GAZETTE BAYSIDE

DECEMBER 1, 2016

BERLIN • NORTH WORCESTER COUNTY • OCEAN PINES



SNOW ANGEL

Local ice artist Erik Cantine makes an impact on a crowd of onlookers with his chainsaw-assisted sculpture demonstration during the Town of Berlin tree-lighting ceremony, Friday evening. The finished product remained on display in the courtyard of the Atlantic Hotel through most of the weekend.

Construction to close Flower Street

By Josh Davis

Associate Editor

(Dec. 1, 2016) Flower Street in Berlin will be closed for several weeks during construction of a new stormwater culvert there starting Monday.

According to a Nov. 23 press release from Tow Hall, the work will address flooding and improve water quality in "receiving waters that discharge into the coastal bays."

In the release, Town Administrator Laura Allen said the project would cost an estimated \$285,000 and would be "substantially complete by the end of December.'

Elaborating on the project during a council meeting on Monday night, Allen said at least one lane of Flower Street should be open by Christmas.

"We're anticipating a road closure from the 5th of December for about two-to-three weeks, depending on the weather," she said. "There may be a single-lane closure for some period after that.'

Allen said the town is working on a detour plan and that updates on the road closure would be posted on the town's website and Facebook page, and

through the CodeRED emergency notification system.

Administrative Services Director Mary Bohlen also provided an update on the town's efforts to improve stormwater discharge overall.

She reported that the town has obtained more than \$1.8 million in grants from the state's Community Development Block Grant program (\$800,000) and FEMA (\$1.09 million) and is working on three phases of stormwater improvements, starting on Flower Street where the current project and other work is budgeted for at \$635,000.

Berlin will next work on improvements on Williams Street, with a budget of \$364,500, then finish in the area of Graham, Grice and Nelson streets with a \$688,844 budget.

The price tag for all three projects was estimated at more than \$1.9 million, with all but \$55,000 covered by grant money.

A large wetlands pond was recently constructed behind the multipurpose building on Flower Street, and improvements in that area will finish with construction of the culvert this month. Stormwater consultant Darl Kolar said the town was in the permit process of the last two phases, both of which should be finished next year.

"The culvert installation on Flower Street, I think, will have a tremendous impact," he said.

Councilman Dean Burrell agreed, adding a note of caution that it might be difficult at first to gauge the success of the improvements without the aid of a major rainfall.

"I know it's hard for the public to assess something that's not happening, and because it's not happening, we might overlook it, but that culvert is going to have a big impact," he said.

A public hearing on the Community Development Block Grant was opened and closed without comment.

Written comments can be submitted to: town of Berlin, attn. CDBG comments, 10 Williams street, Berlin, Maryland 21811. Emails can be sent to mbohlen@berlinmd.gov.

Additionally, comments can be made by phone at 410-641-4313 or faxed to 410-641-2316

To sign up for CodeRED, click the link at the top of the town's website at www.berlinmd.gov.

Annual Christmas parade will deck downtown Berlin

By Josh Davis

Associate Editor

(Dec. 1, 2016) Having declared months ago their intent to deck the streets with vows of jolly, organizers of the annual Berlin Christmas parade say they have more than 80 floats lined up for today's (Thursday) event.

The parade will begin at 7 p.m. and is the product of planning that began in July. That is when Administrative Assistant Sharon Timmons started gathering applications, scheduling street closures and coming up with this year's theme, "Christmas Dreams."

"When I was thinking about the parade and what is most important, it's to see the faces of the little children. You know that they have dreams about what they want for Christmas and they might be thinking about that as Santa is riding by," she said. "It's all about the children, so it's really their Christmas dreams.

Her favorite Christmas movie is "Miracle on 34th Street."

See FOR TIMMONS Page 6





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STRIKE UP THE BAND

Page 4

BRIAN GILLILAND/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Bandfront performers from Pocomoke High School march in the town's annual Christmas parade on Monday night. More than 100 entrants took to the streets to celebrate the coming holiday, with thousands lining the route watching the parade march by

Mayor hosts old-fashioned Christmas

By Brian Gilliland

Associate Editor

(Dec. 1, 2016) When Pocomoke City elected Bruce Morrison to the office of mayor for the first time six years ago, he wanted to create an event to thank citizens for their support, thus the first Mayor's Old Fashioned Christmas Evening was born.

Celebrated this Friday from 5:30-8:30 p.m. in the mini-park and the adjoining municipal parking lot on Clarke Street, across the street from City Hall, the event will offer several different holiday-oriented activities, and most of them are free of charge.

"I really wanted to give back to the citizens, and most everything there is free. It's family fun, and it doesn't cost you anything," Morrison said. "Bring the family and come meet Santa, visit the bonfire for s'mores and listen to the music.'

Morrison said the event's popularity is evidenced by the turnout - between 700-800 people last year.

Mayor's Old-Fashioned The Christmas will offer numerous oldfashioned activities, including horsedrawn carriage rides, Santa's house, and ornament and cookie decorating for children.

A large bonfire, provided by the town, will serve as the s'more cookout spot. Free refreshments will be provided by local vendors and includes hot chocolate, hot dogs, hot cider, peppermint sticks and more. Adults are invited to sample wines from Layton's Chance Winery.

At 6 p.m., Morrison will light the town's Christmas tree while Frank Henry performs "The Spirit of Christmas."

Additional live entertainment will be provided during the event, beginning with music by the Salem United Methodist Church Brass. More performances by the Dance Loft, Pocomoke Elementary and High School choirs, and Christmas carols by the Glad Tidings Worship Team are scheduled.

A holiday wreath contest and silent auction will be held to benefit the Downtown Pocomoke Community Garden in efforts to feed the hungry. The public can bid on the wreaths decorated by Pocomoke area businesses and residents.

Also scheduled is a homemade chili cook-off, which will start at 6:30 p.m. and end at 7:30 p.m. Residents and businesses will provide samples of their chili to be voted on by the public via cash donation. Proceeds will benefit the Pocomoke City Volunteer Fire Company.

Prizes will be awarded at 8 p.m. to the top three business and individual winners for both contests.

The old-fashioned Christmas serves as a fundraiser for local churches and non-profit organizations. Admission is free, though vendors may request small donations to support their organizations. Guests are encouraged to bring a canned good, nonperishable item or paper product to support the Samaritan Shelter's Food Drive.

More information and registration forms are available online via www.downtownpocomoke.com.

Olde Town Candy Co. to make debut during First Friday

By Brian Gilliland

(Dec. 1, 2016) While mad dashes to the finish line are usually reserved for holiday dinners or shopping sprees, Mark Schramek added another to the season by hurrying to prepare the Olde Town Candy Company for its debut at this week's First Friday celebration.

The ribbon cutting is scheduled for 4:30 p.m. at the shop on Green Street downtown, next door to the Corner

'We're shooting to have everything ready for Friday. We're making a good stab at it. Everything's been delivered and we're having the inspectors through Wednesday and Thursday," Schramek, the shop's owner said. "I was interested in opening in Snow Hill because of the state grants to renovate historic buildings.'

Schramek, who spends his weekends in town and has owned property in Snow Hill for 11 years, said he was looking for a project he could take on with his 13-year-old daughter, Morgan.

"I wanted her to learn about business and she's taught me a lot about social media. We spent the summer going to conventions and it's something we can work together on," he said. "I've seen the town go up and down in my time here and I felt that by reinvesting I could give something back, and possibly reenergize the downtown community.'

Schramek said the size of his reinvestment in the town - \$200,000 and counting - is larger than he intended, but he wanted to give the town something it hadn't had and offer something people couldn't really anywhere else.

The Olde Town Candy Company is, of course, dedicated to desserts and snacks. Bulk candy, such as white and dark chocolates and gummy bears, will be sold by weight at a rate of \$8.99 per pound. The shop will also offer gourmet candies, sodas, chocolate bars and other treats imported from all across the country.

The shop will also stock Chesapeake Bay Farms ice creams.

Schramek said he is finalizing hiring staff for the store, which will support See ADCOCK Page 8



In Berlin, movement forms to rename park for Tingle

Some residents not happy with 'Falls' name; petition to circulate in businesses

By Josh Davis

Associate Editor

(Dec. 1, 2016) Although the Town of Berlin is officially calling the former Tyson's Chicken plant on Old Ocean City Boulevard "Berlin Falls," a new movement has begun to rename the space after James "The Mailman" Tingle.

Bill Todd, lead guitarist for Lower Class Citizens, jack-of-all-trades at Burley Oak Brewing Company and an on-air personality known as "The Dude" at Ocean 98 radio, is helping to lead the campaign.

"My girlfriend Chrissy [Ehrhart] and I were having a conversation about how we haven't seen James

working the mail route," he said. "We knew he was retiring, but we didn't know when exactly. he was officially retired, we wondered why there wasn't

some sort big ceremony or something for him.

"Everybody loves James," Todd added. "We thought it would be a perfect way to rename the fantastic new park, Berlin Falls, which has no natural falls to speak of, to James Tingle Park."

Todd brought up the idea on the radio and the reaction was more than positive. Fellow Ocean 98 radio personality "Schwab" wrote a Facebook post on Nov. 22 that was shared several dozen times.

"The 'Berlin Falls Park,' while a welcome addition to the burgeoning scene in the Town of Berlin, has one small problem: THE NAME! Stand up & ride the groundswell of this movement, it's time to rename Berlin Falls Park and celebrate the army of wool-panted package delivery men and women that visit our homes daily, by honoring the most recognizable mailman in recent Berlin history, Mr. James Tingle," the

post read.

After talking with people in person, online and on air, Todd said the common theme has been a general dissatisfaction with the name "Berlin Falls."

"They love the park, not the name. There apparently is a plan to build some falls in the future, but it's just too put on. It doesn't fit," he said.

What does fit, he said, is "James Tingle Park."

'Let's honor a guy that means a lot to the community and is around to enjoy it ... It seams as if everybody is on board that I've come across," Todd said. "James is a great guy and everybody knows him. He is the coolest mailman I've ever come across.

What James represents is something that is few and far between nowadays - total kindness and respect to anybody and everybody," Todd added. "For a lot of people around

Berlin, he's been the mailman since they were kids and now they have kids and I'm sure they would want them to grow up with a mailman like James too. He's like a blast from the

past to a simpler time when people were nice to each other and they took pride in what they did and in their community.'

Although Todd said he has yet to speak with Tingle directly, he's moving ahead with the campaign to name a park after him, including creating a petition that he plans to deliver to "any and all" businesses in Berlin.

"I'd like to have a large number of signatures collected before I approach town hall so they know this community wants to see this happen, and from there we'll follow the proper procedures to make it a reality," he said. "They need to know we are not thrilled with the Berlin Falls name, and that we have a wonderful suggestion in James Tingle Park."

To contact Todd about the petition, email billtodd@burleyoak.com. He can also be reached through Facebook or through Ocean 98.





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Berlin Briefs

By Josh Davis

Associate Editor

(Dec. 1, 2016) The Berlin Mayor and Council discussed the following items during a meeting at town hall on Monday, Nov. 28:

Gulyas out

Following a unanimous vote to approve the executive session minutes for Monday, Nov. 14, Mayor Gee Williams noted the vote was 4-0 and that Councilman Thom Gulyas was absent.

Williams said Gulyas was not "not feeling well."

Ocean East also out

Item number four on the agenda, a public works agreement with the new Oceans East apartment complex on Seahawk Road, was postponed and moved to the Dec. 12 mayor and council meeting. No reason was given.

Money motions

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Two items that involved spending received unanimous approval from the council with minimal discussion.

A motion to approve a \$90,200 proposal by Green Flesh Technologies to install a prefabricated outdoor restroom building at Dr. William Henry Park passed easily.

Administrative Services Director Mary Bohlen said the town had received a \$95,000 grant and had hoped to add bathrooms to another park as well. But, the town only received enough funds for one restroom and the grant giver, the Maryland Department of Natural Resources Program Open Space, Community Parks and Playgrounds Program, deemed Henry Park the priority, Bohlen said.

She added that the majority of the \$10,000 matching fund requirement of the grant would "probably be in kind" services related to water and sewer hookup.

The council also passed a motion to allow SonRise Church to finance three EDUs, interest free, at a rate of \$750.87 a month for 60 months. The town required a deposit of \$5005.80.

Hoop dreams

Bohlen said a survey had been sent to residents near Henry Park to gauge interest in lighting for the basketball courts there. Several councilmembers discussed that possibility during a previous meeting.

According to Bohlen, those surveys were sent to residents near the park that would be most affected by "noise and light."

Giving thanks

Managing Director Jeff Fleetwood said a "thank you" pizza dinner for parade volunteers would be held at town hall at 4:30 p.m. on Thursday. Delmar Pizza will donate several dozen pizzas for the volunteers, as well as salads, grilled chicken and cookies.

Time off

At the suggestion of Williams, the council voted unanimously to cancel a public meeting on Monday, Dec. 26. "That was a Christmas present to everyone," Williams said with a laugh.

The next two council meetings are Monday, Dec. 12 and Monday, Jan. 9.

For Timmons, Christmas parade all about children

PARADE continued

"Miracles all seem to happen at Christmas, and it's usually the faith of a little child that brings it on," she said. "When you see the little faces looking up and you see their eyes twinkling, that just gets to me and that's what I want this parade to represent."

Timmons said the parade would feature "a good variety of music, dance, bands and floats," including an appearance by Santa. She has organized the parade for five years, including three years with mayor's assistant JoAnn Unger and two by herself "with a lot of help from staff."

The route starts at Powellton Avenue and travels south down Main Street.

Two sets of judges will award trophies for first, second and third in a variety of categories. Evaluators will include five men and women from Worcester County and a four-member panel of professional judges from Pennsylvania.

Free parking will be available at Berlin Intermediate School, where a free shuttle service runs downtown, and at Buckingham Elementary School, the post office, fire department, library and at Town Hall.

Harrison Avenue will be closed, and North Main Street will be closed after 6 p.m. to through traffic.

Parents with children participating in the parade can drop them off at the intersection Graham Avenue and Nelson Street, or Franklin Avenue and Grice Street. Town employees will act as escorts, Timmons said.

She estimated more than 3,000 people attend each year.

Most of the businesses in the area will be closed during the parade, and many of the business owners will act as volunteers for the town. Not much commerce is exchanged, as the parade is solely focused on spreading "Christmas cheer," Timmons said.

"People will actually start putting their chairs and blankets out on the sidewalk at 2 o'clock in the afternoon," she said. "Get here early, dress warm and have a wonderful time."

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Cops to monitor homes for holidays

Police in Ocean City and Ocean Pines roll out annual residential security checks

By Katie Tabeling

Staff Writer

(Dec. 1, 2016) While Ocean City and Ocean Pines residents are packing their bags to spend the holiday season with friends and family, local law enforcement will be keeping an eye on their homes.

Both Ocean City and Ocean Pines police departments offer a residential security check program, which protects unoccupied homes or secondary residences through random checks by officers. Both programs run yearround, whether it's for a long weekend trip or a vacation.

"During the winter months, there have always been a large number of vacant residences here in town, so this service was created to protect those vacant homes from being burglarized," Ocean City Police Department Public Affairs Specialist Lindsay Richard said. "If a home is on our watch list is burglarized, we will notice it much sooner – and have a much better chance of solving the case."

She added that most of the program's participants sign up long-term only during the colder months. Ocean Pines is in a similar situation. "We do see a drastic increase in the colder months because the snowbirds go south," Ocean Pines Police Lt. James Ehrisam said. "They're gone for three or four months at a time."

Ehrisam said officers are assigned to sectors, and that they will stop by the registered property randomly throughout their patrols. Officers will also walk around the property's perimeter and note of any changes since their last visit. The inspection

'[The program] serves a lot of purposes, from keeping neighbors aware that they're out of town, or notifying them immediately if there's a felled tree.' Ocean Pines Police Lt. James Ehrisam

also includes noticing any vehicles in the driveway that are not listed on the registration form.

If anything suspicious occurs, officers will call an emergency number included with the application.

"[The program] serves a lot of purposes, from keeping neighbors aware that they're out of town, or notifying them immediately if there's a felled tree," he said.

Ocean City's program is comparable to the OPPD's, according to Richard. Resort officers can choose to do these residential checks if they aren't handling other calls for service.

"In the winter months, the daily number of calls drops significantly, so our officers have time to check on our citizens' homes," she said.

Observations and comments on the resort properties are detailed in the OCPD's computer-aided dispatch system. A detailed report can be created that outlines the frequency of checks or incidents, like in Ocean Pines.

Richard estimates that the program has been around for more than 15 years and that it has grown throughout that period.

"Our officers do a really good job of watching these homes, so I think word has spread fast," she said.

To sign up for the Ocean City residential security check program, visit oceancitymd.gov/police and click on the Residential Checks link on the right side of the webpage. Property owners can also call the front desk front desk at 410-723-6610 to register.

Ocean Pines residents can apply for the service by completing an online form found on oceanpines.org/administration/police/ page. The application can be found under "quick links" in the center of the page. Homeowners can also call 410-641-7747 to apply.



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Eight have items stolen from unlocked cars in Snow Hill

By Brian Gilliland

Associate Editor

(Dec. 1, 2016) A rash of thefts from unlocked vehicles has Snow Hill police asking the public to help identify what might be a group of larcenous teenagers.

According to Snow Hill Police Chief Tom Davis, eight confirmed and at least two probable victims have reported items stolen from unlocked vehicles on Sunday night in the area of Gunby, West Federal and Ross Streets as well as South Drive.

"Someone, or a small group, stole items in plain view from unlocked cars and left," Davis said.

Items included wallets and an envelope containing an undisclosed amount of cash.

"We've narrowed it to the time period around 6 p.m. on Sunday," Davis said. "We believe there are at least two, and probably more, juveniles involved. We believe they are between the ages of 14-17, but could be as old as 18-19."

Some members of the group could have acted as lookouts for the others while the items were removed, he said.

Davis said two of the suspects were spotted, but fled and escaped apprehension.

'We're seeking the public's help in locating the suspects," he said.

Davis described the group as "African-American teens."

"People need to lock their cars and houses. Make sure everything outside is locked, and your shed is secure. Don't leave stuff out," he said.

Annually, police agencies publish a list of tips for holiday security. The Ocean City Police Department recently released the following list:

· Always lock your vehicle's doors. This is true even if you plan to be gone for "just a second" or you are only steps away from your vehicle inside your home. Thieves will often walk down a row of parked cars looking for unlocked doors.

· Never leave your windows down while you are away from the vehicle.

· Do not leave valuables in your vehicle. If items are left in your vehicle and are visible, the chances of a vehicle break-in increases dramatically.

· Place items out of sight before reaching your destination. Criminals may be watching while you hide valuables under a seat or move items to the trunk.

· Avoid leaving packages or shopping bags in plain view.

· Leave no trace of valuables in plain view. For example, remove items like suction cups used to hold GPS systems or phone chargers.

• Ensure that alarms and anti-theft devices are working. These will act as deterrents and could decrease your chances of becoming a victim.

• Never leave spare keys in your vehicle. Even if well hidden, an experienced criminal knows the best hiding places.

• Do not leave your driver's license or title in the vehicle.

• Keep a record of the VIN number, license plate number and insurance information in your wallet or purse.

 Citizens that have become the victim of a vehicle break-in should call local police immediately. Citizens will be asked to provide a complete description of the items that were stolen and should know their vehicle's license plate number, a detailed description of the vehicle, the VIN number and insurance information.

Adcock, Fisher to show work during Snow Hill First Friday

CANDY continued

three or four employees.

Winter hours for the shop are Sunday—Thursday, from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., Friday 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturday 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Before the ribbon cutting and during First Friday, the town will be hosting the annual Christmas Market, this time located at what will become Toy Town on the corner of Market and Washington streets downtown.

Both the Jim Adcock Studio and Bishop's Stock galleries will have sales during the event. Adcock will be offering discounts of up to 50 percent off certain items in order to make room for new items in the new year, and in a similar vein, Ann Coates of Bishop's Stock is kicking off her month-long Studio Sweep Sale.

Carver Doug Fisher will be at Bishop's Stock displaying his work, and C.L. Marshall will be selling and signing 'Chesapeake Bay Duck Hunting Tales.'

The Sassy Girl Boutique is also hav-

ing a sale, offering 15 percent off all handbags, scarves and jewelry. Jerry's Wood Craft is offering sales on selected items, and the new Mirror Salon is offering walk-in haircuts and 10 percent off gift cards during First Friday hours.

Over at the Pocomoke River Canoe Company, owner Barry Laws will have the upstairs train garden open to the public, and the Snow Hill Elementary PTA is offering pictures with Santa that evening. The pictures are free with PTA membership, and membership is available at the event.

The Lower Shore Land Trust, down by the river, will be selling holiday greens collected from protected lands, and will also be offering premade and do-it-yourself holiday decorations, along with refreshments.

As for entertainment, Nick Haglich will be performing at the Green Pearl Studio, Opposite Directions is appearing at the Harvest Moon Tavern and the Blue Dog Café will feature WW Tunes with Todd Crosby.

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Snow Hill finishes Christmas parade season this Monday

Short procession kicks off long holiday preparations; 40-50 entries anticipated

By Brian Gilliland

Associate Editor

(Dec. 1, 2016) It might not have the grandeur of the Ocean City event, or the "cool" factor associated with all things Berlin, or the scope of what is offered in Pocomoke City, but the Snow Hill annual Christmas parade has everything the small town needs, and it offers easy access and an event duration that won't leave people checking their watches.

Lasting about an hour and scheduled to start around 7 p.m. on Monday night, the Snow Hill Christmas parade will feature between 40-50 entries from local schools, fire departments, nonprofits and elected officials.

"What's neat about the event is the size and length. This isn't a 3-4 hour commitment — the size is just about perfect," Barry Laws, organizer, said.

The parade is put on through the efforts of the Snow Hill Lion's Club and local business donations, Laws explained.

"The route goes down Church Street, starting near the high school, then turns right onto Market Street,

and ends at the stoplight," Laws said. "The parade officially ends with Santa."

While the jolly old elf won't be listening to requests on this particular evening, Laws said he would be at other events around town in the coming days.

"We'll have car clubs, Cub Scouts, dance groups and the bands from Stephen Decatur, Pocomoke High and Snow Hill High schools. We'll have the American Legion honor guard from a local chapter. The church will be selling hot chocolate and other food, and the town's restaurants will be open," Laws said.

The snack stand will be located on the grounds of the Bates Memorial United Methodist Church on the corner of Market and Washington streets.

Parking for the event is available at the county lot, across from the government center, or at the town lot along Market Street, anywhere downtown or behind the Post Office, Laws said.

"People should start showing up around 6:30 or so, but I think even 6:45 will be fine," he said.

A panel of residents will judge the parade, and first place winners will receive plaques noting the honor.





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Christmas Market to precede Snow Hill's First Friday

More than 20 vendors and 'holiday cheer' promised

By Brian Gilliland

Associate Editor

(Dec. 1, 2016) Held for the first and possibly the last time at what will become Toy Town on the corner of Market and Washington Streets in downtown Snow Hill, this year's Snow Hill Christmas Market returns with more than 20 vendors and holiday cheer to spare.

The market, which will run from noon until 8 p.m. Friday, is usually held at the old firehouse, but a scheduling conflict arose with the preferred date, so the market found itself temporarily homeless.

"I contacted Toy Town's owner Richard Seaton and asked if we could use the building," Michael Day, economic development consultant said. "He agreed, and will be at the market showing people around what will become Toy Town."

Day said the event would return to the firehouse next year, and that the event was already booked. The festivities will overlap with the scheduled First Friday celebration.

Because of the change in venue, Day said vendor fees have been waived, and there's no admission charge to get in and start browsing.

Though more than 20 vendors have already been booked, Day said space is still available and arrangements can be made by contacting him directly at 443-735-0957.

In the meantime, Day said he and Seaton would focus on getting Toy Town set up for the show. The building is still undergoing construction, as the second floor still needs some renovation, but is starting to take on a toy store flair.

For example, a giant model biplane glider, destined to be hung from the ceiling of the expansive new showroom, may not yet be taking wing, but this is as close to ground level as its likely to be for quite some time.

Most of the other visible upgrades are cosmetic, and the decades-vacant building still needs work before a projected spring opening of Toy Town.

"It's a little sneak preview into what's going to become Toy Town," Day said.

There will also be new and antique toys available for sale during the market.

Also already scheduled for an appearance are jewelry, sea glass, baked good, Amish friendship bread, locally roasted coffee, vegetables and jelly, Avon products, chocolate-covered popcorn, Christmas decoration and alpaca product vendors.

Beverages will not be sold on site, but Day noted the Daily Brew Coffeehouse is only a couple of doors down from the market site.



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For TaDa, business all about family

Mother and daughter have run successful Berlin shop together for two decades

By Josh Davis

Associate Editor

(Dec. 1, 2016) Twenty years ago Patty Falck marched into her husband's office on Williams Street in Berlin. She had good news, bad news and really bad news, she told him.

The good news was she was going to open a shop. The bad news was she was going to open the shop inside his office, and the really bad news was she wanted to be open in 30 days.

Steve Falck, at the time a custom home builder, happily obliged, moving his office to the rear of the building and helping in any way he could, including building many of the shelves and fixtures.

The shop, called TaDa, opened on Black Friday in 1996 and at the time mostly sold Falck's hand-painted furniture and glassware.

"He was so easy going. He said, 'What do you need me to build and when do I start?" Falck said. "Within those 30 days, I painted morning, noon and night just so we could have enough stock to put in."

She also came up with the one-of-akind name, because Falck "was trying to think of something that represented what I wanted people to think when you came in."

"I wanted a name that would be remembered," she added. "And I am so glad and so happy to this day that we are still "TaDa.""

The store has always been a family affair that reflected the design sensibilities of the women who ran it, which now includes both of Falck's daughters. All three women exhibit boundless energy and a knack for balancing dozens of different things at once.

Falck is a graduate of the Maryland Institute College of Art in Baltimore and formerly taught art at Worcester Preparatory School. She also ran an advertising agency in Ocean City and created works of art from reclaimed wood.

Born in Baltimore, she spent summers in her youth on the shore and met her husband, a California native who was stationed in Washington D.C. with the U.S. Air Force, near the ocean when she was in her 20s.

Her youngest daughter, Brooke Hahn, is a schoolteacher who coaches lacrosse, helps in the shop during breaks and collaborates on art projects with her of Richmond and worked at TaDa during summers. Although she minored in pre-law and political science and assumed she would end up in law school, she experienced an epiphany while on a family vacation in Puerto Rico that would change all of that.

"After I graduated from college, I said I can't do this – I'm not a cubicle person," Parsons said. "And so opened my own store at 23 in Rehoboth."

Dubbed "Blair Elizabeth," the shop served as a second location of TaDa. Three years in, however, her father



JOSH DAVIS/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Mother and daughter Patty Falck, right, and Blair Parsons, reflect on 20 years of business for their Berlin shop, TaDa. The store will host an all-day celebration there on Saturday, Dec. 10.

mother and big sister, Blair Parsons.

Parsons, who now owns TaDa, said the signs were clear early on that she would eventually take over the family business.

"I was 3 years old and my dad built me a beautiful, handmade dollhouse – and I never owned a doll for the dollhouse," she said. "I just rearranged the furniture and filled it with accessories.

"Also, I was born on Black Friday," Parsons added. "I was definitely fated for this."

She majored in art at the University

was diagnosed with multiple system atrophy, a rare and incurable neurological disease. He died in 2013, but not before spending a good deal of his last four years with family close by.

"It was an easy choice to come back to Berlin," Parsons said. "I knew that I wasn't seeing my family enough, and that if I came back to Berlin, I'd get to see him more. It was the best decision I ever made."

Around that time, in 2009, a space became available at 18 North Main See TADA Page 12





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The front window at Tada, decorated by owner Blair Parsons, is a festive microcosm of what has made the store successful for 20 years.

PHOTO COURTESY PATTY FALCK

TaDa turns 20; hosting all-day bash Dec. 10

Continued from Page 11

Street. Again, there was a one-month turnaround time between packing up the stores in Rehoboth and on Williams Street in Berlin, and opening up the new TaDa on Main Street.

"The funniest thing is that our friends, who owned Candy Kitchen, generously leant us one of their trucks, so we were loading up a Candy Kitchen truck in Rehoboth and pulling up in Berlin. And people were like, 'are we getting a Candy Kitchen?' 'Sorry, no," Parsons said.

Moving the rest of TaDa from one corner of Berlin to another took about two days and consisted of a series of moving trucks that perpetually ran in a circle around town.

Parsons designed the new space and her father built many of the interiors. Five walls were knocked down to create an open space in what had formerly been a grocery store and a bank, among other things.

The result was a blend of the daughter's design sense and aesthetic, and the mother's original artwork and handmade pieces.

Growing up, Falck kept a studio adjacent to the girls' bedrooms. She joked that a certain amount of osmosis must have occurred through those walls.

"It was always around and we grew up doing craft projects and painting," Parsons said. "I was an art major and my sister was artistic and my dad, without any of us knowing for years, was very artistic. It's just kind of in our blood."

When the new location opened in the fall of 2009, it was an instant hit.

"The difference of being on Main Street was huge," Parsons said. "We were always very lucky and successful, but we didn't know what we were missing until we moved here."

"It was a huge increase," Falck said. "It's difficult, like in any town, to get the shops off of the Main Street and I tried [everything] for years."

Because of that, both women say they still encourage customers to explore the other shops on Williams, Pitts, Broad and Bay streets.

"We know how difficult it was," Parsons said.

Business continued to boom in 2014, when Berlin was named "America's Coolest Small Town" by Budget Travel Magazine.

"It was awesome. We still hear people say they've been vacationing in Ocean City for 30 years and never even knew we existed," Parsons said. "People from the Delaware beaches have been a huge shopping crowd, and I think it's because of things like the free parking and the easy access to the town. Even during events, [the town] does a good job of making it accessible to people."

Falck said what ultimately made the downtown area a success was the diversity of the shops and the generally agree-

able nature of the business owners – about 80 percent of which are women.

"I think we all work for the greater cause and we realize that we help each other out," she said. "If we don't have something here we'll tell them to go down to NEST, or go to Sisters or wherever. We want people to continue to come here."

Parsons said that sense of togetherness was not something she experienced in Rehoboth.

"In Berlin, I feel like the attitude is if one succeeds we all succeed," she said. "We're all in this together and let's make this a better town. The more successful the town is the better it is for all of us.

"And the stores are so unique – you're not walking around on the street and seeing the same thing in every store and that's why people like coming here," Parsons added. "They know they can find an antique and something new and something handmade and something gourmet or whatever it is. I think everybody does a good job of supporting each other and encouraging each other."

Next Saturday, Dec. 10, TaDa will mark its 20th birthday with an all-day celebration that will include specials, giveaways and refreshments.

Two decades in, both Falck and Parsons said they have no plans to change the nature of the operation.

Hahn continues to accompany her mother to demolition sites, armed with "crowbars and sledgehammers" and searching for reclaimed wood for arts and crafts projects.

"We look like gypsies going down the road with chairs and pieces of wood strapped to a trailer," Falck said with a laugh.

"If you walk into her garage, my dad would be very proud," Parsons added. "There's still a line of his surfboards and some of our old bikes, but it's just a complete woodwork shop. I walked down there Saturday morning and she's in her mask with sawdust everywhere, making a picture frame."

Parsons, meanwhile, continues to rearrange the dollhouse, filling it with various pieces of furniture and accessories.

"We like being the destination where people come in and say 'I knew I could come here and find the gift I was looking for.' I just want to continue to be that for people," she said. "We have things you don't find in mall or at the outlets – things that are special and unique. To try to be that for the area is pretty cool."

Falck said it is "an absolute blessing" to work with both of her daughters.

"They were so supportive of Steve and I through all the struggles we had with his health and still are to this day," she said. "He would be - and he is - so proud of them."

For more information, call 410-641-4430 or visit www.facebook.com/tadaberlin.

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CHRISTMAS COUNTDOWN

JOSH DAVIS/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Berlin Mayor Gee Williams counts down with a crowd of about 1,000 people during the annual tree-lighting ceremony last Friday.





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Route 90 closed Dec. 5-9, 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., for paving

State Highway Admin to finish project started this summer; could wrap early

By Brian Gilliland Associate Editor

(Dec. 1, 2016) Commuters who use Route 90 during their daily ride might want to plot an alternate path next week, because the road will be closed, but not necessarily impassible, as the State Highway Administration attempts to finish the paving project it began this summer.

The road will be closed between 7 a.m. and 5 p.m. starting on Monday, Dec. 5, with work scheduled for completion by Friday, Dec. 9.

SHA spokesman Charlie Gischlar said the work could be completed early if current weather forecasts hold, and the project runs smoothly.

Work is scheduled to be conducted from the Route 90 junction on Route 50, on both eastbound and westbound lanes, until Route 90 meets Route 113 near Berlin.

The on-ramp for Route 90 along Route 50 east will be closed during the paving.

Gischlar said eastbound travelers would be detoured from Route 50

onto northbound Route 113, slightly to the north of Berlin, which then feeds back into Route 90 just west of Ocean Pines. Those eastbound lanes will be open all the way into Ocean City, he said.

Westbound travelers coming from Ocean City on Route 90 during the scheduled work hours will find the road open until the exit for Route 589 in Ocean Pines, leaving access to the Pines and Bishopville from Route 90 clear for the duration of the project.

Eastbound travelers who usually prefer the Route 50 to Route 90 path to the northern end of Ocean City might consider using Route 50 for the entire trip, Gischlar said. Traffic entering the resort from the north in Delaware is unlikely to be affected.

According to a SHA press release on the project, the resurfacing should "extend road life and improve traction, drainage and visibility. While most resurfacing can be done safely under traffic, some roads and overpasses require a complete closure due to space limitations or other safety concerns."

The SHA has determined that this project requires a complete closure of the road.



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Berlin Artists to open workspaces

First Holiday Studio Tour to include downtown galleries and those at Union Station

By Josh Davis

Associate Editor

(Dec. 1, 2016) While most of the artists participating in the first Berlin Artists Holiday Studio Tour will be based downtown, two galleries inside the Union Station shopping center on Old Ocean City Boulevard also will host receptions on Saturday, from noon to 8 p.m.

Overseen by the Berlin Arts & Entertainment District, the studio tour is a chance for the public to meet and talk with more than a dozen local artists in their workspaces and, perhaps, buy a few pieces of art.

Patrick Henry has run the Henry Fine Arts Studio at Union Station for about three years.

He started Holidays Arts Night in Berlin in 1988, before it was branded and townwide, and said he was thrilled to `participate in a similar event a week later.

"I thought it was the most awesome thing that could happen," he said. "Us as artists sometimes take for granted that everybody knows about art – and people don't. I was a teacher and I found that there's an education component that you have do with art, and the only way you can educate is to get people's attention. "These type of events help to get a group of people together, and how many people get to see an artist paint?" he added.

During the studio tour, Henry will show everything from his high-end oil paintings and limited edition prints, to notecards and tote bags.

"It's a broad range of images and reproductions of my images that are available to the public," he said. "We'll have treats and refreshments, and I'll be working on a painting."

'These type of events help to get a group of people together, and how many people get to see an artist paint?' Patrick Henry

The space is something of a sanctuary for Henry, who has a different market than most local artists. His oil paintings range in price from about \$1,200 up to \$12,000 and generally sell to collectors.

"I have found a lot of the people that come to Berlin are more of the tourist type," he said. "I really have to target market and build upon the relationships of people who have more of a collector [mentality] and understand the value. Every painting I do is based on the previous experience I have, so you're looking at over 50 years of experience."

Henry, who will turn 65 in February, started painting when he was 15 years old.

One of the more successful artists on the Eastern Shore, Henry captures the area's moments and images, from rural landscapes, waterways and marshes, to the characteristics of people who live here.

"I'm very spiritual, so my inspiration comes from within," Henry said. "I grew up in West Ocean City, so I was near the bay, the ocean, Assateague and Ocean City. My inspiration comes with the sunrise and the beauty of sunsets, and all that is in between. My biggest problem is to dial back and understand that I can only focus on one thing at the time.

"All the things I do are based on my life experience," he added. "I'm a very laid back type of person, and I think I try to reveal that in my work. And in light of the climate that we have gone through, I think my work is a part of helping people to dial back and return to a semblance of order. I try to take what's within me and pour it out on my canvas."

Art, he said, "is a ministry" and his paintings are a type of outreach.

On the day after the presidential See HENRY Page 16



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Henry, Cashman studios to take part in town tour

Continued from Page 15

election, which Henry called "a cloudy day for some people and bright sun for others," he simply went online and posted a picture of a surrise.

"Take heart my friends ... even above the clouds; the sun still came up this morning," he wrote.

"I always see a silver lining behind stuff," he said.

For Kate Cashman, owner of Random Juxtaposition, the event is a chance to remind people that her gallery – equal parts classroom and showroom – is there. She opened last September after operating a similar space in Ocean Pines for four years.

"It's going well. I would hope for

See STUDENT Page 17



Patrick Henry will open the doors to his studio at the Union Station shopping center on Old Ocean City Boulevard from noon to 8 p.m. during the first Berlin Holiday Studio Tour, Saturday.



Student art featured during event

Continued from Page 16

more traffic during the art strolls. It's an odd location, but it's perfect for the students because of all the parking," she said.

Cashman will show the winterthemed works of students, who range in age from 5 to 90.

"It will be all snow and winter scenes, and that way I'll have some [works] from little kids as well as my adult students in the mix, which will be fun I think," she said. "And because I teach, even my food that I'm going to have is going to relate to art and have a little history lesson accompanying it."

She said her students are excited about the show, many of whom are "pushing themselves a little further to do something they've never done before."

"Quite a few pieces are going to different – they've never done snow

or winter scenes, and painting white is different than the usual," she said.

Most of the works will be available for sale, although she said, "some of them are still attached" to the paintings.

'Everyone enjoys themselves and they're learning at the same time, which I think is nice. It's a very positive environment to be.' Kate Cashman

Cashman offers year-round classes for people starting at age 5, with skill levels ranging from beginner to advanced and a range of media that includes graphite, charcoal, pastel, and oil paints. Additionally, she will host several all-ages holiday workshops during December.

"Everyone enjoys themselves and they're learning at the same time, which I think is nice," she said. "It's a very positive environment to be."

Union Station is near the intersection of Old Ocean City Boulevard and Main Street, across from Cheers.

As of press time other participating artists are Mathew Amey, Jeffrey Auxer, Patti Backer, Matt Dove, Caroline Forrester, Stephanie Karn, Lynne Lockhart, Kirk McBride, Jordan Pippin, Brian Robertson and Don Grafer.

For more information on Henry Fine Arts Gallery, call 443-880-4746 or visit www.henryfinearts.org.

For more information on Random Juxtaposition, call 443-880-3050 or visit www.livethecolorwheel.com.

Caddyshack Classic tournament comes to Old Pro, Dec. 2

(Dec. 1, 2016) Most Blessed Sacrament Catholic School will host The MBS Caddyshack Classic, presented by Atlantic Retina Center and Atlantic Adult & Pediatric Medicine, on Saturday, Dec. 2 from 6:30-10 p.m.

The event will be held at Old Pro Golf, located at 6801 Coastal Highway in Ocean City. Heavy appetizers will be provided by Ropewalk OC and an Orange Crush bar by Sunset Grille. Beer and wine will also be available, and music by DJ Wax.

Sponsorships still available. Registration is open to the public. The cost is \$45 per golfer. Sponsors include: 1st Choice Properties and King Kone. Contact Rick Deale at rick.deale@gmail.com for more information about sponsoring or playing in the tournament.





Thiefs host thanks taking

It's a shame that the season for giving also is the season for thieving, which was apparently the case in Snow Hill this past weekend, when numerous cars were burglarized.

The sad fact is the theft problem during the holidays is well known, as is evidenced by the annual warnings from law enforcement agencies to the public to keep their cars locked and items of value out of sight.

Although that advice might seem unnecessary in areas where small towns pride themselves on a sense of community, it remains that some people have no compunction about trying to make their own Christmases by stealing someone else's.

It's difficult to accept that a heightened sense of awareness and what might be considered a tinge of paranoia have become just as much an essential part of the holidays as the merry and bright theme. Yet, that is what is required.

Even those communities such as Ocean City and Ocean Pines with considerable police departments to keep an eye on things can't post someone at every corner or in every driveway of residents who believe their recent purchases will be just fine until the morning.

These are crimes of opportunity, and the only sure way to prevent them is to eliminate the temptation by removing valuables from the car as soon as possible or by keeping them well concealed — in the trunk, for instance — until that can be done, and by keeping unattended vehicles locked at all times.

Although it might go against the spirit of this time of year, residents can do one other thing to stop this season of taking: in addition to looking out for themselves, they can be alert to any suspicious activity involving their neighbors' vehicles as well.

Protect your and your neighbors' holiday by denying someone else the opportunity to steal it away.

Please send	all letters and	other editorial	submissions to
editor@baysi	degazette.com	by 5 p.m. Mon	day.



"Don't buy the all white lights, it might send the wrong message"

Letters

Times story sold Snow Hill short

Editor,

On Wednesday, Nov. 16, 2016, *Daily Times* reporter Gino Fanelli composed a story titled "Can Snow Hill bounce back?" To say that I am disappointed with this reporter's article is an understatement. Not only was the report inaccurate, but it made the front page as a headline story.

Mr. Fanelli obtained a copy of the town's current audit report, which he used to report on economic development. He reported that "business activities constitute revenue the town brings in from local business."

This statement is not accurate. Business activities, as reported in the audit, are revenue received from water/sewer services and grant funding that is used in the town's water/sewer fund.

Mr. Fanelli reported that the town's net position decreased \$315,000 from last year, which is accurate. However, what he did not report was the cause of that decrease, which is investment in the downtown business district, as well as several areas throughout town. This information is important for residents, businesses, and potential investors to know.

The Mayor and Council actively continue to make

improvements to our infrastructure and most recently completed water/sewer line replacement and paving on Martin Street; installation of new street lights on Washington Street; and purchased equipment for public works and the police department, which enable the town to better serve its residents.

Investment was made downtown to correct drainage issues on Green Street and the town closed out the construction of our new \$14 million wastewater treatment plant upgrade.

Currently, there are six downtown buildings under renovation/rehabilitation and there have been seven new businesses that have opened since 2015, with one more that will open in the spring of 2017.

So, in answer to Mr. Fanelli's question "Can Snow Hill bounce back?" the answer would be that we already are. We continue to make investments and improvements to the town that will make Snow Hill attractive to future business and to retain the current investors in our community.

We encourage you to visit Snow Hill and see for yourself the improvements and changes continually being made. Things are rolling on the river!

Mayor Charles Dorman Town of Snow Hill

Thanks for another successful drive

Editor,

The 2016 Holiday Gifts For Our Soldiers was very successful, thanks to the public for your generous donations collected during October.

This annual event began in 2003 and continues to grow each year. The Salisbury National Guard sent a large truck and four soldiers on Sunday, Nov. 20 to pick up your donations. The soldiers were thrilled with the amount of items collected and send everyone a well-deserved thanks.

Our service men and women deployed to protect our great country really appreciate these items. For some, it may be all they receive for the holiday since they are separated from their families.

All of us at Star Charities extend our heartfelt thanks to all of the people, organizations, businesses and the media for your support in making this year's Holiday Gifts For Our Soldiers an outstanding success.

We wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Blessed Happy Holiday season.

Anna Foultz Star Charities Founder Ocean Pines

BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Editor/Publisher
Stewart Dobson sdobson@oceancitytoday.net
Managing Editor
Lisa Capitellieditor@oceancitytoday.net
Associate Editors
Josh Davis editor@baysidegazette.com
Brian Gilliland bg@oceancitytoday.net
SALES
Assistant Publisher/Sales Director
Elaine Brady ebrady@baysidegazette.com
Account Managers
Mary Cooper mcooper@baysidegazette.com
Shelby Shea
Classifieds/Legals Manager
Nancy Hawrylko classifieds@oceancitytoday.net
GRAPHICS
Senior Designer: Susan Parks susan@oceancitytoday.net
Graphic Artists: Kelly Brown, Kaitlin Sowa, Debbie Haas
ADMINISTRATION
Controller: Christine Brown cbrown@oceancitytoday.net
Admin. Assistant: Gini Tufts gini@oceancitytoday.net
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Berlin cheerleaders to compete at nationals

By Kara Hallissey

Staff Writer

(Dec. 1, 2016) The Berlin Pop Warner cheerleaders will compete at nationals in Disney World on Monday after coming in second place during the Eastern Regional competition Nov. 6 in New Jersey.

The Berlin Seahawks Pop Warner squad took second out of five teams in the regional competition and they have advanced to nationals for the second consecutive year.

"Each child costs approximately \$1,000," Head Coach Jessie Parsons said. "For 21 girls that comes to \$21,000. Anything we can do to defer some costs for the girls. We only raise money for the kids. Parents and coaches pay their own way."

Participants are required to book on Disney property and stay for three nights at the Caribbean Beach Resort, which becomes expensive, she said.

Debbie Donahue, who is in charge of the cheerleading program in Berlin, created a GoFundMe web page to raise money for the trip to Florida and there has been \$210 in donations pledged as of Tuesday night.

The 21, level three peewee cheerleaders range in age from 9-13 years old. Most of the girls have been cheering together for a number of years, while six are new to the sport.

"I am proud we are going to nationals and made it this far," said Dy'Nasia Anderson, 10, a new member of the Berlin cheerleading squad. "I like the show and goes (cheerleading stunt) in our routine and we have worked really hard."

Anderson looks forward to visiting Disney World for the first time, participating in nationals and going on the amusement park rides.

"We have worked really hard and try to improve each year," said Jenna Olafsson, 11, a five-year veteran of the cheer squad. "I like the tumbling in our routine."

This is her second trip to Disney and she is very excited to return with her family.

"We have worked really hard to get there and tried our best at the competitions," said Cassie Perry, 12, who

Jayne's Reliable Jayne's Reliable Furniture & Accessories for Home & Garden LOCAL ART • VINTAGE UNUSUAL • ANTIQUE ARCHITECTURAL SALVAGE Open Thurs-Tues, 10-5, Wed by chance Open Thurs-Tues, 10-5, Wed by chance 302.927.0049 On the corner, south of the stoplight 3034 Main St., Dagsboro has been cheering for the Pop Warner Berlin Seahawks for two years. "I like the basket tosses in our routine."

She is excited to be returning to nationals with her dad and brother.

Training for the competitions began in August. In addition, the cheerleaders perform every Saturday during Pop Warner football games and practice three days a week.

"We have year-round cheerleading in the Pop Warner program and the girls learned a lot in the offseason," Parsons said. "They have worked hard, the tumbling is better and they will be bringing these new skills to the routine."

The cheerleaders will use their winning routine consisting of cheer, dance, tumbling and stunts for the national competition at Walt Disney World's Wide World of Sports in Florida on Monday, Dec. 5.

"This is the hardest routine we have ever put together and we must give credit to Debbie Donahue, who is in charge of the cheer program in Berlin and has been dedicated to the program for 18 years," Parsons said. "Debbie and Jen Robins worked together to put our routine together."

The girls have T-shirts with their new routine chant, "Faith, trust and pixie dust," on them, which is playing off Peter Pan.

"The dances and stunts are harder," Parsons said. "We have quadrupled the amount of tumbling in the routine and it's faster paced."

Pop Warner cheerleaders are required to maintain acceptable grade point averages to participate in the nonprofit organization's programs.

All adult volunteers go through certification programs and participants rely on donations to attend national championships. The squad has six coaches this year.

"I was excited to get involved and the girls stepped up their game from last year," Robins said. "These girls are absolutely amazing."

To donate money to the cheerleaders on their GoFundMe page, visit www.gofundme.com/berlin-seahawks-pop-warner-cheer.

Berlin Pop Warner is also accepting monetary donations for its football and cheer program. Donations are tax deductible and can be mailed to: Worcester County Youth Football P.O. Box 205 Berlin, Maryland, 21811.

For more information on the Worcester County Youth Football and Cheerleading Berlin Seahawks, call 443-783-8628 or visit www.BerlinSeahawks.com.







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(OPEN 4pm til 11:30pm or end of game)

4-7pm: Happy Hour
4-9pm: Serving Dinner
5:30-8pm: Pub Trivia with Special
"Trivia Treats" Menu, Prizes & DJ
Thursday Night Football:
Tailgate Specials at the Bar

DATE NITE Friday 12/2

(OPEN 11am til Midnight)

11am-4pm: Open for Lunch
4-7pm: Happy Hour
4-10pm: Dinner Special: 2 Entrées, Shared
Appetizer, Shared Dessert & Bottle of Wine, \$60^{*}

prime rib *Saturday 12/3*

(OPEN 11am til Midnight)

FFF

11am-4pm: Open for Lunch
4-7pm: Happy Hour
4-10pm: Dinner Special: Queen-Cut Prime Rib (10 oz.) \$18^{*}, King-Cut Prime Rib (14 oz.) \$21^{*}
with Chef's Choice Sides

*Tax & gratuity not included.

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BAYFRONT RESTAURANT, BAR, BUZZTIME TRIVIA & LIVE MUSIC

(OPEN THURS-MON)

FOOTBALL Sunday 12/4

(OPEN 9am til 11:30pm or end of game)

9am-1pm: Brunch \$15 Adults, \$7 Ages 6-12, 5 & under eat Free! til 4pm: Serving Lunch During All NFL Games: Tailgate Specials: \$3 Craft Brews, \$5 Crushes & more! 4-7pm: Happy Hour 4-9pm: Serving Dinner

TAILGATE Monday 12/5

(OPEN 6pm til end of game)

SIP N' SHOP! Send the sports fan to the bar & join us to sip on a cocktail & shop your favorite vendors including LuLaRoe, doTerra & more!

SERVING LITE FARE ONLY! Special: Pitcher of Domestic Beer & 10 Wings, \$5 with DANA JACKSON behind the bar!

Buy 1 APPETIZER, Get 1 FREE! (2nd appetizer must be of equal or lesser value)

Upcoming Events

12/16: PARENTS' NIGHT OUT! Parents enjoy Date Night Dinner downstairs while the kids watch a movie & eat dinner upstairs. \$15 per child / \$10 each add'l sibling (parents pay regular dinner menu prices) Pre-registration required – Call 410.641.7501

Berlin 'is a cool place,' according to Santa

Town to assist St. Nicholas in letters for children drive through Tuesday, Dec. 20

By Josh Davis

Associate Editor

(Dec. 1, 2016) Santa Claus is apparently a big fan of Berlin.

"He loves it here. He says Berlin is a cool place," Administrative Assistant Sharon Timmons said. "He says the kids are a lot of fun and they enjoy themselves, and they're really good here for some reason. They're especially good kids because they don't get in a lot of trouble and they obey their parents."

Timmons is helping Santa deliver letters to Berlin children through a free program based in the visitor's center on Main Street. Each year, she works closely with him to spread Christmas magic.

"Santa's pretty cool. He wants to make all the kids happy," she said. "He is a jolly old man and he's always laughing. He gives Mrs. Claus a hard time because she has to cook a lot to keep him fat and happy.

"Santa likes to tell jokes and he has a lot of fun," Timmons added. "He treats the elves when they've been good – they have a big party after Christmas is over. I get to meet him and he's very nice to me."

To have a letter sent to a child, stop by the Berlin Visitor's Center on 14 South Main Street during business hours, generally 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, and fill out a short form with your child's name and a return address. The program runs through Dec. 20.

Santa will send each child a personalized return letter, along with a coupon for a "special treat" from a local business.

He will also make a special appearance at the visitor's center on Saturday, Dec. 10 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

"You can tell him all your Christmas wishes," Timmons said. "And don't forget to bring a camera so you can get a picture of it!"

Pines announces children's holiday activities dates, times

(Dec. 1, 2016) Area children are invited to celebrate the holiday season in Ocean Pines with special activities designed especially for them.

The festivities will begin on Saturday, Dec. 3 with Breakfast with Santa Claus & Friends. This annual event will be held from 8-11 a.m. at the Ocean Pines Community Center. Breakfast is free for children ages 3 and under, \$5 for children ages 4-10 and \$7 for ages 11 and up. Donations of toys, games, books or non-perishable food items will also be accepted.

The Reindeer Lane Gift Shop, also held on Dec. 3 from 8-11 a.m. at the community center, is a holiday "store" where children ages 12 and under can purchase gifts for family and friends for \$5 and less. Donations for the shop are appreciated.

A free showing of "The Polar Express" will take place on Friday, Dec. 9 at the community center. The doors will open at 6:30 p.m.; the movie will start at 7 p.m. Attendees should bring a blanket or chair to sit on. Light refreshments will be served and all children will receive a moviethemed gift. Santa will trade his red suit for swim trunks at Swim with Santa on Saturday, Dec. 10 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Sports Core Pool. The cost is \$6 for swimmers and \$3 for non-swimmers. Donations of food and/or toys will be accepted.

Kids can also explore their creativity at two holiday workshops. On Saturday, Dec. 10 from 10 a.m. to noon they can craft Christmas ornaments at the community center. This class is for ages 4-10 and is \$8 for Ocean Pines residents and \$10 for non-residents.

Then on Saturday, Dec. 17 from 10 a.m. to noon, kids of all ages can drop in at the Ocean Pines Golf Club to create a golf ball ornament and practice on an indoor "driving range" and putting playground. The cost is \$5 per person. Online registrations are accepted at OceanPinesGolf.org.

All programs are open to the public. For more information or to register for an event, call the Ocean Pines Recreation and Parks Department at 410-641-7052. Information regarding additional recreational programs is available at OceanPines.org.





Nama Della's Pizza & Subs	NEW SPEC	FALL XIALS	
	FRI Meatloaf w/Mashed P	DAY Potatoes	
	Gravy & Green Bean		
TUESDAY	Chicken Parmesan Sul		
½ Cheesesteak Sub & Fries\$7.50	Large 1 Topping Pizza \$1		
1/2Italian Cold Cut Sub & Fries\$7.50	SATURDAY		
FREE Topping Tuesday (Up to 3)	Whole Italian Cold Cut Sub\$8.99Whole Cheeseburger Sub\$8.99Medium 1 Topping Pizza &		
WEDNESDAY			
½ Cheeseburger w/ Fries\$7.50Whole Meatball Sub\$6.99	Salad of your choice	\$15.99	
2 Large Cheese Pizzas \$19.99	SUNDAY FOOT	BALL SPECIALS	
THURSDAY Tuna or Chicken Salad Sandwich & Fries \$7.50	2 Med 1 Topping Pizza 10 Wings & 2 Liter \$27.99	WINGS! 10 = \$8.99 20 = \$15.99 50 = \$39.99	
Whole Chicken Cheesesteak\$6.991/2 Price Pizza Night (4-Close)	2 Lg 1 Topping Pizzas 10 Wings & 2 Liter \$36.99	1 Cheese Pizza & 10 Wings \$19.99	
FREE DELIVERY	NEW PHONE 410-208		
11073 Cathell ma	Road, Ocean Pin amadellasop.com		

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Online subscriptions: Today's puzzle and more than 4,000 past puzzles, nytimes.com/crosswords (\$39.95 a year).

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- 121 Spanish she-bear
- 110 Remote land in the Pacific
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Page 23

Cuisine Liquid smoke key to perfect Kalua pork

Today is a day to be reckoned with. Yes, it's what I call a "Hawaii Day," a day on which I weigh the pros



and cons in my head of getting a permit at \$3 per day to camp on the north coast of Kauai for few а With months. just a little money in the bank, I could walk about the island, hitting the trails, snor-

By Paul Suplee, CEC PCIII

keling, surfing, fishing and theoretically cooking on the campfire every night.

While this might not sound fun to a lot of people, it sounds like a muchneeded respite from our day-to-day life at warp speed. I'd probably leave my phone on the mainland as well. Just a full month of disconnecting to clear the mind. Yeah, I think I could go for that.

Of course, with too many things to take care of in what I term "reality," I have to satiate my wanderlust by watching WSL videos of surfing competitions in the Islands and by preparing dishes that remind me of my limited time in the Aloha State. The foods of Hawaii are notable in that they reach just far enough into Asian cuisine so as to entice our culinary inquisitiveness and excite our taste buds.

Of course, it helps when our last day of the semester in "American Regional Cuisine" is Hawaii; I get to eat a lot of the foods that I love, relive some memories and tweak out one of my favorite recipes as I like to.

When we first visited the islands about eight years ago, it was a frightfully difficult trip with our four kids, my elderly mother and my aunt. Hammering out the 16-hour venture in one fell swoop, we were exhausted by the time that we reached our hotel in South Kona. The concierge wasn't particularly helpful that day, and my aunt and I were sent on the task to "just find anything." After about 20 minutes of nothing but \$20 pizza, we were at wits end.

And then it happened. I turned the corner to see a restaurant whose name was not on the marquis. But, it was a name that had popped up quite a bit in my research: L&L Hawaiian Barbecue. As we were ready to tell ourselves that we could go hungry the first night on the island, it was as if the spirits had guided us to that very spot.

We went inside, afraid that they were closing, but we had plenty of



time ... so we ordered a mountain of food. Cooked in a very short period of time, in less than an hour we were eating at the condo, Kona Brewing Co. beers in hand, and all of a sudden we went from "this was a mistake" to "OK, this was a good call," all by a simple meal.

Part of that meal was the Kalua pork, the stuff of legends that is pretty much shredded pork with liquid smoke. I hate to put a damper on things, but that's pretty much what it is. And that's OK, because I love it nonetheless. And on a day like today, when I need a good "taste" of Hawaii, I can always count on Kalua pork to transport me back to lava rock and the salty trade winds. It's just what I need on a "Hawaii Day."

Kalua Pork Egg Roll

Makes 12 rolls 12 Egg roll wrappers 18 ounces Shredded pork Liquid smoke, as needed 1 Tbsp. Sesame oil 2 cups Napa Cabbage, shredded 2 cups Red cabbage, shredded 1 inch Fresh ginger 3 cloves fresh garlic 1 tsp. Sesame seeds 1/4 cup Dry white wine 2 tsp. Ponzu sauce

Soy, as needed 1 whole egg

I typically have pulled pork left over from family dinners, so I freeze it until such a time that I need it

The secret to Kalua pork is the

(gasp) liquid smoke. I couldn't believe it when I visited Hawaii for the first time years ago, but it is what it is. Simadd liquid ply smoke until you have reached that memory bank in your mind which has you seated on lava rock overlooking the Kailua-Kona harbor

Heat sesame oil on a medium flame and add the cabbages and cook for about three minutes

Add the ginger garlic, sesame seeds and cook for another three minutes or so

Add the white wine and reduce and then add the ponzu

You might be done here, but check the flavoring. You may adjust with soy sauce as you see fit. If you want to adjust with more ponzu, feel free

Break the egg into a bowl and mix, having a pastry brush at the ready

Lay out your work station so that you have wrappers, egg wash, pork and then cabbage mixture

Lay the wrapper so that a point is close to you. Brush the outside liberally

with egg, and pile it neatly with pork and cabbage, ensuring that all of your edges are cleared

Neatly fold the roll like a tight little burrito, making sure that there are no seams into which copious amounts of oil can sneak in

Once you have wrapped your egg rolls, simply fry until golden brown, or use an "air fryer" for a few minutes until they are crispy on the outside

Serve with a dipping sauce of your choice

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

NOW PLAYING

BIG EASY ON 60

5909 Coastal Highway Ocean City 410-524-2305 www.thebigeasyon60.com Dec. 2: Muskrat Lightning, 7 p.m. Dec. 3: Tear the Roof Off, 7 p.m.

BJ'S ON THE WATER

75th Street and the bay Ocean City 410-524-7575 www.bjsonthewater.com Dec. 2: Thin Ice, 9 p.m. Dec. 3: Tor & Coastal Storm, 9 p.m.

BOURBON STREET ON THE BEACH

116th Street, behind Fountain Head Towers Condominium Ocean City 443-664-2896 www.bourbonstreetonthebeach.com Dec. 2: Dave Sherman, 7-11 p.m. Dec. 3: OHO, 7-11 p.m. Dec. 4: Just Jay, 6-9 p.m. Dec. 7: Open Mic, 8-11 p.m. Dec. 8: Chris Button, 7-10 p.m.

CAPTAIN'S TABLE

15th St. & Baltimore Ave. Ocean City 410-289-7192 www.captainstableoc.com

Every Thursday-Saturday: Phil Perdue, 5:30 p.m.

CASINO AT OCEAN DOWNS

10218 Racetrack Road Berlin 410-641-0600 www.oceandowns.com Dec. 2: Everett Spells, 5:30-9:30 p.m. Dec. 3: Aaron Howell, 4:30-8:30 p.m.; Everett Spells, 9:30 p.m. to

DUFFY'S TAVERN

1:30 a.m.

130th Street in the Montego Bay Shopping Center 410-250-1449 www.duffysoc.com Every Friday: Bob Hughes, 5-9 p.m.

FAGER'S ISLAND

60th Street and the bay Ocean City 410-524-5500 www.fagers.com Dec. 2: DJ Hook, 9 p.m. Dec. 3: DJ Groove, 9 p.m. Dec. 5: Bryan Clark, 6 p.m. Dec. 8: Kevin Poole, 5 p.m.

HARBORSIDE BAR & GRILL

12841 S. Harbor Road

West Ocean City 410-213-1846 www.ocharborside.com Dec. 2: DJ Billy T, 4 p.m. Dec. 3: Simple Truth/Side Project, 2-6 p.m.; DJ Jeremy, 9 p.m. Dec. 4: Opposite Directions, 2-6 p.m.; DJ Billy T, 6:30 p.m. Dec. 7: Karaoke w/DJ Jeremy Dec. 8: Opposite Directions, 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.

HARPOON HANNA'S

Route 54 and the bay Fenwick Island, Del. 800-227-0525 302-539-3095 www.harpoonhannasrestaurant.com Dec. 2: Dave Hawkins, 5-10 p.m. Dec. 3: Dave Sherman, 6-10 p.m. Dec. 8: Ray Holiday, 6-10 p.m.

OCEAN CLUB NIGHTCLUB

In the Horizons Restaurant In the Clarion Fontainebleau Hotel 101st Street and the ocean Ocean City 410-524-3535 www.clarionoc.com Every Wednesday-Sunday: DJ Dusty, 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Dec. 2-3: Power Play, 9:30 p.m. to 2 a.m.

SEACRETS

49th Street and the bay Ocean City 410-524-4900 www.seacrets.com Dec 2: Element K, 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Dec 3: The 19th Street Band, 5-9 p.m.; DJ Cruz, 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.; Gypsy Wisdom, 10 p.m. to 1:50 a.m.

SKYE RAW BAR & GRILLE

66th Street, bayside Ocean City 410-723-6762 www.skyebaroc.com Dec. 2: Aaron Howell, 4-8 p.m. Dec. 3: Elwood Bishop, 4-8 p.m.

TOUCH OF ITALY

67th Street and Coastal Highway, in the Holiday Inn Oceanfront Ocean City 302-703-3090 Every Tuesday: Piano Bar w/Bryan Russo, 9 p.m.

WHISKER'S BAR & GRILL

11070 Cathell Road, Suite 17 Pines Plaza, Ocean Pines 443-365-2576 www.whiskersbar.com Dec. 2: Karaoke w/Donnie Berkey



THIN ICE BJ's On The Water: Friday, December 2, 9 p.m.



BRYAN CLARK Fager's Island: Monday, December 5, 6 p.m.



With BCH closing, so goes Maryland with Pride items

By Josh Davis

Associate Editor

(Dec. 1, 2016) Berlin Coffee House announced in November last year it would host a "Maryland with Pride" popup shop inside the store, selling a variety of food and gift items made in the Free State.

When the coffee house closes for good on Dec. 23, many of those items will no longer be available in the town.

Owner Peggy Hagy said the popup performed very well at first, with many of the items selling out quickly. Once those orders were replenished, however, sales slowed.

"Last year we blitzed through it," she said. "I think the whole year's been slow, so I don't think there's anything specific that went wrong – I just think it's been a slow year."

Several of the items she carried at the launch did not sell and were discontinued early. Others, like Mama Vida sauces and Jill's Jams, performed especially well.

Hagy said she would easily recommend the popup to other merchants, despite the uneven results.

"It would be grand," she said. "The companies have been great and the jams are delicious. We sold a lot by using them on the bagels and waffles when we were doing waffles. I doubled

the order [on those items] that I did last year."

Before closing, she hopes to be able to unload all remaining Maryland with Pride items. She still has Mama Vida mango pineapple salsa ("it's great on ribs," Hagy said), artichoke crab dip and crab marinara. The latter is made with Maryland crabs from the Chesapeake Bay, and Hagy compared it favorably to "Maryland crab soup on pasta."

Sunflower seeds and peanuts from Jeppi Nut & Candy Company, and Jill's Jams products from Westminster, are also still available.

Berlin Economic and Community Development Director Ivy Wells helped set up the popup and said she considered it a success.

"Bringing items made in Maryland through the Department of Housing and Community Development's 'Maryland with Pride' initiative was a wonderful addition to the Berlin Coffee House," she said. "Now, many of the other Berlin businesses sell Maryland and Berlin-made products. It doesn't get more local than that.



Berlin Coffee House owner Peggy Hagy, left, takes inventory on the remaining items of the Maryland with Pride popup inside her store. Helen Wiley assists.

"I wish Peggy all the best in her retirement and loved working with her on the Maryland with Pride promotion," Wells added.

Hagy said her theme for the remainder of the year – down to just a few weeks now – is "this is it!"

"When everything is gone, it's gone," she said. "But I've enjoyed it. Some people think we're already closed, but we want them to know Dec. 23 is the last customer day."

She is also selling items from the

coffee shop, which can be picked up between Dec. 19 and 22. That includes bistro tables and stools (\$50 for a set), coffee carafes (\$15 for a single or \$25 for double pots) and cappuccino cups and saucers (\$15 for a set of six).

Commercial kitchen items available include a UL microwave (\$25), UL convection oven (\$300) and a small chest freezer (\$150).

For more information on Maryland with Pride, visit www.marylandwithpride.org.



Calendar

THU, DEC. 1

PLAY TIME

Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, Ocean Pines, MD, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Children, infant to 5 years old, will read, sing, talk, write and play with educational toys. 410-208-4014, http://www.worcesterlibrary.org

COASTAL HOSPICE GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

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

BEACH SINGLES

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

BINGO

American Legion Post 166, 2308 Philadelphia Ave., Ocean City, MD, 6:30 p.m. Doors open at 4:30 p.m., games start at 6:30 p.m. Food and non-alcoholic drinks available at 5:15 p.m. Open to the public. 410-289-3166, http://www.alpost166.org

FRI, DEC. 2

LAST DAY TO DONATE ITEMS FOR ACTIVE DUTY MILITARY

Synepuxent Post #166, 2308 Philadelphia Avenue, Ocean City, MD, 12 p.m. Synepuxent Post #166 hopes to mail 100 boxes of personal hygiene items and canned snacks. Items may be dropped off at Synepuxent Post, 2308 Philadelphia Avenue, Bank of Ocean City in West Ocean City and 59th Street, Boggs-Disharoon Post #123 in Berlin, Full Moon Saloon in West Ocean City and Minuteman Press at 120th Street in Ocean City. Sarge Garlitz, firstsgt166@msn.com, 443-735-1942

SNOW HILL CHRISTMAS MARKET

Toy Town building, 209 N. Washington St., Snow Hill, MD 21863, 12 to 8 p.m. Vendor tables include jewelry, sea glass, baked goods, Amish friendship bread, antique toys, locally roasted coffee, vegetables and jellies, Avon products, chocolate covered popcorn, Christmas decorations, alpaca products and more. Hosted by the Town of Snow Hill and Toy Town. Michael Day, 443-735-0957

FREE INTRODUCTORY PICKLEBALL CLINICS

Ocean Pines Community Center, 235 Ocean Parkway, Ocean Pines, MD, Ocean Pines, MD, 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. Every Friday through Dec. 16. Free clinic for brand new players. Registration is required by calling 410-641-7052.

FIRST FRIDAY OPENING RECEPTION &

HOLIDAY ARTISAN FAIR

Art League of Ocean City, 502 94th Street Ocean City, MD 21843, 5 p.m. Enjoy hors d'oeuvres and see new exhibits featuring a variety of local artists. Artisan fair features unique, handmade items including jewelry, glass, ceramics, live music, refreshments and book signings. Free admission. info@artleagueofoceancity.org, 410-524-9433, https://artleagueofoceancity.org

CADDYSHACK CLASSIC MINI GOLF TOUR-NAMENT

Old Pro Golf, 6801 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, MD, 6:30 to 10 p.m. Most Blessed Sacrament Catholic School will host the event presented by Atlantic Retina Center and Atlantic Adult & Pediatric Medicine. Featuring heavy appetizers, orange church bar, beer and wine provided. Music by DJ Wax. Cost is \$45 per golfer. This is an adult only event. Contact Rick Deale at rick.dale@gmail.com for sponsorship information or to register for play.

SAT, DEC. 3

BUS TRIP TO NEW YORK

Ocean Pines Community Center, 235 Ocean Parkway, Ocean Pines, MD, All Day Spend the day in Manhattan. The bus will arrive in New York at approximately 10 a.m. and depart at 6 p.m. Cost is \$85, which includes transportation only. Open to the public. Reservations required. Ocean Pines Recreation and Parks Department, 410-641-7052

INDOOR YARD SALE

Bishopville VFD, 10709 Bishopville Road, Bishopville, MD, 7 a.m. to 12 p.m. The Bishopville Volunteer Fire Department Auxiliary will be holding an Indoor Yard Sale at the main station. Lots of vendors. Breakfast sandwiches will be served. 443-235-2926

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA & FRIENDS

Ocean Pines Community Center, 235 Ocean Parkway, Ocean Pines MD, 8 to 11 a.m. This annual event will be held at the Ocean Pines Community Center. Breakfast is free for children ages 3 and under, \$5 for children ages 4-10 and \$7 for ages 11 and up. Donations of toys, games, books or non-perishable food items will also be accepted. The Reindeer Lane Gift Shop, also held from 8-11 am at the community center, is a holiday "store" where children ages 12 and under can purchase gifts for family and friends for \$5 and less. Donations for the shop are appreciated. info@oceanpines.org, 410-641-7052, http://OceanPines.org

FARMERS MARKET

White Horse Park, 239 Ocean Parkway, Ocean Pines, MD, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Held every Saturday. Locally grown vegetables and fruits, eggs, honey, kettle korn, flowers, artisan breads, seafood, meats and more. New vendors welcome. 410Please send calendar items to editor@baysidegazette.com by 5 p.m. Monday. All community-related activities will be published at no charge.

641-7717, Ext. 3006

ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT BREAKFAST BUFFET WITH SANTA

Buckingham Presbyterian Church, 20 S. Main St., Berlin, MD, 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. Bring your cameras and camcorders. Cost is \$8 for adults, \$4 for kids 3-10 years old, and free for kids 2 and under. Tickets available at the door. Reservations recommended for large groups at 8:30 a.m. 410-641-0234

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Stevenson United Methodist Church, 123 N. Main St., Berlin, MD, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Stevenson United Methodist Church Women's Group will host many local vendors including Avon, Orgami Owl, LuLaRoe, Premier Designs Jewelry, Thirty-One, Scentsy, MaryKay and Usborne Books. Handmade wood, crocheted and jewelry items will also be for sale. White elephant table, silent auction, lunch and baked goods will also be available. 443-735-9222

HORSE & CARRIAGE RIDES WITH SANTA

Boardwalk Inlet area, 809 S Atlantic Ave, Ocean City, MD, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Take a ride with Santa in his big red sleigh on the Boardwalk! Rides available 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays, December 3 & 4, 10 & 11, 17 & 18 and 24. Cost is \$10 per person. Kids 3 years and under ride free. Randy Davis, 443-783-1409

ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT FRIED CHICKEN BUFFET

Mt. Pleasant United Methodist Church -Willards, 35639 Mount Hermon Road, Pittsville, MD, 11 a.m. Menu includes chicken, vegetables, beverages and desserts. Cost is \$13 for adults, \$6 for children and free to those 5 and younger. Bake table and carry-outs. Nelda Dennis, 443-614-9898

OCEAN CITY CHRISTMAS PARADE

Coastal Highway from Old Landing Road to 120th Street, 120th Street and Coastal Highway, Ocean City, MD, 11 a.m. The 34th annual parade marches along Coastal Highway northbound from Old Landing Road to the judges stand at 120th Street. The parade features more than 50 units, including high school bands, horses, antique cars, floats and more. Seating will be available on the west side of the half-mile route, including Food Lion parking lot. Trophies will be awarded inside the Carousel Hotel following the parade. Festivities at the Carousel include half-priced ice skating, DJ, free refreshments and free photos with Santa. Traffic pattern changes will begin at 8 a.m. and delays should be expected. Brenda Moore,

bmoore@oceancitymd.gov, 410-250-0125

TAYLOR HOUSE MUSEUM HOLIDAY TRADI-TIONS DAY

Taylor House Museum, 208 North Main Street, Berlin, Maryland, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. In celebration of Museums of Worcester County Holiday Traditions Day, the Taylor House Museum will be decorated with fresh greenery and will serve wassail and gingerbread to give visitors an early taste of the holidays. taylorhousemuseum@verizon.net, 410-641-1019

MIDTOWN BOARDWALK SURFIN' SANTA & CANDYWALK

TownCenter Midtown Boardwalk, 6701 Coastal Hwy, Ocean City, Maryland, 11:45 a.m. Surfin' Santa and his elves will arrive at 11:45 a.m. Live steel drum holiday music will be featured in front of Ron Jon Surf Shop starting at 12 p.m. Children (ages 1-12) are encouraged to bring a stocking. After visiting Santa, they can visit each TownCenter shop, Old Pro Golf and ACE Hardware to collect a treat. Many TownCenter shops will feature holiday specials. Large children's groups interested in visiting Santa are encouraged to contact Patti at 443-880-7795. Patti Miller, 443-880-7795

MICHAEL LONDRA'S CELTIC YULETIDE

Ocean City Performing Arts Center, 4001 Coastal Highway Ocean City, Maryland, 8 p.m. Renowned in America as lead singer for Riverdance on Broadway, Michael Londra is now bringing his Holiday extravaganza, Celtic Yuletide, to the Ocean City Performing Arts Center. Celtic Yuletide features some of the best Irish musicians and dancers performing Irish Carols, Traditional Irish Songs, Holiday Classics and heartwarming stories. For tickets visit the box office at the Ocean City convention center or call Ticketmaster 1-800-551-SEAT. https://specialeventpro.com

SUN, DEC. 4

HORSE & CARRIAGE RIDES WITH SANTA

Boardwalk Inlet area, 809 S Atlantic Ave, Ocean City, MD, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Take a ride with Santa in his big red sleigh on the Boardwalk! Rides available 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays, December 3 & 4, 10 & 11, 17 & 18 and 24. Cost is \$10 per person. Kids 3 years and under ride free. Randy Davis, 443-783-1409

OCEAN CITY LIFE-SAVING STATION OPEN HOUSE

Ocean City Life-Saving Station, 813 S. Atlantic Ave., Ocean City, MD, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The Ocean City Life-Saving Station Museum will hold a Holiday Open House. Admission is free. The gift shop will offer 10% off all items and features books, gifts, jewelry, embroidered clothing and accessories and more. Sandy, Sandy@ocmuseum.org, 410-289-4991

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Worcester Preparatory School, 508 S. Main St., Berlin, MD, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Worcester Preparatory School kicks off the holiday season at the 45th annual Christmas Bazaar, held in the field house and athletic and performing arts center.

Calendar

The Christmas Village includes greens, decorations, homemade desserts, handmade gifts, vendors, silent auction and more. Children can purchase gifts for loved ones in the Mallard General Store, enjoy a scavenger hunt and have a picture taken with Santa, who will be there 12-2 p.m. Admission is free. Funds raised will go toward school and program upgrades and improvements. 410-641-3575

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

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

HOTS FOR TOTS CHILI COOKOFF

Greene Turtle West, 9616 Stephen Decatur Hwy, Ocean City, MD, 1 to 4 p.m. The 19th Annual Ocean City Parrothead Club's Hots for Tots Chili Cookoff will be held at the West Ocean City Greene Turtle from 1-4 p.m. Judging will be done by patron participation. A Best of Show Award will also be given to the best dressed area. The Cookoff is a toy drive for the Marine Corps League Toys for Tots program and a fund drive for the Worcester GOLD families during the holidays. We anticipate hundreds of patrons throughout the day and over 12 different chili entries. ocphc@comcast.net, 410-213-1500

EASTERN SHORE MADRIGAL SINGERS PERFORMANCE

All Hallows Episcopal Church, 109 W. Market St., Snow Hill, MD, 3 p.m. Enjoy the sounds of the season. The group will present an original cantata, "What a Glorious Night," arranged by the Madrigal Singers, with a script by Linda Hinton. Tickets cost \$10 for adults and \$5 for students 11 and younger. Tickets sold at the door.

WINTERFEST OF LIGHTS 5K

Northside Park, 200 125th St, Ocean City, MD, 3:30 p.m. Run or walk under the Winterfest of Lights! The race will take participants through a course of dazzling lights and spectacular displays in Northside Park. Dress in holiday spirit. Cost is \$28 for adults and \$23 for children under 12. Registration is at Abbey Burger Bistro on 126th Street 3:30-4:30 p.m. Race starts at 5 p.m. sharp. 410-250-0125, http://www.octrirunning.com

2016 PARTY FOR PRESERVATION

Ocean City Fish Company, 12817 Harbor Road, Ocean City, MD, 4 to 6 p.m. Funds raised will support efforts to enhance The Lower Shore Land Trust's education programs. Tickets cost \$40 and include hors d'oeuvres, beer and wine. There will be a silent auction and live music by Shore Jazz with Holly Lane. Purchase tickets at 443-234-5587, http://www.lowershorelandtrust.org

Atlantic General Hospital Sleep Disor-

CPAP MASK FITTING

ders Diagnostic Center, 9733 Healthway Drive, Berlin, MD, All Day Free, monthly mask fitting clinic for patients who are having trouble adjusting to their CPAP equipment. By appointment only: Robin Rohlfing, 410-641-9726

HYPERTENSION CLINIC

Apple Discount Drugs, 314 Franklin Ave., Berlin, MD, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Sponsored by Atlantic General Hospital and takes place the first Monday of every month. Free blood pressure screening and health information. Dawn Denton, 410-641-9268

HYPERTENSION CLINIC

Walgreens, 11310 Manklin Creek Rd., Ocean Pines, MD, 1 to 3 p.m. Sponsored by Atlantic General Hospital and takes place the first Monday of every month. Free blood pressure screening and health information. Dawn Denton, 410-641-9268

TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY MEETING

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

CHRISTMAS DINNER AND CONCERT

Taylor House Museum, 208 North Main Street, Berlin, MD, 6 p.m. Features a gourmet dinner at the Atlantic Hotel and a candlelight concert at the Taylor House Museum. The Salisbury String Trio will perform period classical music. There are two dinner seatings. The first seating begins with dinner at the Atlantic Hotel at 6 p.m. followed by an 8 p.m. concert at the Taylor House Museum. The second seating begins with a 6:30 p.m. concert followed by 8 p.m. dinner. Tickets are \$60 per person. Reservations are required. taylorhousemuseum@verizon.net, 410-641-1019, http://taylorhousemuseum.org

DIABETES SUPPORT GROUP

St. Paul's United Methodist Church, 405 Flower St., Berlin, MD, 6 to 7 p.m. Open to the public and meets the first Monday of each month. Speakers and education related to diabetes. AGH Diabetes Outpatient Education program, 410-641-9703

DELMARVA CHORUS HOLIDAY PERFORM-ANCE AND SING-A-LONG

Ocean Pines Community Center, 235 Ocean Parkway, Ocean Pines, MD, 7 p.m. The Delmarva Chorus invites you to celebrate the holiday season at the Ocean Pines Community Center. Refreshments provided. 410-208-3018

DELMARVA SWEET ADELINE CHORUS Ocean Pines Community Center, 239

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



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

HYPERTENSION CLINIC

Bayside Gazette

Rite Aid, 38169 Dupont Blvd., Selbyville, DE, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Sponsored by Atlantic General Hospital. Free blood pressure screening and health information. Dawn Denton, 410-641-9268

YOUNG & RESTLESS 'REINDEER GAMES'

Pocomoke library, 301 Market St. Pocomoke City, MD, 10:30 a.m. Holiday art and games for ages 3 to 7 years. 410-957-0878, http://www.worcesterlibrary.org

HYPERTENSION CLINIC

Walgreens, 34960 Atlantic Ave. #2, Clarksville, DE, 1 to 3 p.m. Sponsored by Atlantic General Hospital. Free blood pressure screening and health information. Dawn Denton, 410-641-9268

TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY MEETING

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

BINGO

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

WED, DEC. 7

GRACE PARKER ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT BREAK-FAST

First Presbyterian Church, 1301 Philadelphia Ave., Ocean City, md, 7 a.m. to 12 p.m. Eggs any style, pancakes, buckwheat pancakes, sausage, country ham, homemade biscuits, hash brown potatoes, grits, coffee and tea. Cost is \$8 to eat in or \$6 to carry out. Milk, soda and orange juice available. 410-289-9340

KIWANIS CLUB OF GREATER OCEAN PINES/OCEAN CITY

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

HYPERTENSION CLINIC

Rite Aid, 10119 Old Ocean City Blvd., Berlin, MD, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Sponsored by Atlantic General Hospital and takes place the first Wednesday of every. Free blood pressure screening and health information. Dawn Denton, 410-641-9268

YOUNG & RESTLESS 'REINDEER GAMES' Ocean City library, 10003 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, MD, 10:30 a.m. Holiday art and games for ages 3 to 7 years. 410-524-1818, http://www.worcesterlibrary.org

HYPERTENSION CLINIC

Rite Aid, 11011 Manklin Creek Road, Ocean Pines, MD, 1 to 3 p.m. Sponsored by Atlantic General Hospital and takes place the first Wednesday of every month. Free blood pressure screening and health information. Dawn Denton, 410-641-9268

DELMARVA HAND DANCE CLUB

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

PIZZA PARTY AND WINTERFEST TRAIN RIDE WITH SANTA

Northside Park, 200 125th St, Ocean City, MD, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Children pre-K through 3rd grade are invited to the annual Pizza with Santa at the Northside Park recreational complex. In addition to pizza, children will enjoy 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 is \$4 for adults to ride the train with the group. Pre-register by December 5. Anna Duffey, 410-250-0125, http://oceancitymd.gov

OCEAN CITY/BERLIN ROTARY CLUB MEETING

Captain's Table Restaurant in the Courtyard by Marriott, 2 15th St, Ocean City, MD, 6 p.m. The group meets every Wednesday. cliff0917@aol.com, 410-641-1700

DIABETES SUPPORT GROUP

Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, Ocean Pines, MD, 7 to 8 p.m. The group meets on the first Wednesday of each month. All welcome. AGH Diabetes Outpatient Education program, 410-641-9703

ONGOING EVENTS

RIPLEY'S BELIEVE IT OR NOT! OFFERS HALF PRICE ADMISSION

Ripley's Believe It or Not!, 401 S. Atlantic Ave., Ocean City, MD, through Dec. 18. Maryland residents receive half price tickets for attractions including: Ripley's Believe It or Not! Odditorium, Ripley's Marvelous Mirror Maze and Ripley's Impossible LaseRace. Local photo ID or proof of residency required. Dustyn Ivey, 410-289-5600, ivey@ripleys.com.

THE AVENUE OF TREES

Along Baltimore Avenue from 15th Street to 33rd Street, through Jan. 1, 2017. Info: 410-250-0125.

FALL AND WINTER BUS TRIPS

On Dec. 18, enjoy a performance of "Kinky Boots." The bus will leave Ocean Pines at 9:30 a.m. and arrive at the DuPont Theatre in Wilmington, Del. for the 2 p.m. show. Cost is \$90, which includes show and transportation. Reservations required: Ocean Pines Recreation and Parks, 410-641-7052.



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Sat-Mon 11-4 pm	Heron Harbour, 120th St., Bayside	1BR/2/BR/3BR/4/BR+	Condo, Towns & SF	_	Nanette Pavier/Holiday Real Estate
Sun 12-5 & Mon-Sat	10-5 11769 Maid at Arms Way	4BR/4.5BA	Single Family	From \$489,900	Evergreene Homes
Fri, Sat & Sun 10-5pr	m Sunset Island, Ocean City	-	Condos, Towns & SF	From \$369,000	Terry Riley/Vantage Resort Realty
Friday 5-8pm	104 W. Green St., Snow Hill	Commercial	Storefront	\$145,000	Clint Bickford/Condominium Realty
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