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NOVEMBER 26, 2015

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JOSH DAVIS/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

HONORING ABELE

Friends and family, as well as several former and current Ocean Pines board members, gather in a green space just off of Ocean Parkway on Friday to honor 77-year-old Bob Abele, center. See story on page 6.

Pines directors clash on golf, again

By Josh Davis
Staff Writer

(Nov. 26, 2015) The volume went up at the OPA Board of Directors meeting last Thursday, when several directors erupted into a series of shouting matches that lasted nearly an hour.

Once again, golf was at the center of the disagreement, with several directors citing a lack of information by management company Landscapes Unlimited and objecting to three representative appointments made by Board President Pat Renaud.

Tom Herrick brought up the second issue during the “old business” portion of the meeting.

“We’ve spoken about it in the past a couple times and I don’t think the issue has been resolved,” Herrick said.

Under the management agreement signed earlier this year with Landscapes, the board is allowed to designate up to three board representatives to sit in on meetings with the company, Herrick said. He said Renaud made those designations — Renaud, Tom Terry and Bill Cordwell — without the consent of the full board.

“The question is, does the president have credential appointment power

with respect to the management agreement with Landscapes Unlimited to do so on his own?” Herrick said. “I think we should have a discussion about that.”

Herrick added that golf was a contentious issue with the previous board and that the agreement with Landscapes called for “more openness and fairness and better reporting.”

Cordwell defended the appointments and went on to say others on the board were questioning his integrity. He also acknowledged that he had opposed replacing former management company Billy Casper Golf earlier this year, but said he now supported Landscapes.

“They’re our management company now and we’re going to help them succeed,” he said. “There’s just so much hypocrisy going on with this whole thing, and, yes, this whole golf thing has been contentious and it didn’t need to be.”

Director Jack Collins chuckled during Cordwell’s comments.

“Can I help you, Mr. Collins?” Cordwell asked. “Because you’re part of this ... not one time did you bother to ask me what I thought about this whole process. You didn’t want me there.”

Stevens, previous board president,

said he brought his own liaison appointments to the board and “not a single person” objected.

“That discussion was held. That’s the key thing,” Stevens said.

Cordwell disagreed.

“You did not bring anything to the board for our discussion,” he said. “It was never brought to the board and voted on. Absolutely not.”

Stevens bristled.

“Listen harder,” he said. “I said the appointments were brought to the board and I asked if, without objection, the board approved to this.”

“If I did it wrong, I did it wrong, but that doesn’t mean you do it wrong twice,” he added.

Collins then asked if Cordwell was the board’s liaison to Landscapes, referring to an Oct. 29 meeting when many of the same issues arose.

According to the minutes of that meeting, approved unanimously by the directors at the start of the Nov. 19 session, General Manager Bob Thompson referred to Cordwell as the “Board Liaison.” He said Cordwell was given a copy of a business plan developed by Landscapes.

See DIRECTORS Page 4

Christmas events kick off Friday in downtown Berlin

By Josh Davis
Staff Writer

(Nov. 26, 2015) The Christmas season starts this Friday in Berlin, with the annual tree lighting ceremony at 5:30 p.m. in front of the Atlantic Hotel on Main Street.

Mayor Gee Williams will light the tree from the balcony of the Atlantic Hotel with the help of Santa, Little Mister and Miss Berlin Peach, and several holiday characters.

Pianist Eric Byrd will provide music and the Casino at Ocean Downs will sponsor a live ice-sculpting demonstration.

Organizers said guests should expect a few surprises this year.

“The tree-lighting ceremony is going to have a new twist,” Town Administrator Laura Allen said. “We’re going to keep that a secret, so come on out and see it in person.”

The annual Christmas parade follows less than a week later, running through downtown Main Street on Thursday, Dec. 3 from 7-9 p.m.

See BERLIN Page 2



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Berlin Christmas parade returns next Thursday

Continued from Page 1

Organizer Sharon Timmons, an administrative assistant with the town's office of economic and community development, advised guests to get to Berlin early.

"It fills up rather quickly," she said. "Luckily there are many places to park."

That includes Berlin Intermediate School, where a fee shuttle will take spectators to the staging area. The shuttle will run from 5:45-7:15 p.m., and 8:45-9:30 p.m.

Eastern Shore Kettle Korn will sell popcorn on Jefferson Street during

the event and Seaside Dance Academy will sell hot chocolate near the visitor's center.

Before the parade, several costumed holiday characters will walk up and down Main Street.

Timmons said this year's parade will have 18 new entries, continuing a trend of increased interest that began last year.

"They'll bring just a different feeling to the parade. Variety is always good," Timmons said, adding that she had to turn away more than a dozen other entries. "The parade just wants to get bigger and bigger."

"We're excited that the holidays are here again," Allen said. "We've got all of our events lined up for the holiday season and the merchants have been very supportive of the "Win the Window" contest, which is something new. So we would encourage folks to come down to Berlin and find out all about it."

Win the Window runs through Dec. 18 and gives shoppers the chance to go home with more than \$3,000 in merchandise and gift certificates. The promotion gives entry tickets for every \$10 spent in participating stores, with a limit of 10 tickets.

The town is also sponsoring a "Letters for Santa" program. A mailbox will be placed outside the visitor's center and Santa will collect the letters and send each child a return letter with a coupon for a free treat at Baked Dessert Café, Berlin Coffee House or Rayne's Reef.

Letters must be dropped off by Dec. 18.

The town is looking for volunteers to help run several of the holiday events. For more information, contact Ivy Wells at iwells@berlinmd.gov or 410-629-1722, or Timmons at stimmons@berlinmd.gov or 410-629-1716.

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Directors worry golf situation mirrors that of ousted Casper

Continued from Page 1

Cordwell, however, argued that he was not the liaison.

"In other words, you have no function or role vis-à-vis Landscapes Unlimited and the board of directors?" Collins asked.

"That's correct," Cordwell said.

Collins then turned to Thompson, pressing for a date when he received the same plan. According to Collins, the document itself was dated Sept. 23, but he received a copy on Nov. 2, "about 40 days later."

"Why wouldn't we get it earlier? Why wouldn't we be involved in the information gathering process as it relates to this golf course?" he asked.

Thompson said he received multiple documents for the budget process, including membership development and business plans, but that neither was finalized. Collins then pressed for more information.

"You have to understand the dilemma that I have. I thought I had a board liaison. I don't have one. I have to deal directly with you," Collins said. "I'm not attacking you, Bob ... I'm trying to develop the information that I need to know as to what's going on as far as this contract is concerned, and as far as the relationship between Landscapes Unlimited and this organization."

Thompson said the board would receive further documentation "once it's complete."

"I'm willing to work under those guidelines," Collins said.

"I'm not," Stevens countered, citing a perceived lack of information from the three board representatives chosen by Renaud.

"They are in fact liaisons and part of their responsibility is to report back on any significant events or occurrences that happen, and moreover, to answer any questions."

He went on to say the three representatives were "not properly established," and read a section of the association's bylaws that called for "consent of the board of directors" when making appointments.

Vice President Cheryl Jacobs disagreed with Stevens' reading of the bylaws, saying they referred to committee appointments.

"I've had some opinions on that, and in my opinion this is exactly the equivalent ... of an advisory committee," Stevens said. "There was no authority that was granted to these people to make decisions for the board."

Stevens went on to say the lack of information from Landscapes was starting to the mirror the situation with the previous golf management company,

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Board votes 5-2 for special meeting with Landscapes

which ultimately led to its replacement.

Terry then insisted Landscapes was not suppressing information, and that he, Cordwell and Renaud met with the company to discuss several issues. He added those representatives offered "opinions," as opposed to actual mandates from the full board.

"Quite frankly, some of the objectives that were in that draft document didn't live up to what was the understanding of what we thought we were going to get," he said.

Stevens objected to the notion that Terry and the others represented the full board appropriately, to which Terry erupted.

"You want me to put it out there, pal?" he said, his voice rising. "I've had enough of this. When you get a draft document that has an objective for the number of new members that we're going to get, which comes nowhere near what was projected ... the advice was provided that you might want to relook at those numbers. That's what I'm talking about – is advice and help.

"Let's not mix issues here," he continued. "The issue was whether or not the three people that are now on the committee were lawfully put in place or not. That's one issue. The other question was, when do you get to see the final document?"

Terry said that plan would be given to the general manager for use in developing the budget, and could be challenged by the board during those hearings.

Circling back to the issue of appointments, Renaud admitted he should have brought it to the board.

"I won't deny it," he said, adding that Stevens made the same mistake with his own appointments. "You find it in the minutes – find that we voted on it."

Collins and Stevens then argued that the process should be opened up to the entire board, drawing Cordwell to again defend his involvement, while Jacobs and Renaud attempted to restore order.

"Screaming at each other is not solving any problems, Renaud said. "What do you want to do?"

A battle on the focus of the disagreement lasted several minutes before Thompson suggested Renaud make a formal motion to approve his three appointments.

Nearly 10 minutes later that question was called, and passed 4-3 with Herrick, Stevens and Collins voting "no."

Stevens then motioned for a special meeting with Landscapes and the entire board, which passed 5-2 with Cordwell and Jacobs voting "no."

No date for that meeting was set.

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Community gathers to honor Ocean Pines resident Abele

By Josh Davis
Staff Writer
(Nov. 26, 2015) Friends and neighbors gathered near the corner of Ocean Parkway and Heron Isle Court Friday to honor 77-year-old Bob Abele.

A longtime Ocean Pines resident, Abele is a former board member (1996-1999) and former chair of the Maryland Coastal Bays National Estuary Program and Coastal Bays Fishery Advisory Committee.

He also served on the Ocean Pines Environment & Natural Assets Committee, Ocean Pines Anglers Club and the Maryland Saltwater Fisherman's Association.

Austin Scorpio, chair of the environment and natural assets committee, organized the brief ceremony to dedicate a bench in the green space area just off Ocean Parkway to Abele.

An anonymous donation covered the cost of the bench, which Ocean Pines Parks and Recreation helped to install.

Scorpio said Abele was a tireless crusader for the environment and area waterways.

"He's really made an amazing contribution to Ocean Pines and the greater Delmarva area," he said.

"When you're surrounded by so much water, there's so many thing that can go wrong environmentally, and Bob has really assisted greatly in setting policies and creating awareness to better our community."

He added that the space was chosen because it overlooks Abele's home in nearby Wood Duck.

"It will get used here, because people are always here with their dogs and kids," he said.

Former board member Marty Clarke called Abele "a treasure" to Ocean Pines, the county and the state.

"He doesn't do anything for himself. He's selfless," Clarke said, adding, with a laugh, "He probably did fish a lot when he was younger."

Two current board members, Jack Collins and Dave Stevens, also attended the dedication.

"I met Bob a couple of years ago," Collins said. "He's a wonderful human being and he's dedicated to what he does. He's just a very, very nice man, and our prayers go out to him."

Abele, who has fought cancer for several years, said the honor was a total surprise.

"I'm absolutely astounded that all these people are here," he said.

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OP budget guidance passes; 'five-year' plan battle looms

By Josh Davis
Staff Writer

(Nov. 26, 2015) It took two months and several lengthy public debates, but the Ocean Pines Board of Directors passed its 2016-17 fiscal year budget guidance document last Thursday.

Introduced by the budget and finance committee during a special session on Sept. 16, the document underwent a number of changes before being released to the public on Monday.

Director Tom Terry drafted the final version, with input from the full board of directors.

In a letter accompanying the release, Terry said the document was presented to General Manager Bob Thompson "as a means of providing the board's initial interests, directions, and policy positions it wishes [Thompson] to use in developing the proposed budget."

Terry went on to write that capital dollars included in the budget "should continue the long standing capital funding approach utilized by the OPA to build and use reserves inclusive of depreciation expense."

In addition, he said road resurfacing in the community should continue to use casino revenues, and that Thompson should use a "\$0 based budget approach."

"If possible, dues should remain at the same level as FY 2015, or be lowered based on a thorough assessment of the needs of the organization," he wrote.

The document called for Thompson to draft a capital plan that showed "a strong focus on the improvement of [Ocean Pines'] IT facilities," adding that the budget should include a technology position "to meet the needs of a major IT improvement plan."

Also via the plan, the board directed Thompson to include only "actual funding" needed for studies for future projects, as opposed to budgeting for costs of construction for future projects, an issue of contention among some members of the board.

When the proposed budget is presented to the board in January, the document calls for a report of each capital item listed in the current fiscal-year budget, with items not expected to be expended highlighted for "renewed approval."

The board also requested business plans for major amenities, including the yacht club, aquatics and golf.

Finalization of the budget guidance document was almost derailed during the last regular board meeting on Nov. 19, when Director Dave Stevens moved to table a vote on approval, suggesting further conversation was needed.

"At this point ... we either vote for this thing or we don't bother to do it at all," Terry said at the time. "This is becoming a silly process."

Stevens eventually withdrew his motion and suggested three revisions to Terry's latest draft, including removing what he called "placeholders" for replacement reserves, zeroing out the so-called "five-year funding plan" and including a "needs document" for a multi-year IT improvement plan.

Terry agreed to amend the language to include Stevens' first and third requests, and the board voted unanimously to approve the document.

During a phone interview on Monday, Stevens said he hoped the board would reopen discussions on the five-year plan at a later date.

"What was left unspoken during the last budget guidance meeting was exactly what would happen to the funding," he said. "We're putting \$1 million a year into that plan."

"There was an argument, which I didn't subscribe to, that we needed to put the money in last year, and potentially this year, to make up for deficit on the yacht club," Stevens continued. "I don't think we have ever quite fully discussed the implications ... the question is when does it ever end?"

"I think it's time. It needs to be readdressed seriously before we get into the next budget battle," he said.




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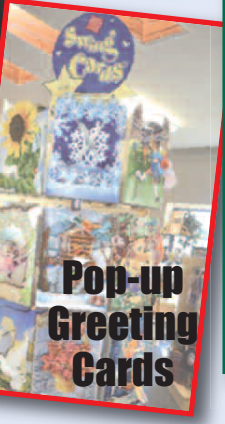
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County grants easement for Berlin stormwater upgrades

By Josh Davis
Staff Writer

(Nov. 26, 2015) It took more than a year, but county government approval of an easement for a stormwater improvement project on a segment of Hudson Branch near Flower and Bay streets in Berlin came through during a Worcester County Commissioners meeting last week.

The county had granted conditional approval of the easement in November of last year, but another 12 months was required before the deal was set.

County Attorney Sonny Bloxom said last Friday, "Typically, in our easements, we put a certain language in there and we needed it to be right. So we had to go back and forth a couple times with their lawyer to make sure the thing was written the way we wanted."

Bloxom added that the town was required to perform a survey, which was sent to the county last month.

"We can't just give you an easement based on a copy of the assessment records with you drawing a line

on there," he said. "It needs to be an actual survey, but there was no argument over it."

Town Administrator Laura Allen confirmed that Bloxom and attorney David Gaskill, who represents Berlin, worked out the deal behind the scenes.

"They simply worked out the specifics of the easement language," she said. "The town is very happy that the county has approved the easement. We're looking forward to moving quickly on the project."

Allen said the easement pertained to the planned water quality system, which would be located behind the multipurpose building on Flower Street, on county property. She added the Maryland Department of the Environment also recently granted approval for the project, and that the target date for completion, July 2016, was still on track.

"We're just appreciative of the fact that they approved the easement, which is going to enable us to really make this project very successful," she said.

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Pines moving closer, but no deal yet with Sandpiper Energy

By Josh Davis
Staff Writer

(Nov. 26, 2015) OPA Board President Pat Renaud hinted last Thursday during a public meeting in the Assateague Room that the association was on the verge of inking a new deal with Sandpiper Energy.

The directors then went behind closed doors to discuss a contract and emerged two and a half hours later with no deal, but acknowledging that progress had been made.

Essentially, the package being discussed would allow the energy company to convert the more than 8,400 homes in the community from propane to natural gas.

"It went well, I think," Renaud said of later that day of the board's discussion. "We're very close. We're working on the contract and trying to get to a resolution."

Renaud said the directors went over a series of questions that were conveyed to General Manager Bob Thompson, whom the board designated to lead the negotiations with the company last June.

"Hopefully we'll have something by the end of the year, but I'm not positive on that," Renaud said. "Bob has worked very hard in trying to get them to see our point of view, and they have, on the other hand, worked very hard to see their point of view."

"I think we've come to some remediation that will please everybody," Renaud continued. "At least, I hope so."

In October, Renaud said a franchise fee, one of the obstacles in the negotiations that date back more than a year, was apparently off the table. He backtracked slightly from that position last week.

"I don't know if there's anything totally off the table," he said. "Where we gave something, they gave something. We never gave anything without getting reciprocity from them."

"What I see is that they are anxious to close the deal. I think we are anxious too, but not as anxious as they are," Renaud added.

Sandpiper has already converted propane lines in several communities in Worcester County, including Berlin and West Ocean City, and had hoped to do the same in Ocean Pines last year, when talks stalled.

"I think it makes them look kind of bad that [Sandpiper] is going ahead with West Ocean City and with Ocean City without Ocean Pines, because we're the biggest fish in the pond, so to speak," Renaud said. "I think they want to close that deal."

Once the contract is signed, Renaud suggested Sandpiper would almost immediately start converting lines in Ocean Pines, although he said a full conversion could take several years.



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Black Friday, Cyber Monday now Giving Tuesday in Wor. Co.

By Brian Gilliland
Staff Writer

(Nov. 26, 2015) While national and statewide initiatives to inject a little charity into the post-Thanksgiving day consumer frenzy have existed for years now, this year will mark the first time Worcester residents can not only support local nonprofits but also do that in their pajamas, if they so choose.

The centerpiece of "Giving Tuesday" on Dec. 1, is a website, www.shoregivesmore.org, that allows users to donate to one or more Worcester charities of their choice. The full site will launch just before Dec. 1, but now available is a placeholder site that offers details about the programs and the charities involved.

"What happened is a group of Worcester nonprofits gathered together," and wanted to be able to offer potential donors a way to manage multiple donations, Heather Mahler, program director for the Community Foundation of the Eastern Shore, said. "That's where we come in."

The Community Foundation, with offices in Salisbury but serves Worcester, Wicomico and Somerset counties, developed the shoregivesmore.org site and patterned it after the state's "Maryland gives more" campaign. The foundation's mission is to support and encourage philanthropy and develop the community.

"One of the cool things is we have a sponsor, who chooses to remain anonymous, who will cover all of the transaction fees, so 100 percent of a donation goes to the nonprofit of your choice," Mahler said.

Online payment service PayPal charges 3 percent per transaction, for example, and major credit cards all have their associated fees.

"Users of the site will see a list of the participating nonprofits, their missions, funding focus or goals and links to their own websites. You can choose one or multiple causes to donate to, or there is a box where you can specify a different nonprofit if you wish," she said.

Mahler said this structure allows local donors, who often select to keep their donations local, to manage all charitable giving in one place.

"We are pleased to support this great opportunity for families, businesses, community groups and students to come together for the common purpose of supporting charitable causes, to celebrate generosity and give," Erica Joseph, Community Foundation president, said. "We encourage everyone to visit www.shoregivesmore.org on Dec. 1 and give generously to the causes they care about."

The popularity of "Giving Tuesday" has grown significantly in recent years, according to the Community Foundation, as hundreds of qualified nonprofits have collaborated to promote online charitable giving on the day immediately after "Cyber Monday."

Qualified nonprofit organizations in Worcester County participating in the shoregivesmore.org Giving Tuesday charitable fund raising campaign are:

- Assateague Coastal Trust
- Art League of Ocean City
- Costen House
- Delmarva Discovery Center & Museum
- Diakonia Inc.
- Jesse Klump Memorial Fund
- Julia A. Purnell Museum
- Historic St. Martin's Church
- Lower Shore Land Trust
- Maryland Coastal Bays Program
- Ocean City Development Corporation
- Ocean City Paramedic Foundation
- Ocean City Life Saving Station Museum
- Ocean City Reef Foundation
- OC Boy Scout Troop 225
- Calvin B. Taylor House Museum
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Developer Steen makes pitch for OP Beach Club bathrooms

By Josh Davis
Staff Writer

(Nov. 26, 2015) In a somewhat unusual move, developer Marvin Steen presented a cold pitch for renovating the men and women's bathrooms of the Ocean Pines Beach Club during a public board meeting last Thursday.

The 13-page, \$464,600 proposal packet, given to each of the directors, was signed by Berlin-based developer Sens Inc.

The proposal covered the changing rooms, bathrooms and showers for the facility on 49th Street in Ocean City and included labor, material, equipment and supervision.

Steen said during a phone interview on Friday he was merely a concerned citizen.

"Five or six years ago they had a big shove to redo the restrooms and they had a big committee," he said. "At that time they ended up where they wanted to build a separate building and it got very complicated."

Estimates for the original renovation, approximately \$300,000, proved to be cost-prohibitive and the idea was shelved.

Still, problems with the facility persisted.

"It's over 40 years old and it's the most-used building by far. It's not pleasant, to say the least," Steen said. "We've got a beautiful yacht club, they redid the swim and racquet [club], and this should be the next place to go."

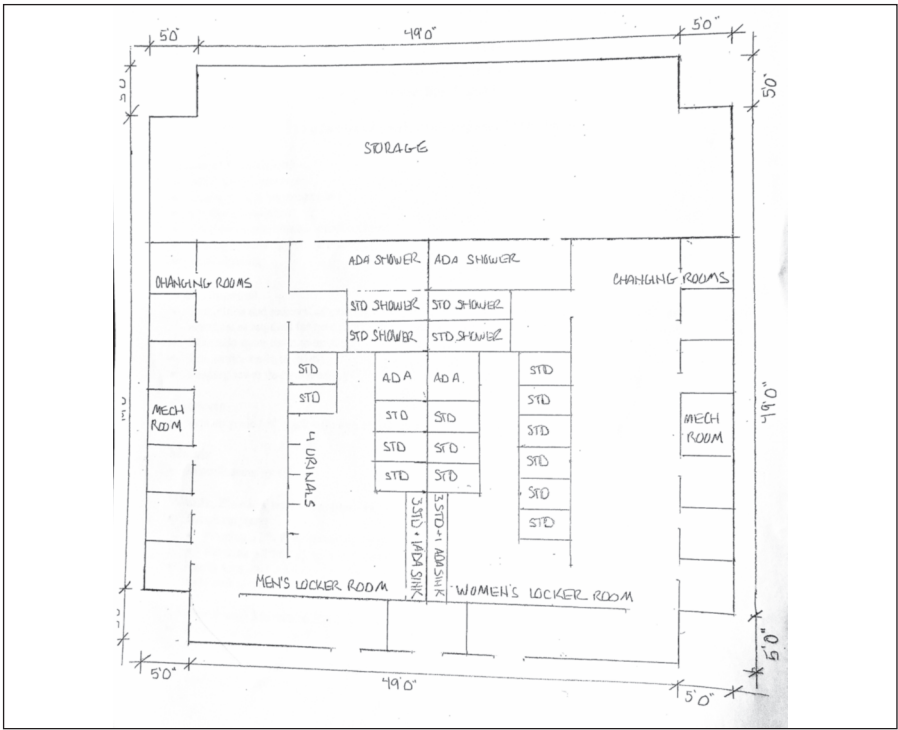
"I got thinking about it, so what I did during the summer is I contacted [Sens] and said, 'take your time, and before the year is out I need a total of what you would go do it for. Do it brand new,'" Steen continued.

Steen said he went with Sens because he was familiar with the company's work and was a particularly big fan of one of its main contractors.

"Ryder Ray, who did work for me all my life since I've been in business, works for them," he said. "I know how good he is and they are."

The estimate, Steen said, was done without any input from the OPA, including the directors.

"If I'd asked one of them it would have been a rumor. You know how that goes," he said. "They'd have a fight going



JOSH DAVIS/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Plans for new bathrooms at the Ocean Pines Beach Club, developed by Sens, Inc. Developer Marvin Steen shared the plans with the board of directors during a meeting last Thursday.

before I had the chance to make a report."

The cold pitch, he admitted, was unusual, although Steen does have a relationship with the board. On April 30, the

board voted unanimously to back a construction project by the developer that would add several dozen duplexes in the area between King Richard Drive and
See SENS Page 12

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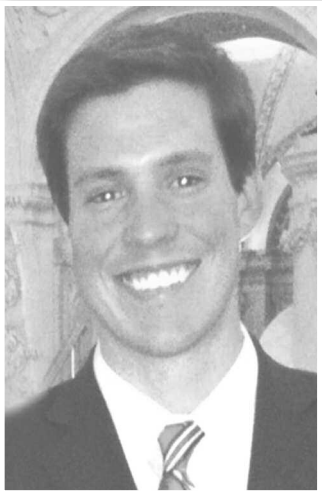
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In his new role, Connor will oversee all operations for Ocean Point, Ltd. including properties currently served in the Ocean City area in addition to properties that range from Chincoteague Virginia and into Delaware extending through Lewes, and as far west as Salisbury. In addition, he joins the company’s Executive Leadership Council which sets the overall company vision and goals for continued growth and excellence in customer service.

“Connor demonstrates an exceptional level of professionalism, knowledge and experience as well as being a natural leader.” said Stephan M. Kenny, Ocean Point, Ltd. President. “Under his leadership during the last six years, our firm has experienced tremendous growth. Connor is an respected professional well deserving of this promotion.”

Connor Braniff holds professional designations with the Community Association Institute, CMCA, Certified Manager of Community Associations, AMS, Association Manager Specialist, and the highest designation- PCAM- Professional Community Association Manger. Connor obtained his Bachelor of Science from the University of Delaware, and currently serves as an Officer on the Ocean City Volunteer Fire Company’s Board of Directors as their Treasurer.

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Sens, Inc. draws up plans for \$400K Beach Club makeover

Continued from Page 11
Gum Point Road.

While he plans to continue to work with the association on that development, Steen said he’s already put in a call to General Manager Bob Thompson to talk further about the beach club renovation.

“He’ll call me back and I’d like to meet on that and say, ‘Bob, what do you think? Who can I shove?’ I’d be glad to contact every one [of the directors],” Steen said.

With preliminary work on the next fiscal-year budget already underway, Steen hopes the bathroom renovation earns the backing of the directors and finds its way into the final budget.

It would almost certainly then have to

go out for bid and get estimates from several other companies.

“It’s a good price and [Sens] would love to do it,” Steen said. “They’re certainly capable of doing a good job. That’s one beautiful building over there, so let’s get her right.”

It’s far from a certainty the project ever gets that far, although several directors appeared to show their interest during the meeting.

“This particular project pays for itself in approximately four years,” Director Jack Collins said, adding that net revenues of the facility were roughly \$150,000 annually. “That’s something we should really, strongly consider. That’s a lay-up, folks.”

Quarterly forecast shows positive variance for Pines

By Josh Davis
Staff Writer

(Nov. 26, 2015) The Ocean Pines Association released a quarterly forecast and variance report during a public meeting last Thursday.

The report, dated Oct. 31, showed an overall positive variance of \$44,197 for the fiscal year, which ends on April 30, 2016.

Recreation, \$22,969, aquatics, \$59,000, marinas, \$53,981, and the beach club, \$42,175, and beach club parking, \$27,583, all project positive variances for the year.

The yacht club (\$62,132) and golf (\$50,000) project to be the two biggest drags on the bottom line, with racquet sports (\$7,049) also expected to finish in the red.

Overall, the administration forecasts just over \$10.8 million in revenue, versus \$10.4 million in expenses, which

would end in a forecasted positive net of \$346,679, ahead of budget projections by \$302,482.

Capital additions would lessen that by \$235,818, with an additional \$66,664 going to pay off loan principals.

“Things are looking pretty solid right now, based on performance of each of the entities,” General Manager Bob Thompson said during the meeting.

Thompson said golf revenues were trailing slightly against the budget, although those numbers were still ahead of the previous year.

“We’re tracking it,” he said. “If they have a strong spring, they can make up some of that. If they don’t, it’s going to fall [short].”

He added that the yacht club was “way ahead” of the previous fiscal year.

“That’s a good thing,” he said. “The metrics are definitely moving in the right direction.”

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Berlin's \$4 million library replacement moving along

By Brian Gilliland
Staff Writer

(Nov. 26, 2015) Adopting a model used before in Ocean City but not elsewhere in Worcester County, the replacement of the Berlin Library is proceeding without the tugs and snags of other county projects.

Pursuing an ultra-efficient building nearly triple the size of the existing library, in use since 1970, is but one of the goals acting Library Director Jennifer Ranck said emerged from a number of meetings with the community.

"We talked about what kind of building the community wanted. We wanted to make it environmentally friendly and we wanted to bring the gardens into the new site — that was really important — and we wanted something that we could use long term and without a lot of maintenance," she said. "We only get one chance to do it the right way."

The first right way was a building strategy called "Passivhaus," which is a European method of construction emphasizing efficiency, but found later some components of the construction were only available in Europe.

"When we first heard about it, we thought it was a new idea. We're now thinking it's possible to adapt the same strategies into a different

method," Ranck said. With construction scheduled to begin next year, the 11,000 square-foot building will follow the form, if not the dictionary definition, of Passivhaus.

Ranck said the change is not a major one, since many of the formal Passivhaus ideas have alternate solutions and would allow the library to provide all the amenities the community desired, including environmental concerns, without the hassle, time, trouble or expense of importing certain items from Europe.

"We did have an expert come in earlier this year to discuss the process with us," Ranck said. "There are certain aspects we can get and we learned a lot about how to insulate the building, for example."

Ranck said an included meeting space is vital for the new building, since the existing Berlin Library is the only one in the county without such a space. A gallery, no doubt owing to the town's decade-old designation as an arts and entertainment sector, will be included as well as an interactive children's area.

But most of all it's just going to mean more space, Ranck said. The new building will be more than three times the size of the existing facility.

See INCREASED Page 14

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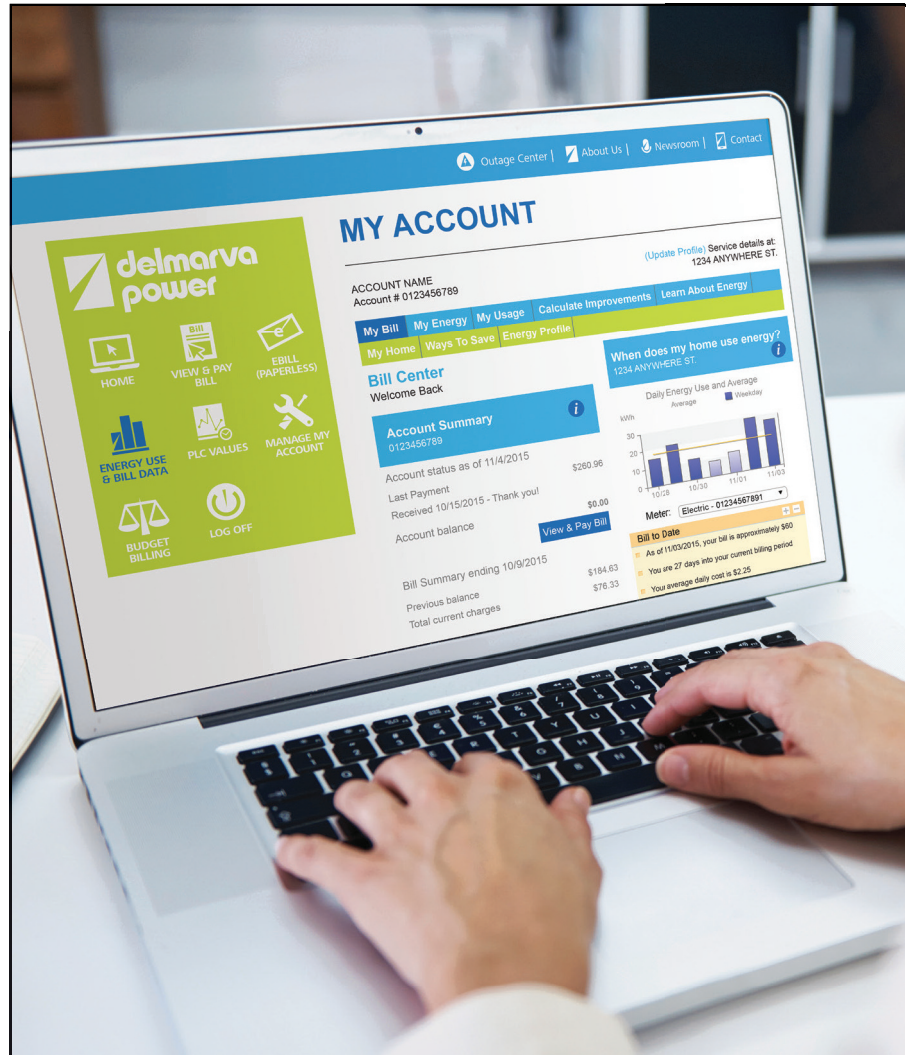
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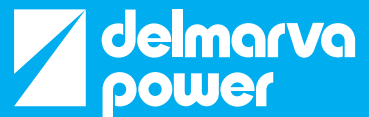
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Increased circulation, event space at new Berlin Library

Continued from Page 13

“We serve Berlin, but also the surrounding areas, and that building certainly sees an increase in use during the summertime. We’ve also had such great turnout for our summer reading events we’ve frequently had to hold them outside, due to the lack of space inside,” Ranck said. “It’s one of our smaller facilities but it’s used heavily.”

With all the new space for events and showcases, however, only modest increases are planned for the library’s collection.

Ranck said there would be about a 15 percent increase in the Berlin Library’s collection in the new building.

The county hired Baltimore construction firm Whiting-Turner to manage the pre-construction phase of the Berlin Library for a total evaluated cost of \$383,400.

The next lowest bidder was Salisbury-based Gillis Gilkerson with a bid of \$385,520.

In this phase of the project, Whiting-Turner will be expected to handle all of the pre-construction arrangements and will have the opportunity to bid, along with other contractors, for the remaining construction work as it becomes available.

The facility is expected to cost almost \$4 million.

Berlin announces fall yard waste-collection schedule

(Nov. 26, 2015) The Town of Berlin is reminding residents of its fall yard waste-collection schedule.

If residents’ normal trash day is a Tuesday or a Wednesday, yard waste pick up day is Wednesday, Dec. 2. If normal trash day is a Thursday, yard waste pick up day will be Wednesday, Dec. 16.

Residents are asked to follow the guidelines listed below:

Place leaves, grass clippings, pine needles and cones, and garden waste in a paper bag, plastic bag or 30-gallon (maximum) container. Cut brush into four foot lengths and bundles no larger than 18 inches in diameter.

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OCEAN PINES BRIEFS

By Josh Davis
Staff Writer
(Nov. 26, 2015) The Ocean Pines Association Board of Directors discussed the following items during a public meeting at the community center on Nov. 19.

Executive council

Board President Pat Renaud said several chairpersons were missing during the Nov. 12 executive council session, when various advisory groups met to discuss upcoming agendas with members of the board. “We did have enough board members to fill in for most of the committees,” he said, adding that the architectural review, budget and finance, bylaws and clubs advisory committees were not represented. Tom Terry is the board liaison for the clubs and budget and finance committees and Dave Stevens is the liaison for bylaws and architectural review.

Manklin update

During General Manager Bob Thompson’s monthly report to the board, Thompson said a request for proposals was sent on Nov. 16 regarding the new Manklin Meadows racquet sports complex. Bids are due Dec. 14 and will likely be reviewed during the next regular board meeting, Dec. 17. Construction on the project is slated to start in January, with completion by April 30.

Major amenities

According to the GM report, golf closed out October below budget, with net revenues \$35,846 below estimates. Expenses beat estimates by \$9,327, although golf, overall, was \$26,519 below budget. Year to date, golf is \$9,751 ahead of the previous year’s numbers. Revenues and expenses were ahead of budget at the yacht club, finishing \$12,204 ahead overall for October. On the year, the yacht club shows profits of \$212,228, which is \$156,415 better than the previous

year during the same span. Aquatics took a dip, with revenue \$6,038 below budget estimates and a net loss of \$7,348 for October. Year to date, aquatics is up \$119,121 over the previous year.

Comprehensive plan

Comprehensive Planning Chair Steve Cohen gave an update on the committee’s recent work. According to Cohen, two focus groups have been held and a third is scheduled as Salisbury University Group BEACON continues to work towards a community survey that should help inform development of a new comprehensive plan. Cohen said “something came up” during the second focus group, which necessitated BEACON calling for a third session. “I think the question was, some of the people brought up that we’d like to be where we were 40 years ago, but realistically we can’t,” he said. Cohen said the third focus group would be held during the next few weeks. BEACON head Dr. Memo Diriker would present findings to the committee and offer a draft of questions for the survey. Those questions, Cohen said, would require board approval. He went on to say the full survey would be sent in March, preferably by mail.


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Berlin A&E hosts Holiday Arts Night exhibits, Friday, 5-8

By Josh Davis
Staff Writer

(Nov. 26, 2015) Holiday Arts Night, the area’s longest running art stroll with a specific theme, returns to downtown Berlin on Friday.

The event started in 1988, as local painter Patrick Henry held an event inside his gallery, then located at the corner of Main and Jefferson streets.

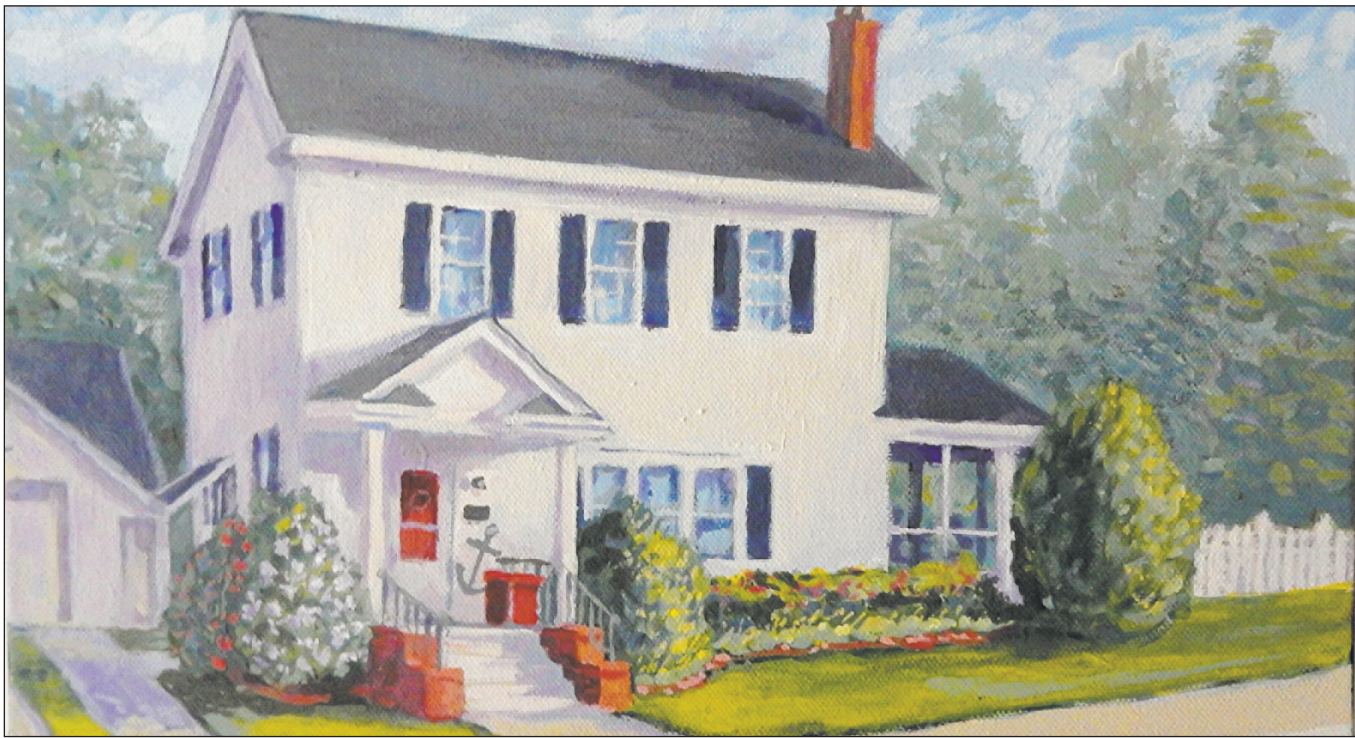
By 1991, Victorian Charm joined the event and several other Berlin businesses followed suit during the following years.

Today, the town’s arts and entertainment committee sponsors Holiday Arts Night, which now includes wood-working, decoy carving, paintings, photography, authors and live music.

“Everyone downtown participates, even the antique malls, which are closed during normal 2nd Friday strolls,” Arts and Entertainment Committee Chairwoman Heather Layton said. “In addition to all the shops and eateries, Patrick Henry and Kate Cashman will each open their studios.

Both galleries are in the Union Station plaza on Old Ocean City Road.

Also during the event, Layton said Burley Oak Brewing Company will present live music by Bad Since Breakfast, as well as photography by



SUBMITTED IMAGE/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Holidays Arts Night in Berlin this Friday, will include an architecturally focused exhibition by Jim Adcock.

Grant Gursky, and Bayside Gazette contributor Jim Adcock will hold an open house, hosted by Carrie Dupuie, on 215 North Main Street.

Adcock said the event reunites him with the home, which he was commissioned to paint a portrait of as a gift for Dupuie several years ago.

“Fast forward to 2015 and Carrie graciously offered to open her office to a showing of my work on arts night, which will include that house portrait,” he said. “Arts night has always been one

of my favorite events of the holiday season. Most of the paintings shown are architectural in focus – house portraits, local landmarks and businesses, as well as paintings from my private collection from travels with my wife, Edie.”

Looking to up the ante on last year’s live ice-sculpture demonstration, this year’s event will include three ice sculptures by ice artist Erik Cantine, including an “ice corn hole” display, a “melt-away” Christmas tree with treats and a snowman.

The visitor’s center on 14 South Main Street will offer live music by jazz pianist Eric Byrd, as well as an appearance by Santa and Mrs. Claus.

Additional live music includes Earl Beardsley and Matt Creamer (Victorian Charm), Spare Change (Sisters), Dark Gold Jazz (The Globe), Test Kitchen (Leaky Pete) and Frankie Moran (Atlantic Hotel).

“I would love for family and friends to come out and just thoroughly enjoy
See ARTS Page 17



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Nov 19 - Nov 26 Weekly

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Daily 11-3	Villas, OC Inlet Isle	3BR/4BR	Condo	From \$740,000	Fritschle Group/Condominium Realty
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Sat & Sun 10-5pm	Sunset Island, Ocean City	—	Condos, Towns & SF	From \$342,500	Terry Riley/Vantage Resort Realty
Sat. & Sun. 12-5	12602 Bay Buoy Ct., Ocean City	3BR/2BA	Single Family	\$329,900	Harbor Homes
Saturday 12-3	Sea Harbor #105 & 205	Efficiency & 1BR	Condos	From \$109,900	Steve Mastbrook/Long & Foster
Sun. 12-5 & Mon-Sat 10-5	70th St. Bayside Broadmarsh	3BR/2 Full & 2 Half BA	Townhomes	From \$299,900	Fritschle Group/Condominium Realty
Sun. 12-5 & Mon-Sat 10-5	11769 Maid at Arms Way	4BR/4.5BA	Single Family	From \$489,900	Evergreene Homes
Sun. 12-5 & Mon-Sat 10-5	Seaside Village, West Ocean City	3BR/2 Full & 2 Half BA	Townhome	From \$294,371	Fritschle Group/Condominium Realty
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Arts Night includes live music, displays in downtown Berlin

Continued from Page 16
this family friendly event,” Layton said. “Berlin has such wonderful small town charm, and when all the shops and the streets are decked out in their Christmas décor, its magical. “It’s nice strolling and shopping the downtown area, not only because you are supporting small businesses, but its nice to take a step back and enjoy the holiday with out the hustle, bustle and chaos that malls can throw at you,” Layton continued. “It’s a nice, unique experience.”
Holiday Arts Night, which runs from 5-8 p.m., coincides with the annual tree lighting ceremony, sponsored by the Town of Berlin.
For information, visit Berlin Md Arts & Entertainment on Facebook.

CFES education grants give \$55K to county schools

(Nov. 26, 2015) The Community Foundation of the Eastern Shore (CFES) honored Maryland Lower Shore schools and educators with \$59,968 in grants through the Foundation’s 2015 Education Award Grants Program.
Education awards are made annually in conjunction with National Education Week through a competitive process to public and private schools on the lower Eastern Shore of Maryland. Grants are made to those schools that have developed innovative programs to be particularly beneficial to their students and communities.
“This awards program is the Community Foundation’s principle vehicle for recognizing and rewarding those schools that are engaged in making a particularly creative contribution to the education of our children,” said Erica Joseph, CFES president. “These awards highlight truly remarkable things our dedicated teachers and school administrators are accomplishing.”
The following programs in Worcester County received Education Award Grants for 2015 during ceremonies held at the Community Foundation of the Eastern Shore’s Nonprofit Support Center in Salisbury:
• Cedar Chapel Special School to support the Communicating Social-Emotional Through Writing project.
• Worcester County Board of Education to support building Next Generation Science Standards into curriculum.
• Pocomoke High School to purchase iPads for use in the Advanced Placement Pathway program.
• Worcester County Board of Education to support a middle school male mentoring project aimed at closing the achievement gap.



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Harrison, Bergey join Taylor board

(Nov. 26, 2015) Raymond M. Thompson, President and CEO of Calvin B. Taylor Bankshares, Inc. and Calvin B. Taylor Banking Company, has announced that G. Hale Harrison, and James Ryan Bergey, III have joined the board of directors of the holding company and the bank.

Harrison, an Ocean City native, is vice president of operations and real estate for Harrison Group Resort Hotels in Ocean City. Harrison serves as a director and is past President of the Ocean City Hotel-Motel-Restaurant Association. He has also served as a member of the Atlantic General Hospital Foundation Board, the Town of Ocean City's

Tourism Advisory Board, the Town of Ocean City's Tourism Commission, and the Ocean City Development Corporation Board of Directors. Harrison has an extensive background in the hospitality industry and knowledge of commercial real estate operations and finance.

Bergey, a Berlin native, is a certified public accountant and a member of Bergey and Company, P.A., with offices in Berlin, Maryland and Rehoboth Beach, Del. He holds bachelors' degrees in both accounting and finance and has practiced public accountancy in the Berlin and Ocean City area since 2006. Bergey is a member of the Finance Committee of

Atlantic General Hospital. He is a past treasurer and director of the Berlin Chamber of Commerce. Bergey has extensive experience in accounting and finance, and is an owner of locally based, diverse businesses.

"With their excellent record of professional accomplishments and community involvement, Mr. Harrison and Mr. Bergey will bring tremendous value to Taylor Bank, our stockholders, and the communities we serve. We welcome them to our company," Thompson said.

Calvin B. Taylor Bank is a community bank providing deposit and loan services to consumers and businesses through 10 offices located in Worcester County and lower Sussex County, Del. Information on the bank is also available through its website, www.taylorbank.com.

Pines celebrates annual Hometown Christmas, Nov. 28

(Nov. 26, 2015) The Ocean Pines Recreation and Parks Department invites area residents and visitors to enjoy a cup of hot cider and treats by a warm fire and kick off the holiday season with the community's fifth annual "A Hometown Christmas" and tree lighting ceremony on Saturday, Nov. 28 at 6:30 p.m. in White Horse Park.

Trees decorated by businesses, clubs, families and individuals will be on display and illuminated during the event, which is free and open to the public.

Local choral groups, including the Delmarva Chorus and the MBS Ambassadors, will perform and Santa Claus will make an appearance.

For information, call the Recreation and Parks Department at 410-641-7052.

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OPINION

BAYSIDE GAZETTE

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

Life isn't always a beach, but we do all live on one

Not to be preachy, but isn't this the time of year that we should be thankful that we're here and functioning rather than being self-involved, angry and uncivil because, well, this is America and it's our right to be anyway we want?

One might argue that we're simply following the tone set by the increasingly divisive bleating of current and recent national political campaigns, as candidates encourage our fierce dislike – and worse – of anyone who doesn't see things our way.

But it's the other way around – they are reflecting and playing to the self-centered disagreeableness that we have, for one reason or another, been cultivating for years. More succinctly, not only does it seem that we become more rude, belligerent and disrespectful every year, but we also appear to celebrate it.

Driving a little slow in the left lane because you're approaching your turnoff? If you're lucky, all you will get from the outraged driver behind you is the finger. In a hurry at the store? Go ahead, ignore the person who has been waiting patiently for the clerk and march straight to the front and demand service because you have other things to do. It's your right.

Such irascibility and obliviousness to those around us might be understandable were we living in more frenzied surroundings, where we ended each week wrung out by the daily scramble of punishing commutes, the jostling crowds and the uninspiring landscapes.

But we don't. We live where other people wish they were: at the beach, in nice communities and in the countryside. Most of us, in fact, chose to live here, knowing there are times when we have the place mostly to ourselves.

This is that time of year. We have had a successful summer, the crowds have thinned, the traffic has dissipated and we can stop our hurrying and let go of the idea that if we don't get what we want, someone is going to pay the price.

For many of us, we already have what we want and we should be thankful for that. And, consequently, maybe be a little nicer to each other in the process.

BAYSIDE GAZETTE

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"Really. I'm working overtime to finish this Valentines Day display and you're asking me which isle the cranberry sauce is in!?"

LETTERS

Food drive thanks

Editor,
I would like to thank those members of the Worcester County Bar Association who contributed to the Bar's Annual Thanksgiving Food Drive.

I also thank Scott Fornwalt and the Fenwick Crabhouse, Save-A-Lot, and Purdue-Eastern Shore Poultry for facilitating delivery of our food.

This year, we were able to

provide approximately 370 less-fortunate families with a complete Thanksgiving dinner, which they could prepare in their own homes. We united once again with Worcester County Gold and Pocomoke, Snow Hill, Buckingham and Showell elementary schools to identify those families with children to attempt to reach our goal, that no one in our county should go hungry on Thanksgiving.

I acknowledge that our

goal is a lofty one that perhaps will never be completely met. We are proud, however, that as our Thanksgiving food drive has grown over the past 15 years, we are getting closer.

Thank you for being our brother's/sister's keeper and attempting to take care of our own.

*David C. Gaskill
Committee On
Charitable Endeavors
Worcester County Bar
Association*

Girl Scouts cookie prices unchanged

(Nov. 26, 2015) Girl Scouts of the Chesapeake Bay (GSCB) will not be increasing the price of Girl Scout Cookies this year.

While some councils have decided to increase cookie prices to \$5 per box, cookies on the Delmarva Peninsula will remain at \$4 per box for the upcoming cookie season. The price of a box of Girl Scout Cookies is determined individually by each of the 112 local councils.

Not all varieties of cookies are available in every market due to Girl Scout Cookies being produced by two commercial bakers, ABC Bakers and Little Brownie Bakers. Local Girl Scouts will start

taking orders in January. There are eight cookie varieties this year—Thin Mints, Samoas, Tagalongs, Trefoils, Do-si-dos, Savannah Smiles, Rah-Rah Raisins and gluten-free Toffee-tastic.

Girl Scout Cookies will be \$4 per box with the exception of Toffee-tastics, which cost \$5 per box.

Girl Scouts of the Chesapeake Bay selects which baker it want to partner with from the two GSUSA-licensed bakers, and negotiates all terms with that baker.

Girl Scouts of the USA (GSUSA) and individual troops play no role in determining the price of a box of

cookies within a local market.

Through the Girl Scout Cookie Program, girls learn five essential life skills: goal setting, decision making, money management, people skills and business ethics.

Last year, GSUSA launched Digital Cookie, which added a digital layer to the Girl Scout Cookie Program by providing girls the opportunity to develop 21st century skills. All of the net proceeds from Girl Scout Cookie sales are reinvested back into the local councils for activities, and fund Girl Scouts' take-action projects. GSUSA does not profit from the proceeds of the cookie sale.



Democratic Women's Club of Worcester County President Judy Butler, third from left in front, and Congresswoman Donna Edwards, fourth from left in front, join DWC members for a photo during the Nov. 16 meeting.

DWC meets with state Del. Edwards

(Nov. 26, 2015) Congresswoman Donna Edwards (Maryland 4th District), who is running for the 2016 U.S. Senate seat currently held by Senator Barbara Mikulski, was the guest speaker during the Democratic Women's Club of Worcester County (DWC) Nov. 16 meeting.

More than 60 members and guests learned more about Rep. Edwards' commitment to fight for Maryland working families through protecting Social Security and Medicare, protecting the rights of women and making debt-free higher education a reality.

The meeting had an especially festive atmosphere, as it capped off the club's two holiday gift drives. DWC members donated 70 throw/lap-size blankets for distribution to the county's homebound served by the Meals on Wheels program and to patients cared for by Coastal Hospice.

Members also donated more than 100 toys, games and novelties for children—from toddlers to teenagers—in the lives of women incarcerated at the Worcester county jail. The donations

give the incarcerated women a chance to select gifts and wrap them for the children in their lives.

The Democratic Women's Club of Worcester County meets monthly (except December, July and August). Meetings begin with coffee and informal conversation between 9:30-10 a.m., followed by a business session featuring a guest speaker from 10 a.m. to noon. Meetings are held at the Assateague Room in the Ocean Pines Community Center. For information, contact DWC President Judy Butler at 410-600-0468.

GOOSE ISLAND. DEVILS BACKBONE. BRECKENRIDGE. RED HOOK. ANDERSON VALLEY. SCHLAFTLY. NORTH COAST. SHIPYARD. ELYSIAN. 21ST AMENDMENT. VINTA. GREEN FLASH. DELERIU. SON DUPONT. CHIMAY. THE BREWERS ART. SAMUEL ADAMS. SARANAC. OMMEGANG. KONA. SOUTHERN TIER. WOL. BOULDER BREW. HEAVY SEAS. SMILE. YENGLING. TROEGS. FISH HEAD. NA. REVOLUTION. BE. PUBLIC. FLYING. BREWING COM. THE OMNION. FO. SIX POINT. LAGUNITAS. LAGUNITAS. VICTORY. RIDA BE. COOLEST STORE ON THE EASTERN SHORE! Check out the innovators Do not be fooled by the imitators!

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WYFCS presents 'Sun Awards' to Allgood, Furbay

(Nov. 26, 2015) During its 40th annual celebration on Nov. 1, Worcester Youth and Family Counseling Services, Inc. (WYFCS) honored community partners and residents for supporting neighbors in need.

The annual WYFCS "Sun Awards" are dedicated to recognize the efforts of individuals and organizations that demonstrate a commitment to empowering people, of all ages, toward leading capable, purposeful, responsible and fulfilled lives.

Mary Kay Allgood of Berlin and Ashley Furbay of Ocean City were each honored with a WYFCS Sun Award. A decorative sun was dedicated in each of their names, recognizing their respective 10 years of service as volunteers for the Lower Shore CASA program. As CASA volunteers, Allgood and Furbay advocate in court and in the community for the best interests of abused and neglected children in Worcester County.

Allgood is retired from 34 years at the Federal Health Care Financing Administration and has vigorously advocated for 10 children during her service with Lower Shore CASA. Allgood also helps recruit new CASA volunteers and assists with training.

In addition, Allgood volunteers for Worcester County G.O.L.D., OC Lioness Club, Optimist Club of Ocean City, Diakonia, a local animal shelter, and the NOEL Christmas Dinner at St Paul's by the Sea in Ocean City.

Furbay came to the Lower Shore CASA program 10 years ago, while running her own business. Since that time she has actively advocated for 11 children living in the community.

In addition to supporting the interests of children, she continuously promotes CASA throughout the community and is actively engaged in fundraising efforts, personally raising more than \$1,000 each year. She also volunteers with the OC Lioness Club, OC Parrot-head Club and the Atlantic General Hospital Junior Auxiliary Group.

Worcester County Board of Education received a Sun Award on behalf of the Worcester County Public School System (WCPS). Representing the Board of Education was Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Jerry Wilson and Sara D. Thompson, vice president.

"The Board of Directors and staff of WYFCS elected to recognize the school system for its ongoing support of WYFCS programs and for offering innovative programs that provide a positive and productive learning environment for all children in our community," said WYFCS Executive Director, Steven Taylor.

Programs referenced included WCPS character education programs; positive behavior interventions and peer dispute mediation.

Dedicated WYFCS Sun Awards are displayed in "The Ray," a community resource room located in WYFCS's office in Berlin.

For more information about these awards or WYFCS programs, visit www.gowoyo.org, or call 410-641-4598.



Worcester

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AGH opens Pain Center, welcomes specialist Dr. Zaky

(Nov. 26, 2015) Atlantic General Hospital and Health System announces that board certified anesthesiologist and pain intervention specialist Wadid Zaky, MD, will serve as medical director of the new Atlantic General Pain Center in Berlin.

Building the center was one of the organization's strategic plans to address a chronic condition that plagues many residents on the Shore.

According to the National Institutes of Health, chronic pain affects more Americans than diabetes, heart disease and cancer combined. It is a leading cause of disability and accounts for a significant portion of healthcare costs.

"We are very pleased to have Dr. Zaky join us," said Colleen Wareing, vice president of patient care at Atlantic General Hospital. "He brings advanced techniques to the management of pain with a focus on integrating the right interventions for each individual patient. To have him on the Shore for our community is amazing. Dr. Zaky is one of only four pain experts in the United States that was invited to present at the World Institute of Pain International Conference being held in London this month."

Atlantic General Pain Center provides a comprehensive approach to treatment of chronic pain, with pain blocks and spinal intervention procedures in addition to medical management. Over the next year, the program will expand to include behavioral health as well as complimentary services, providing a holistic approach to the treatment of pain.

In addition to administering pain blocks and performing minimally-invasive procedures, Zaky is the only physician on the Eastern Shore with expertise in advanced neuro modulation, which involves stimulation of the spine to relieve pain in various parts of the body.

With one therapy, high-frequency modulation, the patient cannot detect the stimulation and the therapy can relieve pain for some individuals for whom lower frequency therapy was ineffective. Another modality is selective nerve root modulation.

These therapies are used to alleviate pain caused by a number of conditions, including neuropathy and peripheral nerve damage from diabetes, degenerative disc disease, neck and back pain as well as persistent pain after surgery.

Zaky joined Atlantic General Hospital following a stint as assistant professor at Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine. Zaky completed a fellowship in pain management at the University of Pittsburgh and a fellowship in neuro-modulation at King's College, London, as well as a residency in anesthesia at Brookdale University Medical Center.

He has worked with numerous healthcare organizations, including Sloan Kettering Cancer Institute and the Cleveland Clinic Pain Center. Zaky is board certified in pain management and anesthesiology.

Physician referrals can be made by calling 410-641-3340.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

JUNIOR LIFEGUARDS

Children from the Junior Lifeguard program, presented by Ocean Pines Aquatics, celebrate certification at the Sports Core Pool last Friday. The next Junior Lifeguard class is Dec. 30.

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SNAPSHOTS



PHOTO COURTESY MORGAN COULSON

GIVING TUESDAY

Berlin Mayor Gee Williams, center, presents a proclamation to Michael Franklin, left, and Todd Ferrante from Atlantic General Hospital, designating Dec. 1 as “Giving Tuesday.”



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

BARK FOR LIFE

Berlin Fire Company President David Fitzgerald, left, cadet Tyler Sinclair, Berlin Councilwoman Lisa Hall and volunteer Cate Nellans, right, help run the Bark for Life event at the fire department on Nov. 13.

‘COMIC’ ARTISTS

Worcester Preparatory School (WPS) sixth grade students presented the play “Comic Book Artist” by Pat Lydersen in the Athletic and Performing Arts Center on Oct. 27. Directed by WPS Middle School teachers Linda Smith and Susan Godwin, “Comic Book Artist” was performed for parents and friends of the Class of 2022 and fellow WPS students in Pre-Kindergarten through eighth grade.

SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE



THANKSGIVING CRAFTS

Berlin Senior Center residents show off their turkey-shaped coasters, which they made with the assistance of members of the Pine'eer Craft Club of Ocean Pines on Nov. 2. The seniors created a cork coaster with a turkey theme and an edible turkey made of candy and Oreo cookies. The Pine'eer Craft Club members visit the center once a month as part of their outreach program.

SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

CAR backing Fair Housing contest

(Nov. 26, 2015) The Coastal Association of Realtors (CAR) is encouraging local teachers to participate in the annual Fair Housing Poster Contest, which sends the winning student to Annapolis for a meeting with the governor or other state official.

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

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

Artwork submitted by students must illustrate this year’s calendar theme, “Dreams Come True With Fair Housing.” CAR will choose a local winner from each of three age groups: kindergarten through second grade, third through fifth grade and sixth through eighth grade.

These winners will receive Visa gift cards, courtesy of CAR. Their entries will be forwarded to MAR, who will choose one for inclusion in the 2017 statewide calendar. The winner will travel to Annapolis, where they will be honored along with 12 other students from across the state.

Contest packets have been mailed to the principals of public and private schools in Somerset, Wicomico and Worcester counties. Home schools, aftercare programs, churches and other children’s centers are encouraged to participate. For a contest packet, contact Sarah Rayne, government and public affairs director for CAR, at 410-641-4409 or sarah@coastalrealtors.org. Deadline for submissions is Friday, Feb. 5, 2016.


‘Night’ fundraiser benefits Grace ctr.

(Nov. 26, 2015) The second annual “A Night to Remember in December” will take place on Saturday, Dec. 5 at Most Blessed Sacrament Catholic School in Ocean Pines to benefit the Shirley Grace Pregnancy Center.

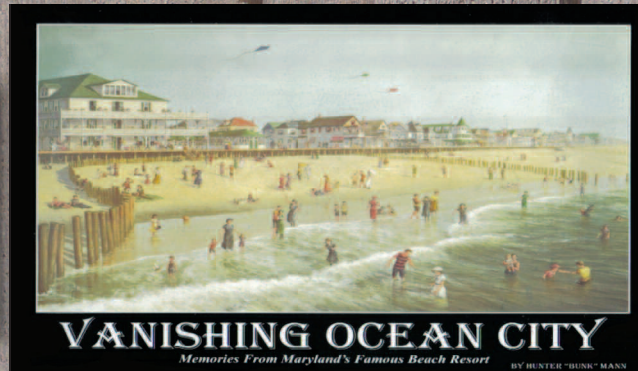
Doors open at 5:30 p.m. A donation of \$35 includes a holiday buffet prepared by area local chefs, desserts, a night of dancing, a \$1,000 cash raffle ticket, 50/50, Chinese and live auction items featuring hotels stays, restaurant gift cards, golf, jewelry and gift items. Non-alcoholic beverages are included. There will be a cash bar.

Shirley Grace Pregnancy Center’s mission is: “We seek to be a safe haven that advocates life affirming alternatives while equipping, educating and empowering parents in order to strengthen families in our community.”

Its vision is to build a world that supports all life. All proceeds go to helping the cause of making a positive difference in the lives of women, babies and families. Call Patti Bulvin 443-513-4124 for information or tickets.






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BY SAMUEL A. DONALDSON AND JEFF CHEN / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

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CUISINE

BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Be thankful for country ham, cheese trays

I drank the Kool-Aid and decided to do the famous social media exercise of pronouncing my month of being thankful. Every day I would find thanks for anything from my family to pets to country ham. It was a difficult period in my life, as publicly announcing positive things every day goes against my very



By Paul Suplee,
CEC PCIII

nature as a Suplee. We have to complain about something, for god's sake. Admittedly, it was refreshing to take the time to reflect on the things in my life that mean the most to me; and yes, country ham definitely makes the top-10 list, despite the fact that it has nothing to do with this week's article.

But what this week does discuss is the kickoff to the holidays. As I sit in the dining room at school at a table set for a Thanksgiving feast (for American Regional Cuisine), the smells invigorate my senses, and the excitement of the students makes me happy. I've already had one Thanksgiving dinner on Sunday, and then I have this treat today, and of course one on Thursday.

Talk about being thankful ... but I ramble.

With the onslaught of the holidays comes holiday entertaining, and with a few strokes of a pen I hope to engage you on the path of creating and service. One of my favorite, simple dishes is the cheese tray. Nothing sets off a dinner party or cocktail party like a well-organized platter of cheese, salume if you're lucky, and some crispy baguette.

I made a trip to Liquid Assets earlier in the week to pick up some California cheeses for class, and with some left-over – and with a luncheon ready to start – I figured there was no need to waste a bit of it.

I was quick to make a blistered tomato confit with sweet, savory and tart nuances that accent the cheeses splendidly. The cheeses, "Humboldt Fog" and "Tremor," have such a pronounced flavor that any sort of accoutrement must stand up to it without overpowering it.

And no sooner had I finished the cheese tray were students (and myself) devouring the cheeses, practically scraping the Himalayan pink salt to finish the job.

Cypress Grove is the cheese



maker that makes the Humboldt Fog and Tremor. Both formidable cheeses, I find it important to encourage you to seek out a source to buy these. I constantly tell people to befriend a chef if they are not in the business themselves. Chefs can source things that "normal" people cannot, unless they buy online. Of course, going the route of the latter means that you will be paying a premium for such goods.

We have the ability to buy products wholesale, and when it comes to terminology and buzzwords, the industry takes full advantage of it, charging the general public exorbitant rates for specialty items such as truffle salt and sheet gelatin. Once you figure out where to source such items, then cooking killer, restaurant-style food becomes a breeze. Such companies even sell curing salts for curing and smoking meats. With a few of these thrown into the arsenal, you will be unstoppable.

The other little treat that you will see in the picture, and in fact the focus of the picture, is black garlic, a fermented specialty out of California. With a distinctive flavor that borders garlic and black currants, this spreadable delicacy is well paired with a tart cheese. All in all, I guess you had better make nice with a local chef to see if he or she will hook you up with the

good stuff.

And when all is said and done, you will be the envy of the block party, and with the holidays right around the corner, you better believe that more than a few will be held. I'm thankful for that.

Cheese Tray with Black Garlic

Enough for four (or just me)

4 ounces Humboldt Fog Cheese
4 ounces Tremor Cheese
Half a baguette, toasted
1/2 cup Tomato-bacon confit (recipe follows)
1 head black garlic, with a few cloves out

1. Place everything on a serving platter, slate, or as pictured, Himalayan pink salt slab

2. Serve. Yes, it's this easy, although if you want to go a little further, consider throwing some dried and cured charcuterie on there as well. Harris Teeter just recently had a very nice selection of dried Italian salume

Tomato-bacon Confit

Makes about 3 cups

1 cup Assorted hothouse mini tomatoes
1/4 cup chopped bacon

1 cup Red onion, julienne
1/4 cup Sherry vinegar
1/4 cup Sugar, or to taste
Black pepper, as needed

1. Get a saute pan smoking hot and add the tomatoes. They will blister on the smallest part of the orb that is touching the pan

2. Move them around until the skin is peeling and then add your bacon

3. Cook until some fat has rendered and the bacon is starting to crisp



4. Add the onions and continue to cook

5. When the onions have cooked down and are soft, add the vinegar and sugar and cook until the tomatoes, while retaining a little bit of their shape, are tender and spreadable

6. Season with the pepper and adjust as needed (levels of sugar, vinegar and pepper can vary on your taste)

7. Cool down until ready to use. I prefer this at room temperature, so if you refrigerate it, simply pull out prior to service

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



★ ★

STAR CHARITIES

ALL VOLUNTEERS

Please join us for our

Annual Beef & Beer Fundraiser

Friday, January 8, 2016

Ocean Pines
Community Center
5:00-9:00 p.m.

To Benefit Wounded Soldiers of MD

All-You-Can-Eat Beef Dinner
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ROD STEWART IMPERSONATOR

TICKETS \$30.00

Contact Anna Foultz
410-641-7667

A special thank you to Marlene Ott, Associate
Shamrock Realty Group for donating the tickets
and program. We thank you from our hearts.



Stephen Decatur High School junior Devin Dodson won the Delaware State Championship AC Delco Modifieds on Oct. 18. Dodson placed first out of 22 racers and brought home a purse valued at more than \$2,000. He donated \$350 to Making Strides Against Breast Cancer. Stephen Decatur High School Principal Tom Zimmer accepts the check on behalf of the organization.

SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Decatur student Dodson brings home racing trophy

(Nov. 26, 2015) It has taken several years for Stephen Decatur High School junior Devin Dodson to drive his way into the winner's circle, but on Oct. 18, he was able to hoist the trophy for the Delaware State Championship AC Delco Modifieds.

Dodson placed first out of 22 racers and brought home a purse valued at more than \$2,000, but he was not satisfied with simply putting his winnings into his bank account. He decided to donate a portion, \$350, to Making Strides Against Breast Cancer.


"I just wanted to make a small difference and give to a good cause," Dodson said. "I won in October, which is Breast Cancer Awareness

Month, so I thought it was the right thing to do."


Cars and racing have been a life-time hobby for Dodson and he is currently enrolled in the automotive program at Worcester Technical High School. Dodson's future plans include attending the University of Northwestern Ohio (UNOH) to study automotive, diesel and high performance industries. Eventually, he would like to earn his way to the position of crew chief with NASCAR.


"It takes a special person to think beyond himself. Devin's gesture is extremely impressive," said Stephen Decatur High School Principal Tom Zimmer, who accepted the check on behalf of the organization.

A Sincere Thanks to my A&P & Superfresh Customers Throughout the Years.





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It has been my pleasure to get to know my customers over the years. You all have not only been customers, but have become very dear friends and I will miss you all so much!

I would like to wish each & every one of you a wonderful holiday season!

Sincerely,
A&P Cheryl
(12 days shy of 40 years)



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CALENDAR

BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Please send calendar items to 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.

FRI. Nov. 27

HOLIDAY SHOPPER’S FAIR — Ocean City convention center, 4001 Coastal Highway, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Photography, florals, jewelry, nautical items, toys, candles and more. Children’s activities and a visit from Santa. Admission fee is \$3 for the weekend. Non-shoppers lounge available. Info: Melanie Collins, 410-723-8605 or 800-OC-OCEAN.

SANTA VISITS MALL — White Marlin Mall, 12641 Ocean Gateway, West Ocean City, 2 p.m. Info: www.whitemarlinmall.com.

CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING AND HOLIDAY ARTS NIGHT — In front of the Atlantic Hotel, 2 N. Main St., Berlin. The Mayor of Berlin will light the tree at 5:30 p.m. accompanied by Santa Claus, Mrs. Claus, a reindeer, snowmen and the Grinch. Several ice sculpting will be taking place as well. After, follow Santa and Mrs. Claus down to the Visitor’s Center for treats, pictures and live music. Info: www.Berlin-MainStreet.com or 410-973-2051.

SAT. Nov. 28

HOLIDAY SHOPPER’S FAIR — Ocean City convention center, 4001 Coastal Highway, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Photography, florals, jewelry, nautical items, toys, candles and more. Children’s activities and a visit from Santa. Admission fee is \$3 for the weekend. Non-shoppers lounge available. Info: Melanie Collins, 410-723-8605 or 800-OC-OCEAN.

THE TEXAS TENORS - DEEP IN THE HEART OF CHRISTMAS — Performing Arts Center, Ocean City convention center, 4001 Coastal Highway, 8 p.m. Tickets cost \$45 and \$55. For tickets, visit the Visitor Center on 40th Street or call Ticketmaster at 800-551-SEAT. Info: 410-289-2800.

SANTA VISITS MALL — White Marlin Mall, 12641 Ocean Gateway, West Ocean City, 11 a.m. Info: www.whitemarlinmall.com.

ART SALE — Bishop’s Stock Fine Art & Fine Craft, 202 W. Green St., Snow Hill, 5-8 p.m. In celebration of Small Business Saturday, large paintings discounted 20-25 percent. Also, order Holiday Wine Baskets at a 20 percent discount. Customers who visit will have a chance to win a framed Kirk McBride seascape. Info: BishopsStock.com.

FALL LUNCHEON — Powellville United Methodist Church, 35606 Mt. Hermon Road, Powellville, 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Oyster fritters, homemade soups, chicken salad and desserts. Eat-in or carry-out. The church cookbooks also for sale. Info: 443-880-8804.

5TH ANNUAL HOMETOWN CHRISTMAS AND TREE LIGHTING — White Horse Park,

239 Ocean Parkway, Ocean Pines, 6:30 p.m. Featuring hot cider, treats, bonfire and Christmas trees decorated by Ocean Pines businesses, clubs, families and individuals on display and illuminated at the event. Free and open to the public. Local choral groups will perform and Santa Claus will make an appearance. Info: Ocean Pines Recreation and Parks Department, 410-641-7052.

MODEL TRAIN DISPLAYS — Delaware Seaside Railroad Club, Clayton Crossing, 32422 Royal Blvd., Dagsboro, Del., Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., year round. See five layouts. Info: Bill Ziegler, wjziegler1@verizon.net or 302-537-0964.

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. Info: 410-524-8196.

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

SUN. Nov. 29

HOLIDAY SHOPPER’S FAIR — Ocean City convention center, 4001 Coastal Highway, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Photography, florals, jewelry, nautical items, toys, candles and more. Children’s activities and a visit from Santa. Admission fee is \$3 for the weekend. Non-shoppers lounge available. Info: Melanie Collins, 410-723-8605 or 800-OC-OCEAN.

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

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

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

MON. Nov. 30

TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY MEETING —

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

SOCIAL 1 1/2 — Bethany United Methodist Church, 8648 Stephen Decatur Highway, Berlin, Mondays, 6:30-8 p.m. Christian social club for those 50 and older are welcome to enjoy games, activities, bike rides, prayer and friendship. Info: 410-641-2136 or Bethany21811@gmail.com.

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

TUES. Dec. 1

HYPERTENSION CLINICS — Sponsored by Atlantic General Hospital and takes place at Rite Aid, 38169 Dupont Blvd., Selbyville, Del., 10 a.m. to noon and at Walgreens, 34960 Atlantic Ave. #2, Clarksville, Del., 1-3 p.m. Free blood pressure screening and health information. Info: Dawn Denton, 410-641-9268.

HEALTHY LIVING WITH DIABETES WORKSHOP — Snow Hill Senior Center, 4767 Snow Hill Road, 9:30 a.m. to noon. Free, six-week workshop designed to help those affected by diabetes better manage their disease. Pre-registration required: Dawn, 410-641-9268.

YOUNG & RESTLESS ‘REINDEER GAMES’ — Pocomoke library, 301 Market St., 10:30 a.m. Art, music and games for the season. For 3 to 7 year old children. Info: www.worcesterlibrary.org or 410-957-0878.

STORY TIME — Berlin library, 220 N. Main St., 10:30 a.m. Info: www.worcesterlibrary.org or 410-641-0650.

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

ON YOUR OWN, BUT NOT ALONE - WOC Fitness, 12319 Ocean Gateway, West Ocean City, 5 p.m. Weight loss support group with discussions about nutrition, exercise, health and weight loss. Cost is \$5 per meeting. Info: dillon128@aol.com.

WED. Dec. 2

PIZZA PARTY AND TRAIN RIDE WITH SANTA — Northside Park, 200 125th St. in Ocean City, 5:30-7:30 p.m. Boys and girls, pre-K through third grade and their grown-ups welcome. Pizza, light refreshments, arts and crafts, cookie-decorating, a ride through Winterfest of Lights and a visit with Santa. Cost is \$8 for Ocean City residents and \$10 for non-residents. Cost for adults to ride the Winterfest train is \$4. Pre-registration required by Dec. 1: www.oceancitymd.gov or stop by Northside Park. Info: Lynda Brittingham, 410-250-0125.

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

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

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

HEALTHY LIVING WITH DIABETES WORKSHOP — Ocean City Senior Center, 104 41st Street, 9:30 a.m. to noon. Free, six-week workshop that teaches self-management skills for those with Diabetes (or caring for someone with Diabetes). Pre-registration required: Dawn, 410-641-9268.

YOUNG & RESTLESS ‘REINDEER GAMES’ — Ocean City library, 10003 Coastal Highway, 10:30 a.m. Art, music and games for the season. For 3 to 7 year old children. Info: www.worcesterlibrary.org or 410-524-1818.

MODEL TRAIN DISPLAYS — Delaware Seaside Railroad Club, Clayton Crossing, 32422 Royal Blvd., Dagsboro, Del., Wednesdays, 5-8 p.m., year round. See five layouts. Info: Bill Ziegler, wjziegler1@verizon.net or 302-537-0964.

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

CALENDAR

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

DELMARVA HAND DANCE CLUB — Meets every Wednesday at Peaky’s Rooftop Restaurant & Bar, located in the Fenwick Inn, 13801 Coastal Highway, Ocean City. Beginner and intermediate lessons, 5:30-6:30 p.m., followed by dancing 6:30-9 p.m. Jitterbug, swing, cha-cha to the sounds of the ’50s, ’60s and Carolina beach music. All are welcome. Info: 302-200-DANCE (3262).

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

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

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

ON YOUR OWN, BUT NOT ALONE - WOC Fitness, 12319 Ocean Gateway, West Ocean City, noon. Weight loss support group with discussions about nutrition, exercise, health and weight loss. Cost is \$5 per meeting. Info: dillon128@aol.com.

THURS. Dec. 3

ANNUAL FALL-WINTER FUNDRAISING DINNER — Adolfo’s, 13th Street and the Boardwalk, Ocean City, 5:30 p.m. Tickets cost \$35 for adults and \$15 for children 13 and younger. Proceeds benefit Kanille’s Kupboard Pet Pantry & Rescue, Inc. Attendees are asked to bring a donation of dog or cat food, treats or toys. Tickets available at the door or by calling 410-213-0393 or 302-539-0595.

BERLIN CHRISTMAS PARADE — Main Street, Berlin, 7 p.m. Featuring marching bands, floats, Christmas characters, hot chocolate and more. Info: www.BerlinMainStreet.com or 410-973-2051.

PLAY TIME — Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 10:30-11:30 a.m. Good old fashion play for infant to 5 year old children. Info: www.worcesterlibrary.org or 410-208-4014.

FARMERS’ MARKET — 10019 Old Ocean City Blvd., Berlin, 3-6 p.m. Featuring local in season produce, gluten free and gluten full baked products, eggs, honey, kettle korn, natural pet treats, soaps and more. Info: 410-713-8803.

BEACH SINGLES — Every Thursday, Beach Singles 45-Plus meets for happy hour at Harpoon Hanna’s, 39064 Har-

poon Road, Fenwick Island, Del., 4 p.m. Info: Arlene, 302-436-9577; Kate, 410-524-0649; or Dianne, 302-541-4642.

BINGO — American Legion Post 166, 2308 Philadelphia Ave., in Ocean City, every Thursday, year round. Doors open at 5 p.m., games start at 6:30 p.m. Food available. Open to the public. Info: 410-289-3166.

CHAIR AEROBICS — St. Peter’s Lutheran Church Community Life Center, 10301 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, 1-2 p.m. Free will offering appreciated. Sponsored by St. Peter’s Senior Adult Ministry. Info: 410-524-7474.

COASTAL HOSPICE GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP — Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 11 a.m. Free and open to anyone who has lost a loved one, not just Coastal Hospice families. Info: 410-251-8163.

ONGOING EVENTS

LETTERS TO SANTA — A special “Letters For Santa” mailbox is located outside of the Visitor’s Center, 14 S. Main St., Berlin, for children to mail their letters (no postage necessary). Each child will receive a letter back containing a coupon for a free treat at Baked Dessert Café, Berlin Coffee House or Rayne’s Reef. Letters must be dropped off by Dec. 18 for a return letter. Info: www.Berlin-MainStreet.com or 410-973-2051.

WINTERFEST OF LIGHTS — More than one million holiday lights throughout Ocean City, Nov. 19 through Jan 3, 2016. The heated Winterfest Village Pavilion at Northside Park, 200 125th St., features hot chocolate, the Yukon Cornelius gift shop, photos with Santa and the Winterfest Express. Tour the hundreds of animated, lighted displays. Cost is \$5 for adults, children 12 and younger ride free. Hours are Sunday through Thursday, 5:30-9:30 p.m. and Friday and Saturday, 5:30-10:30 p.m. Info: 800-626-2326, 410-250-0125 or www.ococean.com.

WIN THE WINDOW CONTEST — From Nov. 13 through Dec. 18 shoppers of participating downtown Berlin businesses can enter to win \$3,000+ in merchandise and gift certificates. Shoppers will get a ticket entry for every \$10 they spend on eligible items at participating businesses. Ten tickets are given for a \$100 purchase. Tickets can be dropped off at any participating business. Drawing will take place Dec. 18. Need not be present to win. Info: www.BerlinMainStreet.com.

ONE-ON-ONE E-READER INSPIRATION — Berlin library, 220 N. Main St., during November. Schedule an individual tutorial: 410-641-0650.

FALL BUS TRIP — Tour NASA’s Wallops Flight Facility on Dec. 8. Cost is \$35. Open to the public. Buses depart from the Ocean Pines Community Center, 235

Ocean Parkway. Reservations required: 410-641-7052. Info: www.OceanPines.org.

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

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

FRIENDS OF THE OCEAN CITY LIBRARY — Group meets the first Friday of each month at 1 p.m in the library meeting room. Discussions on library and volunteer needs and often include interesting speakers. Followed by refreshments. New Friends always welcome.

PINE’ER CRAFT AND GIFT SHOP OPEN — Pine’er Craft and Gift Shop, White Horse Park, 239 Ocean Parkway, Ocean Pines. Shop will be open every Saturday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and every Sunday, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Featuring the latest creations by members of the Pine’er Craft Club.

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

AUMC THRIFT SHOP — Atlantic United Methodist Church, 105 Fourth St., in Ocean City. Now open Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Info: 410-289-4458.

POSITIVE OUTLOOK THRIFT SHOP — Positive Outlook Thrift Shop, 12637 Ocean Gateway, Trlr 2, West Ocean City, Mon-

day and Wednesday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Saturday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Located next to Seaside Christian Academy behind White Marlin Mall. Info: 410-251-6971. Sponsored by OC Baptist Church.

THE SHEPHERD’S NOOK THRIFT SHOP — Community Church at Ocean Pines, 11227 Racetrack Road. Open Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Accepting donations of gently worn clothes and small household items.

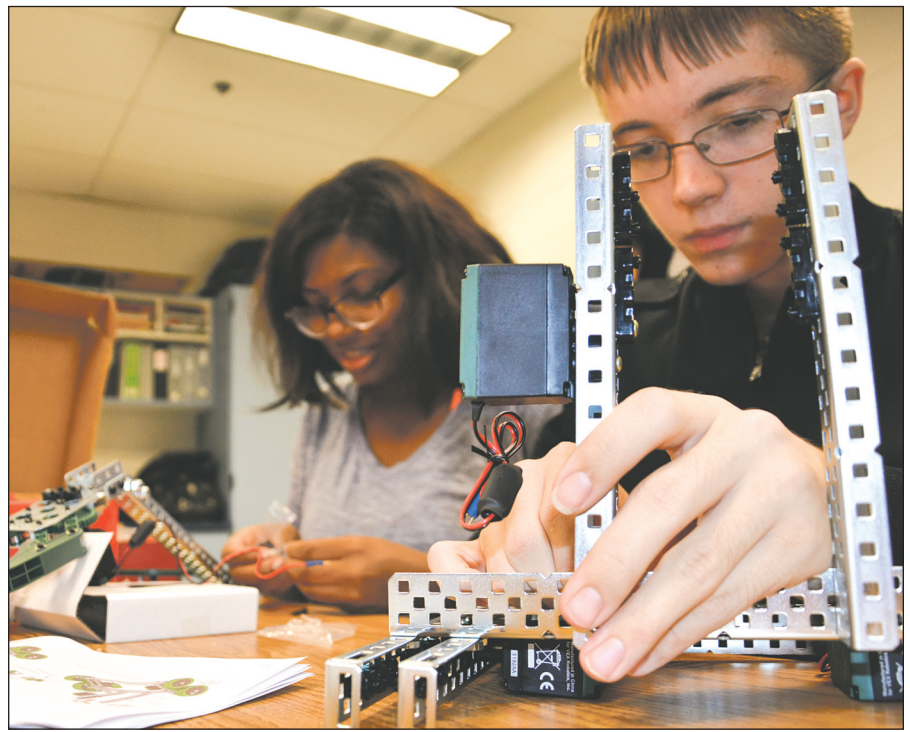
DIAKONIA THRIFT SHOP — Used to be Mine, Route 611 and Sunset Avenue, Wednesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Newly expanded and redecorated. Furniture, clothing, toys and linens. Info: 410-213-0243.

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

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

STAR CHARITIES MEETING — Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 10 a.m., on the first Friday of each month. Meeting of volunteers. Info: Anna Fultz, 410-641-7667.

OCVFC LADIES AUXILIARY — The group meets monthly on the first Monday at 7 p.m. at the West Ocean City Fire Station, second floor, Keyser Point Road. New members welcome. Info: Denise, 443-359-2014 or any Ladies Auxiliary member.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

VEX ROBOTICS
Stephen Decatur High School students Areyon Collick and Taylor Carozza assemble structures for a test run during a Vex Robotics meeting day with the After School Academy. The Vex Robotics team is preparing for competition later in the school year.

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

HELP WANTED

Customer Service Position

Must have experience in customer service, punch out and trim. Valid driver's license and transportation are required. Apply in person Beachwood Inc., 11632 Worcester Hwy., Showell, MD 21862

MODEL CASTING for South Moon Under

Female applicants must be 5'8" or taller and fit a size 2 dress and size 25 jean. Male applicants must be 6' or taller and fit a size 32"-34" pant.

All applicants must be of legal working age. Work permits required for anyone under the age of 18.

Email your name, contact info, age, height and sizes with a head shot and full length shot to: models@southmoonunder.com. We will contact you if you fit the criteria.

Thank you for your interest.

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Year Round, Full/Part Time: AM Food Runner, Housekeeping: House Staff and Room Attendants (van will pick up in Salisbury)

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10100 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, MD 21842
Phone: 410-524-3535 Fax: 410-723-9109
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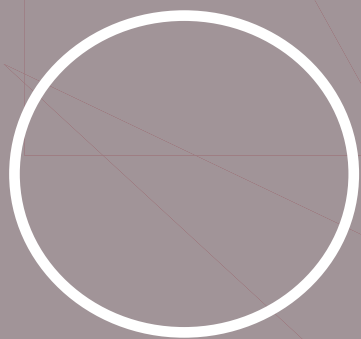
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