Rumburg, Sandy McAbee, Lilly Tunis, Ted Page, Delores Koch, Judy Chuvaia, Mary Ellen Schreiner, Gilly Foults, LouAnn Trummel, Irgard Heinecke, Lee Tilghman and Barbara Mazzie. And a huge "shout out of thanks" goes to the newspaper, TV and radio folks. Job very well done, my friends. You all helped to make this event such a success and your continued support of our military men and women wounded in combat to protect our freedom is truly appreciated. May God bless you all.

Anna Foults  
Ocean Pines



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# BAYSIDE LIFE



COURTESY CAROL LUDWIG/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

The Delmarva Chorus of Sweet Adelines International will serenade your sweetheart for Valentine's Day. The harmonious singers are raising money for a regional competition in April.

## Delmarva Chorus will sing to your valentine

Sweet Adelines chapter can deliver sweet songs on that special day

By Sheila R. Cherry  
Associate Editor

OCEAN PINES — The Delmarva Chorus of Sweet Adelines International will kick off its "Singing Messages" serenading services with Valentine's Day performances in Berlin, Ocean City and Ocean Pines.

The Sweet Adelines are a feminine take on the traditional male barber-shop harmony, and are dedicated to teaching women how to sing a cap-

pella (without musical accompaniment). It is an independent, nonprofit music education association for women singers that was founded by the wives and friends of male barber-shop singers in Tulsa, Okla., and has 500 chapters worldwide, primarily in the U.S.

Carol Ludwig, director of the 10-year-old Delmarva Chorus, said the Ocean Pines-based group has 28 members and will send members out in quartets to the location of the sender's choice including homes, offices, restaurants or nursing homes.

The \$25 performance fee includes two personalized serenades and a picture of the recipient that can be e-

mailed to the sender. She said organizers are also trying to arrange a way to include a chocolate flower gift for recipients with the Valentine's Day performances.

The singing messengers are available from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

The performances are a fundraiser to help the chorus pay royalty fees for copyrighted music, vocal education and costumes, used in competitions held by the international organization. The regional competition for this area is scheduled for Apr. 23 and includes chapters from Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and West Virginia, Ludwig said.

*Continued on Page 25*

## Yum! This is a great way to go

'Death by Chocolate' returns next Sunday

By Lisa Capitelli

Assistant Editor/Ocean City Today

WEST OCEAN CITY — Twenty West Ocean City merchants will serve free brownies, cupcakes, candy and an assortment of other chocolate treats next Sunday to visitors participating in the sixth annual Death By Chocolate event.

Designed as a game that takes "players" to businesses throughout West Ocean City, the event provides people with an opportunity to check out places they have not been to before. Nineteen shops and one restaurant are on the list to visit this year.

"It was designed to create awareness for who your local merchants are. Even though some merchants participate year after year, it's a great opportunity for them to show the public their new offerings. It's also to remind people to support local merchants," said Jan Patterson-Hohman, who is organizing Death By Chocolate with Louise Reardon. The pair own CraZy LadyZ!, one of the businesses scheduled to take part in the event.

Death By Chocolate participants will visit CraZy LadyZ!'s new West Ocean City location during the Feb. 17 event. Reardon and Patterson-Hohman on Wednesday closed the Route 50 shop they operated for seven years. The business is moving into a larger space nearby. Patterson-Hohman said they plan to open the new location Feb. 14.

"We had the opportunity to move and we took it. We're very excited," she said. "It's the perfect time to be up and running for Death By Chocolate. Everyone will have the opportunity to see the new digs on the 17th."

Other Death By Chocolate participants that will be featured again this year are Paws & Claws, Monkey's Trunk, Kendall Furniture, Wocken-fuss, Blue Moon Boutique, Snap-dragon, OC Floor Gallery, Park Place Jewelers, The Green Room, Bliss Salon & Spa, Buddhas & Beads, Marlin Market, OC Organic, Hair Evolution, Ocean City Chamber of

*Continued on Page 25*

## Venturing out into nature? It's time for tick-talk

Sundays at the Seashore program starts with how to avoid that nasty pest

BERLIN — The approach of warm weather means the emergence of ticks. To prepare, the Assateague Island Alliance, the friends group of the National Seashore, will present a program about the pesky insects — and the dangers they carry — on Feb. 10, as part of the AIA's free monthly learning program, "Sundays at the Seashore."

"Tick-Talk — Time to Get Outdoors" will begin at 1 p.m. at the Assateague Visitor Center in Berlin.

Marilyn Williams, vice president of the Lyme Disease Association of the Eastern Shore of Maryland, is an outdoor enthusiast who will offer methods to reduce the chance of exposure to tick-borne illness. She will also provide information about symptoms that would direct someone to seek medical attention. Williams has shared her expertise with numerous groups throughout the peninsula, empowering them with information to stay

healthy while working and playing outdoors.

AIA's "Sundays at the Seashore" programs are offered monthly, from September to May. Information on future programs is available at [www.assateagueislandalliance.org](http://www.assateagueislandalliance.org). Assateague Island Alliance is a 501c3 organization. All donations are tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law and directly benefit Assateague Island National Seashore.

For more information, contact Christina Hulslander 443-614-3547 or [assateagueislandalliance@gmail.com](mailto:assateagueislandalliance@gmail.com)



# 'Death by Chocolate' introduces people to businesses in WOC

Continued from Page 24

Commerce, Paddle House Outfitters and Sunset Grille.

"It's just a fun day. Everyone has such a good time," said Paws & Claws Manager Erica Leretsis. "It's definitely a nice way to get people introduced to us. We get a lot of people who say they never knew we were back here and we've been here eight years."

Paws & Claws, located in the Ocean Gateway Shopping Center behind Sherwin-Williams on Route 50, has participated in the festivities since its inception. Valentine's Day dog treats,

apparel and toys will be offered at discounted prices during Death By Chocolate.

A Perfect Face Day Spa and Treasures by the Sea have joined the Death By Chocolate line-up this year.

Game cards and a chocolate dessert or two will be available at each participating merchant. Each year the event has a different theme. This year's theme is "Going to the Zoo."

Participants may stop by the businesses between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. and in any order; however, they must visit each place, find a zoo animal, and then

have their card validated. Players will also have to solve a final clue.

Completed cards may be left at players' last stop or dropped off at Sunset Grille on Sunset Ave., where there will be food and drink specials available, including \$4 chocolate martinis. Those interested in dining at the restaurant should make reservations by calling 410-213-8110.

Cards must be turned in no later than 6 p.m. Players 18 and older with completed cards will be eligible for prizes awarded by each merchant. The drawing will take place at Sunset Grille

at 7 p.m. Winners need not be present to claim their prize. They will be notified Monday, Feb 18.

It is free to participate in the game and to sample the chocolates at each business.

"People will have plenty of time to schmooze and enjoy chocolate," Patterson-Hohman said.

Last year, approximately 460 people turned in game cards, but many more took part in the festivities, she said.

For more information about Death By Chocolate, call CraZy LadyZ! at 410-213-2085.

## Twenty participants line up for 'Death by Chocolate'

Death By Chocolate West Ocean City participating merchants and prizes

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| ■ CraZy LadyZ!<br>\$50 gift certificate                               | ■ Buddhas & Beads<br>\$50 gift certificate               |
| ■ Paws & Claws<br>\$25 gift certificate                               | ■ Monkey's Trunk<br>\$50 gift certificate                |
| ■ OC Organics<br>\$40 gift certificate                                | ■ The Green Room<br>Gift basket (\$50 value)             |
| ■ Hair Evolution<br>Complimentary haircut and color                   | ■ Wockenfuss<br>Chocolate tower (\$75 value)             |
| ■ Paddle House Outfitters<br>Free kayak rental for a day (\$55 value) | ■ Park Place Jewelers<br>Pandora bracelet with a charm   |
| ■ OC Chamber of Commerce<br>bag of goodies (\$50 value)               | ■ Blue Moon Boutique<br>\$25 gift certificate            |
| ■ Kendall Furniture<br>Adirondack chair (\$299 value)                 | ■ Treasures by the Sea<br>glass collectible (\$50 value) |
| ■ Bliss Salon & Spa<br>\$50 gift certificate                          | ■ A Perfect Face<br>\$140 gift certificate and products  |
| ■ OC Floor Gallery<br>\$250 gift certificate                          | ■ Marlin Market<br>chocolate wines (\$75 value)          |
|   | ■ Snapdragon<br>\$50 gift certificate                    |
|   | ■ Sunset Grille<br>\$25 gift certificate                 |

## Chorus will sing to valentines

Continued from Page 24

The chorus performs regularly in the area, according to Ludwig. She said its annual schedule includes two performances at the Berlin Nursing Home, a Halloween show at the Gull Creek Senior Living Community, Memorial Day and Veterans Day appearances at the Worcester County Veterans Memorial, and a music and comedy show in Ocean Pines.

Even with all those shows Ludwig still called the chorus "a pretty well-kept secret." The Singing Messages will continue year-round, she said,

and the performers will also be available for birthdays, anniversaries and other special occasions.

"We try to personalize the songs as much as we can," Ludwig said. "Most of the people are very surprised when we show up."

One of the benefits of the serenades for Ludwig, she said, is that they are as fun for the singers as it hopefully is for the recipients. "I like to bring joy," she said.

Information on Delmarva Chorus performances is available at 410-641-5091.

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Choice of  
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or Lasagna

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**1/2 lb. Burgers \$5**

#### Tuesday

**Irish Night**

**Guinness Stew**

**Shepherd's Pie**

**Corn Beef & Cabbage**

#### Wednesday

**Spaghetti & Meatballs \$6.99**

#### Thursday

**Homemade Ravioli**

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**Spinach or Meat**

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# CALENDAR

## BAYSIDE GAZETTE

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

### ONGOING EVENTS

#### BINGO NIGHT

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

#### SQUARE DANCING

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

#### SHEPHERD'S NOOK THRIFT SHOP

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

#### DIAKONIA FURNITURE CENTER

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

#### PINE'EER CRAFT & GIFT SHOP

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

#### BUILDING MATERIALS SALE

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

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

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

#### KIWANIS CLUB

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

#### DELMARVA CHORUS

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

#### SALTWATER SPORTFISHERS

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

#### DEMOCRATIC WOMEN

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

#### PANCAKE BREAKFAST

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

#### SANCTIONED BRIDGE

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

#### FRIDAY NIGHT BINGO

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

#### BEACH SINGLES

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

#### BERLIN FARMERS' MARKET

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

#### TACO NIGHT

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

#### BREAKFAST

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



### DECISION MAKERS

Atlantic Physical Therapy CEO Bob Hammond (left) and Delaware Gov. Jack Markell meet at a Delaware Decision Makers luncheon last Tuesday at the Clarion Hotel in New Castle, Del.

SUBMITTED PHOTO /BAYSIDE GAZETTE

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

#### SI BOC GROUP

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

#### LIFE AFTER LOSS

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

#### AARP

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

#### SURVIVORS OF SUICIDE

Meets the third Wednesday of every month 6 p.m. at the Worcester County Health De-

partment, 9730 Healthway Drive, Berlin (adjacent to Atlantic General Hospital). Open to anyone who has lost a friend or loved one to suicide. Hosted by a survivor and a licensed social worker. Free of charge. Info: 410-629-0164 or [www.jessesaddle.org](http://www.jessesaddle.org)

#### WEEKLY SALE

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

#### BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP

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

#### DELMARVA HAND DANCING CLUB

Meets every Wednesday at Skyline Bar & Grille at The Fenwick Inn, 138th Street and Coastal Highway in Ocean City. Beginner and intermediate lessons, 5:30-6:30 p.m., followed by

dancing until 9 p.m. Jitterbug, swing, cha-cha to the sounds of the '50s, '60s and Carolina beach music. All are welcome. Discounted food and drink prices. Info: 302-337-3638.

#### TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY

Mondays  
Berlin group No. 169, Atlantic General Hospital, conference room 2, 9733 Healthway Drive in Berlin, 5-6:30 p.m. TOPS is a support and educational group promoting weight loss and healthy lifestyle. It meets weekly. Info: Edna Berkey, 410-251-2083.

#### ELKS BINGO

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

#### FIRESIDE CHAT

Berlin library, 220 N. Main St., 3 p.m. Monthly book discussion.

Take a book you've enjoyed or one that you want to discuss. Get ideas for new authors to try. Free and open to the public. Info: 410-641-0650.

### THURSDAY, FEB. 7

#### BINGO

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

#### BARISTA AND BOOKS

Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 10:30 a.m. Stories, crafts, cocoa and pastries for children, infant to 5 years old and freshly brewed coffee for their caregivers. Info: 410-208-4014.

#### WOMEN'S CLUB OF OCEAN PINES MEETING

Ocean Pines Community Center, Assateague Room, 235 Ocean Parkway, 10 a.m. Discussion of the proposed budget,

*Continued on Page 27*



# CALENDAR

*Continued from Page 26*

dues and organizational concepts. Membership year is September 2012 through August 2013 for a fee of \$5. Refreshments served. Info: Susann Palamara, 410-208-2821 or [smpall1@verizon.net](mailto:smpall1@verizon.net).

## FREE RESUME WORKSHOP

Wor-Wic Community College, Hazel Center, room 302, 32000 Campus Drive, Salisbury, 6-8 p.m. The workshop is designed to help students, alumni and member of the community prepare for the college's job fair on March 20. Pizza and soda served. Reserve a seat: 410-334-2903 or [careerservices@worwic.edu](mailto:careerservices@worwic.edu).

## FRIDAY, FEB. 8

### COUNTRY MUSIC MURDER MYSTERY DINNER

Woodlands of Ocean Pines, 6-9 p.m. Country music themed show by Get a Clue Productions and sponsored by Ocean Pines Chamber of Commerce. Have fun solving a murder while eating dinner. Guests welcome to wear western attire. Tickets cost \$40 and include dinner and show. Cash bar and prizes. Info: [www.OceanPinesChamber.org](http://www.OceanPinesChamber.org) or 410-641-5306.

### BINGO

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

### OCEAN PINES BOOK OF THE MONTH

Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 1 p.m. Group will discuss "The Listener," by Shira Nayman. All are welcome. Info: 410-208-4014.

### PILLOWCASE DRESS PARTY

Go Organic Grocery, 12 Artisans Way, Berlin, 5-8 p.m. Located in the Old Peach Shed. See a demonstration of dressmaking. Sign up for sewing lessons or donate pillowcases. View picture album and display of finished dresses. Refreshments served. Info: 410-641-0415.

## SATURDAY, FEB. 9

### SPAGHETTI DINNER

American Legion Synepuxent Post 166, 2308 Philadelphia Ave, Ocean City, 12-5 p.m. \$6 in advance, \$8 at door. Benefits the Ocean City Boy Scout Troop 261. Info: 410-289-3166.

### KIWANIS PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Ocean Pines Community Center, 235 Ocean Parkway. 8-11 a.m. Cost is \$5 for adults, \$3 for children 5-11 and free to children 4 and younger. Carry-outs also available. Proceeds benefit community youth. Info: 410-208-6719

### FISH FRY DINNER

Knights of Columbus, 9901 Coastal Highway (rear of St. Luke's Church) in Ocean City. 5-7 p.m. Fried fish, cole slaw, french fries, crab soup, dessert, coffee or tea. Reservations: 410-524-7994, Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

### BOOK SIGNING

JR's Ribs, 131st Street, Ocean City, 5-7 p.m. Featuring local author, Carolyn Outlaw Kuhn, who has written her first book, "Suffering in Silence." Also available in e-book and soon-to-be on Kindle at: [Amazon.com](http://Amazon.com), [barnesandnoble.com](http://barnesandnoble.com) or [www.outskirtspress.com/sufferinginsilence](http://www.outskirtspress.com/sufferinginsilence). Portion of proceeds going to S.O.A.R., Selbyville, Del. Info: 410-487-1183.

### PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Ocean Pines Community Center, 235 Ocean Parkway, 8-11 a.m. Tickets cost \$5 for adults, \$3 for children 5-11 years of age and free to children 4 and younger. Sponsored by the Kiwanis. Info: 410-208-6719.

### FAMILY GAME DAY

Pocomoke library, 301 Market St., 9 a.m. to noon. Grab the family and come play the old family favorites. All ages. Info: 410-957-0878.

### GREAT READS

Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 10 a.m. Informational discussion of recommended titles and authors. Share your favorites from any genre. Info: 410-208-4014.

### 'FRONTIER: THE WAR OF 1812' BALLET

Mar-Va Theater and Performing Arts Center, 103 Market St., Pocomoke City, 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. The Ballet Theatre of Maryland will perform this live dance multi-media performance that captures the fiery independence of colonial America as it forges itself into a nation. Tickets cost \$6 and can be purchased at all branches of the Worcester and Somerset County libraries. Info: Lisa Outten Stant, 410-632-3970.

### PANCAKE BREAKFAST

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

## SUNDAY, FEB. 10

### STAMP SHOW

Wicomico Civic Center, Salisbury. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sponsored by Eastern Shore Stamp Club. Stamps, coins, postcards and memorabilia on display and for sale. Free admission, free parking, free stamps for kids.

Info: 410-422-1492.

### ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT BREAKFAST BUFFET

Knights of Columbus, 9901 Coastal Highway (rear of St. Luke's Church) in Ocean City, 8:30-11:30 a.m. With coffee and juice. Cost is \$8 for adults, children 11 years and younger eat at half price. Info: 410-524-7994.

## MONDAY, FEB. 11

### FRIENDS OF THE OCEAN PINES LIBRARY

Ocean Pines Library meeting room, 10 a.m. Refreshments at 9:30 a.m. "Humor for the Health of It" program will be presented by Carol Moore of Peninsula Regional Medical Center. All are welcome. Info: 410-208-4014.

### OCEAN PINES CAMERA CLUB

Ocean Pines Library, 7 p.m. Guest speaker will be Wyatt Harrison of "Plak That," whose business is printing photographs on wood. Guests welcome. Info: 410-208-2555.

### WRITING FOR WELLNESS

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

### TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY

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

### HAND DANCING

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

### DEM. WOMEN'S CLUB OF WORCESTER COUNTY MEETING

Ocean Pines Community Center, 235 Ocean Parkway. Coffee at 9:30 a.m., meeting at 10 a.m. Skip Carey, a lieutenant in the Ocean City Fire Department Boon Squad Division, will discuss the Civil War, focusing on Maryland's involvement. All women welcome. Info: 410-641-6683.

### THREE-DAY WATERCOLOR WORKSHOP

Held 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. each day. Beginners and Beyond will focus on tropics, palm trees and tropical water. An alternate theme will be roses. Cost is \$75 for members and \$90 for non-members. Contact Barbara at 410-208-0219 or online at [Barbaradoyleschmid@yahoo.com](http://Barbaradoyleschmid@yahoo.com).

[baradoyleschmid@yahoo.com](mailto:baradoyleschmid@yahoo.com).

## TUESDAY, FEB. 12

### DINNER AND DANCING

St. Andrew's Catholic Center, 5-8 p.m. Music by "Old School" Salad, Jambalaya and dessert, \$10 per person. Beer, wine and soda for sale. Info: 410-250-0300.

### PANCAKE AND SAUSAGE DINNER

Stevenson United Methodist Church, 123 N. Main St., Berlin, 4-7 p.m. Cost is \$6.50 for adults, \$5 ages 6-12, free for 5 and younger. Youth fundraiser. Info: 443-235-6761.

### YOUNG AND RESTLESS

Berlin library, 220 N. Main St., 10:30 a.m. Creative science, art and music activities for children ages 3-5. Dress for a mess. Call ahead to reserve your space: 410-641-0650.

### VALENTINE'S CARD MAKE & TAKE

Pocomoke library, 301 Market St., 4 p.m. Come make a valentine for someone special. Info: 410-957-0878.

### COOKING WITH CHEF JIM WASHINGTON:

**ALL ABOUT TENDERLOIN**  
Berlin library, 220 N. Main St., 2 p.m. Learn how to prepare a whole tenderloin. Washington will make Steak Diane with the filets, Beef Stroganoff with leftovers. Info: 410-641-0650.

### YOGA

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

### ASP YOUTH PLAN PANCAKE SUPPER

Community Church at Ocean Pines, 11227 Racetrack Road, 4-7 p.m. Tickets cost \$5 for adults, \$3 for children ages 4-12 and free to children 3 and younger. Menu includes pancakes, sausage, applesauce and beverage. Benefiting the youth mission trip to Appalachia in June.

### SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER

All Hallows Episcopal Church, 109 W. Market St., Snow Hill. Serving from 4:30-7 p.m. Menu is sausage, pancakes and baked apples. Dine-in Tickets: \$7 adults, \$4 children 12 and younger. Take-out orders \$7. Advance tickets: 410-632-1216.

## WEDNESDAY, FEB. 13

### LADY'S NIGHT OUT CPR TRAINING

The Wedding Center at City Center, 213 W. Main St., Downton Salisbury. 5:30 p.m. Cost: \$30. CPR trained in 45 minutes. Register: 443-880-7795 or [patti@peckmiller.com](mailto:patti@peckmiller.com).

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

### ANNUAL INDOOR GOLF TOURNAMENT

Old Pro Golf Indoor Course, 136th Street, Ocean City. 4:30 p.m. Bring snacks to share. Guests welcome. Optional group dinner after the event. Call to sign up: 410-208-6933

### WINTER/SPRING ADULT ED

Temple Bat Yam, 11036 Worcester Highway, Berlin, Feb. 13, 27, March 13, 27, April 10, 24 and May 8. Classes taught by Rabbi Susan Warshaw. Mussar and Introduction to Talmud, on Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m. to noon and noon to 1:30 p.m. respectively. Take a lunch. Info: Jaime, 410-641-4311.

### STORY TIME

Pocomoke library, 301 Market St., 10:30 a.m. Stories, rhymes, finger plays, music and crafts for children ages 2-5. Info: 410-957-0878.

### BARISTA AND BOOKS

Ocean City library, 10003 Coastal Highway, 10:30 a.m. Stories, crafts, cocoa and pastries for children, infant to 5 years old and freshly brewed coffee for their caregivers. Info: 410-524-1818.

### PLAY TIME

Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 10:30 a.m. Parents and children, infant to 5 years old, explore educational toys together in an interactive, free play program. Info: 410-208-4014.

### SMART SHOPPING SEMINAR

Ocean Pines Community Center. East Room, 235 Ocean Parkway, 10-11:15 a.m. Free seminar to learn simple strategies for saving time and money. Info: 410-641-7052 or [rec@oceanpines.org](mailto:rec@oceanpines.org).

### ANNUAL INDOOR GOLF TOURNAMENT

Old Pro Golf, 13601 Coastal Highway, Ocean City. Ocean Pines Boat Club annual indoor golf tournament and optional group dinner. Reserve: 410-208-6933

### BINGO

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

### TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY

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

### 'ELEMENTS OF DEMOCRACY' FREE SESSION

Denny's Restaurant, 11201 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, 6-7:30 p.m. Explore the basics of our federal government. "Elements of Democracy," compiled by scholars from all over the country and published by (the) Center for Civic Education. Reservations: Ellie, 410-430-0535 or [noel55@comcast.net](mailto:noel55@comcast.net).

## THURSDAY, FEB. 14

### OCEAN PINES GARDEN CLUB MEETING

Ocean Pines Community Center, 235 Ocean Parkway. 10 a.m. Guest will speak on health and wellness. New members welcome.

### SOUP SALE

Atlantic United Methodist Church, 105 Fourth St., in Ocean City, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Fresh, homemade hot soups and biscuits and desserts. Carry-out available. Info: 410-289-7430.

### WRITING WITH RUTH

Ocean City library, 10003 Coastal Highway, 1-3 p.m. Monthly gathering of local writers who share their independent work (poems, essays, memoirs, prose, etc.) and receive encouraging feedback from fellow participants. All writers welcome. Info: 410-524-1818.

### BINGO

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

### OC AARP 1917 GENERAL MEETING

Knights of Columbus, 9901 Coastal Highway (rear of St. Luke's Church) in Ocean City, 9:30 a.m. Speakers Karen Turner of the Bank of Delmarva and Veronica Nhan-Nock from Seaford Federal Union will talk about the differences between banks and credit unions. All persons age 50 and older are welcome. Info: [aarp1917.org](http://aarp1917.org) or 410-352-5748.





SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Twenty people traveled to Cuenca, Ecuador on a mission sponsored by The Worship Center in Berlin. They helped to provide provided free medical screenings, medications, dental cleanings, construction assistance and entertainment for children.

## Berlin missionary team aids people of Cuenca, Ecuador

BERLIN – What's more fun than a Disney vacation? Ask the twenty people from The Worship Center in Berlin who just spent a week's vacation on a missions trip to Cuenca, Ecuador.

The Worship Center is a regular supporter of Unsiion Ministries, an Assembly of God mission in Cuenca. This is the 5th missions trip sponsored by The Worship Center to provide assistance to the people of Ecuador.

This year, the team of 16 adults and four teens provided free medical screenings, medications, dental cleanings, construction assistance and one-on-one religious discussions.

Featured live on the Unsiion TV network daily talk show, "En Familia," members of the team explained why they were in Cuenca and what the team hoped to accomplish. Dr. Andrea Mathias personally invited the public to the free clinic for basic health screenings.

One hundred fifty free tickets were issued each day and the medical team provided services to more than 500 patients who came in for screenings. In addition to medical services, team members also provided 100 meals to

the poor and homeless.

The youth on the team provided face painting and goodies to approximately 300 children on site at the Unsiion Medical Clinic and visited two local orphanages and one large school, providing gifts and hugs to approximately 700 additional children and elderly residents.

All the while, the construction team turned an unimproved property into a new parking lot for Unsiion staff members. The newly acquired lot was located on the opposite side of a block wall, which the team demolished and removed from the site. Television set construction and other improvements were also accomplished inside the network center of operations.

The missions team thanked the many local donors of toys, candy, tools, clothes, medical supplies and medications.

Plans are under way for the next missions trip, which will include clinics in Amazon villages near Cuenca. For more information or to donate for the upcoming mission, contact the church office at 410-641-3325.

## Troupe prepares for 'killer' improv at murder mystery

It's a dinner, it's a play, it's entertaining with guests joining in fun

By Sheila R. Cherry  
Associate Editor

OCEAN PINES — To paraphrase a famous quote, sometimes murder mystery dinners are like a box of chocolates — you never know what you are going to get. Get a Clue Productions, the brainchild of Ted and Maria Demetriou, will perform an audience interactive whodunit at the Woodlands of Ocean Pines on Feb. 8.

The murder mystery will be a bit different from the usual Sherlock Holmes or Miss Marple fare. You never read about Miss Marple crooning a sultry a cappella country tune in western attire.

The country music-themed show will be performed improv style, which is likely to spice up Valentine's Day date night with a bit of comedy and surprising twists. Audience members will be part of the murder investigation, the troupe said.

"See how well your detective skills are at solving a murder while you enjoy dinner and a show with your sweetheart!" according to an announcement for the event.

But don't forget to bring your country boots and hats.

The Demetrious have been performing and directing acting troupes for the past 10 years and their performance Friday night will be from an original script, said Ted Demetriou, an insurance broker.

The cast also includes Jim Adcock, an artist; Edie Brennan, a Realtor; Graham Caldwell a voice performer; and Elizabeth Kain-Bolen, executive director of the Ocean Pines Chamber of Commerce.

Ted Demetriou said the actors were learning the personalities of their characters and will improvise throughout the script in the manner their characters would respond to the various twists and turns as the mystery unfolds. "If your character is a weenie, be a weenie," he told the performers during a Feb. 4 rehearsal.

But the audience will get drawn into the whole sordid affair as they get assigned as associates of various characters before the show. The associates will add to the clues each of the actors deliver as the play unfolds and the diners will be encouraged to use those clues and associations to solve the mystery.

Prizes will be awarded by drawing from among the successful amateur sleuths.

The performance is scheduled from 6-9 p.m. Tickets cost \$40 each and includes dinner and the show. A cash bar will be provided.



SHEILA R. CHERRY/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Actors with Get a Clue Productions, rehearse for their performance of an interactive murder mystery, western style, at the Woodlands of Ocean Pines on Feb. 8.

## Free tax prep offered by AARP

WORCESTER COUNTY — AARP Tax-Aide is offering free tax preparation for 2012 tax season. Preparation is available to all and you need not be a member of AARP. AARP Foundation operates the AARP Tax-Aide program under a cooperative agreement with the IRS and all information is strictly confidential.

Preparation is done by trained volunteers and free e-filing is included. Appointments are required.

Filings will be prepared at the follow-

ing locations: Ocean City library on Thursdays and Saturdays (410-213-1608); Ocean Pines library on Mondays and Thursdays (410-213-1608); Community Church at Ocean Pines on Saturdays (410-213-1608); MAC Center in Salisbury on Mondays (410-742-8569); Pocomoke library on Feb. 15, March 1, 15 and 29, and April 12 only (410-957-0878); and Snow Hill library on Feb. 15, March 19 and April 2 only (410-632-1277).





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 Louis Wright 6-10pm

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**Monday** - 12oz Prime Rib \$10.99

**Tuesday** - \$5 Burgers All Day

**Wednesday** - Hot Roast Beef w/2 Sides \$8.99

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THURSDAY - Brenda Golden

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

FRIDAY - Full Circle

SATURDAY - Ginger

WEDNESDAY - Sir Rod

### ■ Clarion Resort

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

FRIDAY - On The Edge

SATURDAY - On The Edge

### ■ Dead Freddie's

**64th St. Bayside**  
**(410) 524-3733**

FRIDAY - DJ Wax

SATURDAY - DJ Wax

### ■ DeNovo's

**South Gate - Ocean Pines**  
**410-208-2782**

THURSDAY - Al Prescott

SATURDAY - Al Prescott

TUESDAY - Al Prescott

### ■ Fager's Island

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

FRIDAY - DJ Hook

SATURDAY - DJ Groove / Trip Wire

SUNDAY - Everett Spells

### ■ Harborside

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

THURSDAY - Opposite Directions

FRIDAY - DJ Billy T

SATURDAY - Simple Truth / DJ Jeremy

SUNDAY - Opposite Directions

### ■ Globe Theater

**12 Broad St. Berlin**  
**410-641-0784**

FRIDAY - Live Music

SATURDAY - The Nighthawks

SUNDAY - Patrick McAllorum

### ■ Harpoon Hannas

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

FRIDAY - Dave Hawkins

SATURDAY - Dave Sherman

WEDNESDAY - Bobby Burns

### ■ Ristorante Antipasti

**3103 Philadelphia Ave.**  
**410-289-4588**

FRIDAY - Linda Sears & Michael Smith

### ■ Seacrets

**49th & the Bay, Ocean City**  
**410-524-4900**

FRIDAY - Goodman Fiske

SATURDAY - Full Circle

### ■ Sisters

**N. Main St., Berlin**

FRIDAY - Spare Change



PUZZLES

A WHIFF OF COLOGNE By Dan Schoenholz / Edited by Will Shortz

- Across

1 Pop-\_\_\_\_

6 División of a house

10 They may be running in a saloon

17 Sun, in Verdun

18 Thin ice, e.g.

19 Survey

21 Alternative to white

23 How overhead photos may be taken

24 “That’s \_\_\_\_ excuse ...”

25 Like St. Louis vis-à-vis New Orleans

27 Name

28 End to end?

29 Torn

30 Inexperienced

31 See 67-Across

33 Kind of tape

34 “How I Met Your Mother” narrator

35 Put out

36 Who said “Familiarity breeds contempt — and children”

37 Like Virginia among states to ratify the Constitution

38 Booth, e.g.

41 Sphere

42 Suit size: Abbr.

43 PC component

44 Target of minor surgery

For any three answers, call from a touch-tone phone: 1-900-285-5656, \$1.49 each minute; or, with a credit card, 1-800-814-5554.
- 45 Dick \_\_\_\_, co-creator of “Saturday Night Live”

49 Tangle

51 Either end of an edge, in graph theory

52 Ph.D. hurdles

54 Diamond stat

55 Worked the soil, in a way

56 “A Clockwork Orange” hooligan

57 Actress Loughlin of “90210”

58 Soda fountain option

59 Spritelike

60 Skater Midori

61 Cool

62 Roosevelt’s successor

64 Roosevelt’s successor

65 Shade provider

67 With 31-Across, favor, as a ballot measure

68 1952 Brando title role

69 Enzyme ending

70 Fairbanks Daily News-\_\_\_\_

71 Geraint’s wife, in Arthurian legend

72 European coin with a hole in it

73 Sex partner?

75 Fraternity member

77 Theologian’s subj.

78 Actress Dennings of “The 40-Year-Old Virgin”
- 79 Like many a fraternity party

80 Insect’s opening for air

85 Puppet of old TV

87 French Champagne city

88 Make a call

89 Mason’s trough

90 Noodle

91 Group of bright stars?

92 Baseball commissioner Bud

93 Homey

94 Bushel or barrel: Abbr.

95 Chem \_\_\_\_

96 Potter’s pedal

98 Language related to Tahitian

99 Tousles

102 Low grade?

104 Noble rank

105 Playwright Joe who wrote “What the Butler Saw”

106 Tessellation

107 Clipped

108 Cool

109 Pass
- 8 Schreiber who won a Tony for “Glengarry Glen Ross”

9 Place for a Dumpster

10 Vaudeville singer’s prop

11 “In the American West” photographer

12 Show over

13 Old New York paper, for short

14 Actress Gardner

15 Novel that focuses on character growth

16 High-quality

17 Peloponnesian War winner

18 Import, as water or music

20 “Christina’s World” painter Andrew

22 Paavo \_\_\_\_, 1920s Finnish Olympic hero

26 Practical approach to diplomacy

30 It’s a blessing

32 Customizable character in a computer game

33 Cougar’s prey

36 E-mail forerunner

37 Los \_\_\_\_ mosqueteros

39 Confident test-taker’s cry

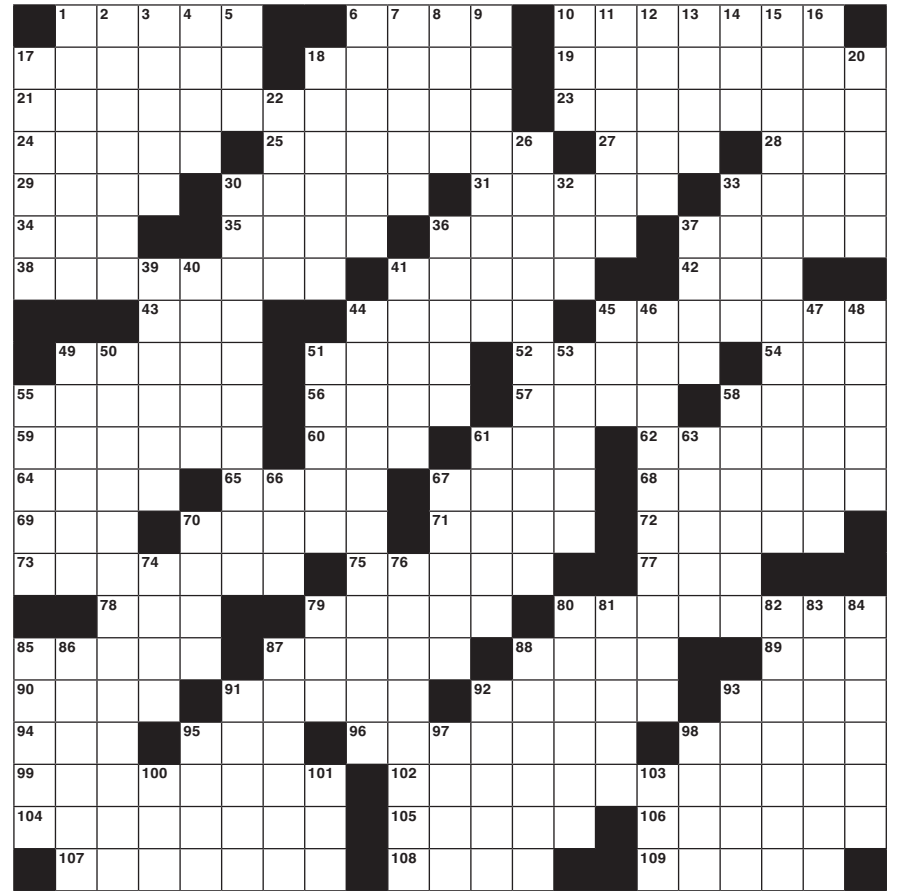
40 Some “Bourne” film characters

41 Ring event

44 R apper?

45 Inner \_\_\_\_

46 Forceful advance



- 47 Depressed at the poles

48 Jungle vine

49 Big media to-do

50 Informal social gathering

51 Inexperienced

53 Caught at a 41-Down

55 Went after

58 St. Peter’s Basilica feature

61 Snookums
- 63 More pink, maybe

66 All’s partner

67 Goes off on a tangent

70 Small bit

74 Mark of \_\_\_\_

76 Discuss lightly

79 Big \_\_\_\_

80 Ill-humored

81 \_\_\_\_ set (tool assortment)

82 Jumbled

83 Cheap, as housing
- 84 Trim

85 Time’s second African-American Person of the Year

86 Primates with tails

87 Scold

88 Mark of a rifle’s laser sight

91 Conductor Kurt

92 Present-day personality?

93 Alfalfa’s love in “The Little Rascals”
- 95 Mother of Castor and Pollux

97 Gaelic ground

98 Principal

100 Word missing twice in the Beatles’ “\_\_\_\_ Said \_\_\_\_ Said”

101 One on foot, informally

103 Verizon forerunner

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**HARD – 7**

Fill in the blank spaces in the grid so that every vertical column, every horizontal row and every 3 by 3 box contains the numbers 1 through 9, without repeating any. There is really only one solution to each puzzle.

**Answers to last week’s puzzles**

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

CAESURA	MASCOT	CBSTV
ALSORAN	TADPOLE	RECUE
LETONTO	ETHANES	ADOBE
IRONSON	SOTHERE	SIZER
COPY	CRIME	VERYWELL
OSSIE	PTASTEARS	SAID
	SCROD	WILLAH
STARSHIP	BARKEEP	MIGS
IOTA	EVILQUEEN	ALATE
BLOWDRY	EELS	CARAT
SLIDE	TOM	TEDDIMEA
	ALCOA	PESOLASYLUMS
PATIO	TERRORIST	DIMS
ALMA	TABLOID	MTARARAT
MUS	GRAPE	ONRYE
EMTS	GRAMP	SHEADUELS
SPACEMEN	LATEX	SUIT
	TASTE	BARENTSPERSE
MAIMS	STONIER	AIRDATE
ELOPE	TIREDLY	SOOTIER
LENIN	OCASEY	ENFOLDS



# CUISINE

BAYSIDE GAZETTE

## No matter how you say it, it's a good burger

Raised in a country that thrives on patriotism, it is second nature to pronounce the four syllables of our national moniker



By Paul Suplee,  
CEC PCIII

when singing one of the myriad anthems written to inspire and move us. Mayhap when one is speaking to a board of some sort, or arguing his case in front of the magistrate, "America" is quite polysyllabic.

Yet, after a week-end of monster trucks, mechanical construction and the Super Bowl, one all but falls into the habit of yelling "Murka!" at the top of his lungs.

It is the rally cry of the masses; a country brought together by 5-ton trucks hurled into the stratosphere, a feat that salutes the ingenuity of Gravedigger and Ghost Rhyder.

It is the battle drum of a nation united to help the USA to regain ground in technology and science.

It is the summons of all football fans, followers of the contenders or not, to come together to watch the most observed sporting event of the year.

But most of all, it is a salute to a day of peace on which countless people are sharing their pride in expressions of food and entertaining.

The Super Bowl party is a phenomenon much akin to Thanksgiving for many, and it is staggering to consider how much time and effort is placed into the planning. Particularly, since this is the first time our state team has played in the big dance in 22 years, it doesn't seem possible to take more than a few steps without running into the color purple.

And while I'm on that subject, I have to digress in order to share a story about a couple I met today at the food store. I've known the woman for a number of years, but just met her boyfriend, former and latter draped in Ravens regalia.

What I found out not only confused but also confounded me — he was a lifelong Eagles fan and has been converted



to a Ravens fan. Ah, the power of love. It seemed almost as bizarre as someone trying to make my brother a Dallas fan. Sometimes truth truly is stranger than fiction.

So as I rekindle the fond memories of the trucks on Friday, despite the fact that Loco Hombre ended up flipped over instead of making a full backflip (let's face it, crashes at monster truck shows are pretty cool), I try to muster and define my thoughts on the week-end. What should I eat before the Super Bowl?

What one food would sum up our experiences? Chicken wings are old hat, albeit one of my favorites. Chips and dip need no formal introduction. Chili? We ain't in Texas.

No, I want a burger, and I want a burger with bacon and fried deli and country ham. A burger with fried onions and mushrooms. A burger with Buffalo sauce chiming in for a command performance, and of course a smattering of Wisconsin Sharp Cheddar.

I think that says "Murka!" more than anything else I can think of.

I'll get back to four syllables tomorrow.

### 'Murka! Burger

per burger  
8 ounces 'Murka Burger Patty (recipe follows)  
cheddar cheese  
4 slices cooked Applewood bacon  
2 slices pan-fried ham  
fried onions and 'shrooms (recipe follows)  
french fries  
Buffalo mayo (recipe follows)

Step 1: Heat a frying pan with some whole butter and cook until the foam has subsided

Step 2: Add the patties, making sure not to overcrowd the pan

Step 3: Cook on a high heat to create a nice crust

Step 4: Turn the burgers over and cook until done or remove to a pan to finish in the oven

Step 5: Toast the buns after spreading with some butter

Step 6: When ready to serve, top the burgers on the pan with the onions and 'shrooms, ham and cheddar

Step 7: Place in oven for 1 minute until the cheese has melted

Step 8: Remove from oven, top with

bacon and place on roll

Step 9: Top the burger with fries (Primanti-style), lettuce, tomato and Buffalo mayo

### Murka Meat

makes 6 burgers  
2.5 pounds ground chuck and brisket blend  
2 eggs  
1 Tbsp. Stubb's liquid smoke  
2 Tbsp. Spatini Spice  
1 tsp. Worcestershire sauce  
2 tsp. salt  
1 tsp. black pepper, or to taste

Step 1: Combine all ingredients well, beating the eggs first to more easily incorporate them

Step 2: Separate the beef into 2 parts, and then split each one of those into 3 even parts

Step 3: Press into patties and set aside until ready to cook

### Fried onions and 'shrooms

2 Tbsp. whole butter  
1 ounces diced Virginia country ham  
12 medium button mushrooms, sliced  
1 medium white or red onion, julienned  
salt and pepper to taste

Step 1: Heat the butter and add the country ham. Cook for 3 minutes

Step 2: Add the onions and cook for 10 minutes. Add the mushrooms

Step 3: Cook for ten minutes, or until the mushrooms and onions are tender and the onions caramelize a touch

Step 4: Season to taste and set aside in the accumulated liquids until ready to serve

### Buffalo Mayo

1/2 cup mayonnaise  
1/2 cup bleu cheese crumbles  
1/4 cup Frank's Red Hot

Step 1: Combine all ingredients and let stand covered in icebox for at least 24 hours if possible

— Paul G. Suplee is a certified executive chef and ProChef certified Level-3. He is a writer and culinary instructor. Find his ePortfolio at [www.heartofakitchen.com](http://www.heartofakitchen.com).



Waystead Inn Bed & Breakfast

Sunday Brunch & Wednesday Dinners

CALL FOR RESERVATIONS

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*Valentine's Day Couple's Dinner*

♥ \$75 per Couple

**Surf & Turf Menu**

Includes a Bottle of Persecco & Chocolates



**Open  
7 Days a  
Week  
11AM - 2AM**

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**Pines Plaza Shopping Center  
11070 Cathell Road, Berlin**

**Lite Fare Served 'til 1:30AM Thur. – Mon.**

**NASCAR SPECIALS**  
*Happy Hour Prices During the Races*



**FREE**  
**MINI RED VELVET  
HEART CAKE**  
with Purchase of Entree

**HAPPY HOUR**  
**3- 7 EVERYDAY**

## DINNER SPECIALS

**MONDAY**  
**1/2 PRICE  
BURGERS**

**TUESDAY**  
4 PC FRIED CHICKEN  
MEATLOAF  
PORK LOIN

**WEDNESDAY**  
**1/2 PRICE**  
FOOTLONG HOTDOGS

**THURSDAY**  
ANY CHICKEN SANDWICH  
\$4.99  
ALL DAY & NIGHT  
MEXICAN NIGHT

**FRIDAY**  
SEAFOOD NIGHT  
**SATURDAY**  
STEAK & SEAFOOD NIGHT

**SUNDAY**  
TURKEY DINNER  
ALL DAY & NIGHT  
ITALIAN NIGHT

# SUNDAY BRUNCH

**9:30AM- 1:30PM**

## Eye Openers

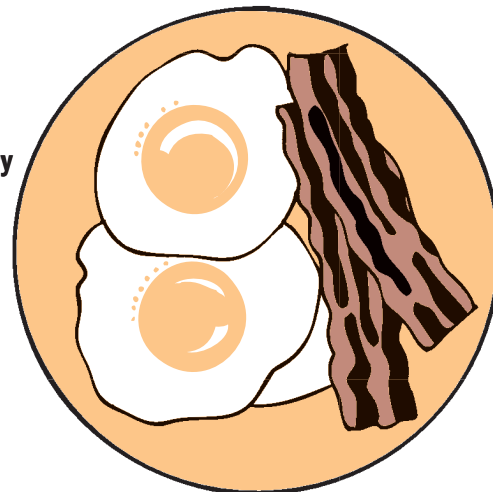
### Mimosa

**Hair of the Dog Bloody Mary**  
... our own homemade recipe

**Bloody Mary Barrel Bar**  
... featuring Effin Cucumber,  
Absolut Peppar and Svedka

## Ocean Pines Neighbor's Choice

**Two Eggs "Your Way"**  
... served with home fries, choice  
of meat and bread \$6.99



## Whiskers Specialties

**Fresh Quiche of the Day**  
... served with fresh fruit or salad

**Eggs Benedict**  
... poached eggs and ham on a English  
muffin topped with Hollandaise sauce,  
served with home fries

**Whiskers Benedict**  
... poached eggs and ham on an  
English muffin topped with crab meat  
and hollandaise sauce, served with  
home fries

**Whiskers Cheesesteak Wrap**  
... scrambled eggs, shaved beef, fried  
mushrooms & onions and cheese,  
with home fries

**Creamed Chipped Beef**  
... served on toast or biscuit with  
home fries

**Crab Cake & Eggs**  
... broiled or fried crab cake, two eggs,  
home fries and choice of bread

**Fresh Fruit Bowl**  
... add cottage cheese

**The Griddle**  
Add our topping of the day to the  
below for \$3.00

**Pancakes**

**Belgian Waffle**

**French Toast**

**Omelets**  
Three egg omelet with home fries  
and choice of bread

**Cheese**

**Meat & Cheese**

## Vegetarian

... tomato, green pepper, mushroom  
& onion

## Western

... Cheese, ham, onion and  
green pepper

## Crab Meat & Cheese

## Eggs & More

**One Egg**  
... with choice of bread

**Two Eggs**  
... with choice of bread

**One Egg Platter**  
... served with your choice of meat,  
home fries and bread

**One Combo**  
... two eggs and choice of 1 waffle, 2  
French toast or 2 pancakes

**Hungry Man**  
... two eggs served with your choice of  
meat and choice of 1 waffle, 2 french  
toast or 2 pancakes with home fries

## Breakfast Sandwiches

## Sides

Bacon, ham, scrapple, homemade  
home fries, cottage cheese, biscuit,  
English muffin, toast  
Eggbeaters available

## Beverages

**Juice**  
... Orange, cranberry, grapefruit or  
tomato

**Coffee, Hot Tea**

**Sodas, Ice Tea and Milk**

**Chocolate Milk**