BAYSIDE GAZETTE

DECEMBER 15, 2016

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COP SHOPPERS

More than a dozen local children take part in the "Shop with a Cop" program last Saturday. After meeting at the Maryland State Police Berlin Barrack, children were given \$100 to shop at the Berlin Wal-Mart with an officer, where they were encouraged to purchase Christmas presents for their families, and at least one item for themselves. See story page 14.

Just like Santa, but for nonprofits

By Josh Davis

Associate Editor

(Dec. 15, 2016) Each December, Berlin's Church Mouse Thrift Shop acts as Santa Claus for area nonprofits

This year, Church Mouse will give more than \$6,000 in charitable contributions to other groups.

For Helen Wiley, who runs the shop as an outreach for St. Paul's Episcopal Church, this is by far the busiest time of the year.

"Oh my gosh," she said, looking at a long list of beneficiaries. "We kind of work all year long to meet our goal to give to those need. December seems to our big push."

In terms of this year's fundraising, the Church Mouse will donate to the Spirit Kitchen, Berlin Baptist Food Pantry, NOEL (of St. Paul's By-The-Sea), Toys for Tots, Believe in Tomorrow House by the Sea, Bless Our Children, Diakonia, Samaritan Homeless Shelter in Pocomoke, Episcopal Relief and Meals on Wheels.

"Just for the month of December, we've given out more than \$6,000," Wiley said. "We raised that money through donations from folks [that] we've accumulated over time. All the money that we make, we raise the

money to be able to do those programs."

That the Church Mouse can have such a big impact, Wiley said, is a tribute to the kindness exhibited by people in town.

"People need to know that what a great community that Berlin is," she said. "For example, Inca Ruins has looked out for me and donated a lot of new products. Other merchants in the town of Berlin have donated, as well as friends of the Church Mouse. So, their generosity and their willingness to give and to share has enabled us to do those programs."

Beyond benefiting other nonprofits and community groups, the Church Mouse also supports individuals in need. This Christmas, two local families and four seniors have been "adopted" by the shop and will receive meals and gifts during the Christmas holiday.

"Sometimes, people just come into the Church Mouse because they want a friendly smile or someone to talk to, and things come up that we don't expect to happen – maybe somebody's been in an accident and their bills are high. We're willing to put money toward their needs – to subsidize some kind of funding for that," Wiley said. "You never know what can come around."

By the end of the year, Wiley said there's a little bit of fatigue but more grateful feelings for all the support she and the outreach receive.

"It's a very busy time for people individually for their own families, but when you are blessed with what the Church Mouse is able to do and you know it's made a difference in somebody's [life], it relieves any kind of tension or exhaustion that you might have," she said. "It lifts you up and it gives you joy in your heart, seeing folks content with what they've been given and appreciating it."

Wiley said while there are plenty of negative stories in both the local and national news, it's important to reflect on all the good things going on in the area.

This time of year, especially, she said, merchants and others in the community are asking her, "What can I do to help?"

To donate in-season clothes or smaller items to the Church Mouse, visit the shop on 101 North Main Street from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

For larger donations, including cash, contact Wiley at 443-513-6655 or email helenbuttercup@verizon.net.

Special session to continue Pines country club talks

By Josh Davis

Associate Editor

(Dec. 15, 2016) The Ocean Pines Association Board of Directors announced a special meeting today, Thursday, at 9 a.m. in the boardroom of the administration building on Ocean Parkway to discuss plans for the country club that could include a major multi-year renovation.

The special session stems from an hour-long discussion at a public meeting last Friday, when interim General Manager Brett Hill asked for approval to install a new HVAC system and renovate the first floor area related to the Tern Grill restaurant inside the country club.

A vote on the first matter was unanimous, while a vote on the renovations was 6-1 in the affirmative.

Rather than install a new heating and cooling system for the entire building, Hill advocated putting in several "mini split systems," costing about \$2,000 each. No total cost was given.

If units were purchased separately, they could conceivably be done without further board approval. Public works can spend up to \$5,000 without seeking bids and the administrative office can approve items costing \$5,000 to \$15,000, provided there are at least three bids

Tern Grill renovations were estimated to cost \$105,000, with public works performing all of the work. That will apparently include updates to the first floor bar and dining area, as well as purchasing a walk-in refrigerator and a larger cooktop. A planned overhaul of the first-floor bathrooms was not part of that estimate.

The lone dissenting vote on the renovations came from Director Cheryl Jacobs, who has repeatedly recommended that the board approve plans for the entire building in one fell swoop, rather than voting on projects piecemeal.

Jacobs reminded the board that she had requested discussion of that larger plan just days before the Friday meeting.

"At our work session, we talked about not approving this in a vacuum, but rather considering what we wanted to do with the entire building, because it can impact what happens on the second floor," she said. "I don't think there's a

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Bay Club pitch: change course to campground

Proposed new use would bring 434 rental spaces to Libertytown Rd. near Berlin

By Josh Davis

Associate Editor

(Dec. 15, 2016) Plans are proceeding to transform the 437-acre Bay Club on Libertytown Road west of Berlin into a camping and RV resort, as attorney Hugh Cropper, representing the Carl M. Freeman Companies, ran through some of the details during a Berlin Mayor and Council meeting on Monday.

Whether the property eventually becomes annexed into the town is something that has yet to be decided and will likely not become an issue for some time, as plans remain very much in the early stages.

Cropper was in Berlin, along with a small army of engineers with expertise and knowledge of the project, fulfilling an earlier promise to keep the town informed ahead of any activity at the county level.

A hearing was set for Dec. 8 at the Worcester County Board of Zoning Appeals to ask for a special exemption to establish the campground, but that was postponed "so that [the developer] could speak with the Town of Berlin regarding the project first," according to County Zoning

Administrator Jennifer K. Keener.

Cropper said the proposed use of the property was a 434-unit rental campground. He said it was zoned A-2, which allows for a rental campground, but is somewhat rare – roughly present in about 2 percent of Worcester County.

He said the Bay Club was in the designated growth area adopted by the county in 2007 and was designated as an area to be served by the county water and sewer plan. An onsite sewer and treatment plant would be built, and effluent would be sprayed on remaining golf holes – 18 of the existing 36 would be kept if the conversion went through.

Cropper compared the request for a special exemption to the first step in "climbing a set of stairs."

"This is the first step I have to step on," he said. "If I don't get this step there's no need to go any further. This is preliminary. This will be vetted [and] it will be the subject of public hearings."

He promised a "first-class campground" and said the campers would be the only ones to have access to any amenities there. By law, Cropper said, the property would have to be closed for five consecutive months during winter, bringing the impact on the town virtually to zero during that period. Addressing traffic concerns, Cropper, admitting he was "not a traffic engineer," guessed a campground would produce less congestion than a busy golf course. Moreover, he pledged that any promotional material for the eventual campground would encourage motorists to take routes that largely avoided Berlin proper.

"Why are we here? We're here as a good neighbor," Cropper said. "Right now we don't need anything from the mayor and city council. We're here as a neighbor to present our project and let you take a look at it.

"This is a great project, great property owner, it's going to be an asset to the county. I think it would be an asset to the Town of Berlin," he added. "I think this would be a great property in the future, after it's vetted, after it's explored, after it's studied, to possibly ... have annexed into the town of Berlin."

Summing up, Cropper said the campground would produce a "high hospitality tax ... the vast majority of which goes back to the municipality" and would have "very little impact on your public services."

Berlin Mayor Gee Williams compared the situation to a "very sophisticated dance" and said the town was all for increasing the economic base of "not only of our town, but of our region."

However, he cautioned, "it's very important for us the annexation factor is extraordinary" and said there were lingering concerns about campers crossing through town on the way to Route 50 "in a way that's practical and safe."

"We have been at the forefront, for years, of this entire concept of smart growth, of building around existing infrastructure," Williams said. "We hope that this will be an ongoing discussion."

Councilman Zack Tyndall pointed out that the property was not listed in the Berlin comprehensive plan, adding, "I don't know where this necessarily fits into the puzzle."

Cropper countered that the comprehensive plan still had the word "draft" stamped onto it. As an anecdote, he said a farm that he owned was listed as "intense urban development" in the document.

"This is essentially out of your comp plan and I respect that, which is why I said, right off the bat, I'm going to keep you in the loop and come back and talk about annexation if that's the town's desire," he said. "I don't want to sound corny, but we don't want to be here unless the town wants us."





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BRIAN GILLILAND/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

UP IN SMOKE

Controlled burns leveled three Pocomoke houses on Second Street, Sunday morning. The Pocomoke City Council had discussed removing those homes for months.

Shooting victim reportedly targeted

Anthony Tunnel, named as suspect, apprehended in Salisbury motel, police say

By Brian Gilliland

Associate Editor

(Dec. 15, 2016) Though few additional details were provided, state police reported a suspect in the Dec. 2 fatal shooting in downtown Pocomoke City, Anthony Tunnel, 36, was apprehended in a Salisbury motel without incident Sunday morning.

Tunnel is being held at the Wicomico County Detention Center on charges of first- and second-degree murder plus manslaughter. He is listed as having no known address.

Berlin Barrack Commander Lt. Earl Starner said both the victim, James Allen Jr., and the suspect had connection to a suspected "drug



Anthony Tunnel

nexus" in the southern part of the county, but declined to elaborate on the scope, location or depth of the operation.

In a joint press conference with Starner, Pocomoke

City Police Chief William Hardin listed almost a dozen joint task forces and other public assets involved in the investigation, including the task force devoted to investigating gang activity, but the pair declined to comment on any findings of the investigation.

The effort was described as multijurisdictional, with Accomack County, Virginia, mentioned but no other areas revealed, and no explanation as to why the victim was targeted was offered.

Starner said the investigation continues, but declined to comment on

the possibility of other suspects, or any motive in the crime.

He also declined to comment on the possible involvement of area residents or any connections to other examples of unrest in the area.

"We're not ruling anything out," Starner said.

Allen, 26, of Pitts Circle in Pocomoke City, was pronounced dead at the scene in the area of Fourth and Market streets after suffering multiple gunshot wounds on the evening of Dec. 1.

Shortly after 10 p.m. that night, police received a 911 call from a passing motorist who reported seeing a man stagger and fall in the middle of the road.

Police believe the incident occurred about an eighth of a mile away, in the area of Fourth and Oxford streets.

Hardin and Starner asked anyone with information to contact police.

Snow Hill going green? Dispensary coming next year

By Brian Gilliland

Associate Editor

(Dec. 15, 2016) Medical marijuana in Maryland is only a year away and it appears that at least one dispensary will be operating in Worcester County.

The state devised a three-tiered system, dividing the new industry into growers, processors and dispensaries. Growers and processors were awarded preliminary approvals in August, and the Maryland Medical Cannabis Commission just announced the preliminary approvals for dispensaries this past Friday.

Currently, the state is limiting the number of dispensaries to two per state senate district, with exceptions made for certain growers that also applied for a dispensary license, though no providers availed themselves of this option locally.

State Senate district 38, which is represented by Jim Mathias and contains all of Worcester and Somerset counties, as well as portions of Wicomico will be represented by Positive Energy LLC and OC Botanicals LLC.

Positive Energy LLC is owned by Matt Odachowski, of Snow Hill. Odachowski had applied for all three types of licenses, but only received one for a dispensary.

"Positive Energy's goal is to serve the needs of its patients with care and compassion. Based on a holistic balance of naturally occurring components, we will provide the most effective medicinal cannabis products available for the improvement of human health while working in accordance with the MMCC to develop a stable, professional cannabis industry in Maryland," said Lyndsey Odachowski, daughter of Matt, who will be involved in the new venture.

She confirmed Positive Energy LLC's dispensary would be open within the next year depending on product availability.

Matt Odachowski said during an information session last year he intended to locate his combined grow/process and dispensary operation at the Royal Plus facility he operates in Snow Hill,

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Purchase or learn to build cat shelters, Sunday

By Katie Tabeling

Staff Writer

(Dec. 15, 2016) Humans can bundle up to fight the cold winter months - but Town Cats is focusing on keeping feral felines in the area warm by selling shelters to county residents.

On Sunday, Dec. 18, volunteers will be selling and demonstrating how to build shelters at the Tractor Supply Company in Berlin.

"Last year we put out 30 shelters, and people take them and put them under their bushes or a porch," said Pat Chance, a longtime volunteer with the organization.

Town Cats is devoted to tending to the feral cat population and runs a program that humanely traps, spay or neuters felines and releases them. Volunteers also band together to feed more than 200 feral cats daily.

But now that winter has chilled Worcester, the group's primary focus has turned to building shelters for the wild

"It's important because on the colder nights, the cats don't have anywhere to go,"

safe and warm."

While Town Cats will be giving pre-made cat shelters away this Sunday for a \$12 donation, Chance said that it's relatively easy to make one with items around the house or at the Wal-Mart. All it takes is a storage tub, Styrofoam, an emergency blanket and straw.

The first step is to find a storage tub, somewhere in the size of 18 to 22 gallons.

"With the bigger ones, more than one cat can go in there, so we lean toward 18 gallons," she said. "Then we cut two holes in the tub, somewhere around six inches. The second hole, we usually leave a flap there so that a cat could escape if there's a predator."

The next step is to line the inside of the container with Styrofoam as installation. On top of that, place an emergency Mylar blanket in the container. The metallic, heatreflective blanket will keep the felines warm.

Chance also said that Town Cats uses straw, not hay, in their shelters. Straw makes good bedding, and unlike hay,

Chance said. "It keeps them it doesn't stay soggy when it gets wet.

The final step is to tape the Tupperware's lid on tight to block the wind. Then the shelter can be placed where a cat find it - and predators can't reach them.

Chance said that this is a popular project, with the Town Cats volunteers and county residents.

'We do this all the time, and a lot of people ask about them," she said.

Town Cats will be offering shelters at the Tractor Supply Company, located at 10452 Old Ocean City Blvd. Unit 2 in Berlin, on Dec. 18 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Shelters cost \$12 or a food or item donation.

Weather permitting, volunteers will also educate people on cat shelters, and offer portions of hay during Ocean Pine's farmers markets on

Shelters and do-it-yourself kits are also available at the Ocean City Pet Spa on Route 611 in West Ocean City.

For more information and contact information, visit towncats.net.



PHOTO COURTESY TOWN CATS FACEBOOK PAGE

Town Cats, an organization that supports adoption of cats like Oreo, who is available at Ocean City Pet Spa in West Ocean City, will be at the Tractor Supply Company in Berlin this Sunday with pre-made shelters for feral cats to use in the winter months. The cost is \$12 or a food/item donation.

Worcester Co. Recreation Center Toys for Tots drop-off

(Dec. 15, 2016) Worcester County Recreation & Parks (WCRP) teamed up with Toys for Tots this holiday season and will serve as a public donation drop-off location.

All are invited to partner with Toys for Tots and the WCRP by donating a new, unwrapped toy through Monday, Dec. 19, in the Worcester County Recreation Center lobby in Snow Hill.

"Participating in Toys for Tots is

something we are thrilled about and proud to be a part of this year," WCRP Special Events & Marketing Coordinator Kelly Rados said. "This is all about giving back to the community to help an amazing bunch of young people whose holidays will be made brighter by special gifts that communicate the message that they matter."

For more information, call at 410-632-2144.





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Decision on Pines renovation plans likely due Dec. 15

■ COUNTRY CLUB continued

problem with completing the renovation ... in stages, but we don't know what the whole package is going to be.

"My concern is we don't really know what the whole cost is going to be in the end, putting aside the fact that once you start tearing these walls apart, God only knows what you're going to find in there," she added.

Hill said cost estimates had been provided during a preliminary budget meeting last month, totaling about \$900,000 and broken down into a \$420,000 projection this year and \$470,000-\$480,000 during the next fiscal year.

Since then, he said, the association had already saved money because roof repairs came in about \$20,000 less than projections.

As for first floor renovations, Hill said the Tern Grill revamp would have no impact on plans for the second floor. He presented the directors with three different mockups for each floor in November.

Moreover, Hill said work on the restaurant side of operations was being pushed now so that it could be finished in time for the start of the golf season, in March or April. Renderings on the second floor had largely involved meeting and banquet spaces.

"I'm just saying go ahead and make a decision and be done with it," Jacobs



JOSH DAVIS/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

OPA interim General Manager Brett Hill speaks during a meeting last Friday, when he asked for approval for renovations to the county club. The board approved two measures related to the club and will hold a special meeting to discuss further changes today, Thursday.

said. "It can certainly be done in stages, but why not just go ahead and deal with it?"

Hill said he was "all for that," but Board Vice President Dave Stevens said he wanted more time, information and perhaps community involvement.

"From what I've heard we can move ahead, smartly, on the downstairs right now without painting ourselves into a corner with regards to what happens upstairs," he said. "My personal opinion [is] we need more community input and more discussion on the allocation of space in the upstairs.

"If we're going to start talking about the business or the operations that we're going to get [on the second floor], I think we need to talk a lot more about business plans and exactly that's going to happen, and how that's going to happen in lieu of dwindling golfing membership," Stevens added. "It needs more thought and ... we don't have to make up our minds now — we just don't."

While the directors agreed on Friday that a special session should be called for further discussion, they could not agree when that should happen. Stevens said the time and place for such a meeting was during January budget talks while two other directors, Jacobs and Doug Parks, favored finishing plans before the New Year.

Director Pat Supik went as far as to

compare putting off these talks to the apparent deferring of regular maintenance at the country club, which some directors speculated had occurred for several years.

"I feel like one of the reasons that we are where we are today with that building ... is because there was not a sense of urgency to bring a project to fruition," she said. "We could think about this for two, three years."

"You underestimate him," resident Joe Reynolds interjected, referring to Stevens

Board President Tom Herrick asked the directors to check their calendars and said a special meeting would be agreed upon during the "next couple weeks." The official announcement for the special session came on Monday.



By Brian Gilliland

Associate Editor

(Dec. 15, 2016) Defense Attorney Steven Cox successfully argued in district court last Friday that phone difficulties necessitated a continuance in the probation violation hearing for his client, Jordan Denton.

Denton, who was convicted last June for her role in a January 2015 vandalism spree in Berlin, is scheduled to appear again in court in January, alongside codefendant in that case, Nicholas Bonser. He also faces a probation violation charge.

This is the second time the pair will return to court on possible probation violations since their conviction in June 2015

According to court documents, Denton failed to submit to drug and alcohol screenings and pay the associated costs. This condition of her probation was added back in June 2016, when a new deal was struck between the state and Denton, after a previous probationary hearing.

Court records show Denton tested positive for alcohol and marijuana use on Aug. 9, the second time she's failed this

particular screening while on probation.

She then failed to appear for treatment twice in August and six times in Sentember

Bonser's violation appears to have been triggered by traffic infractions.

Denton was also required to abstain from alcohol and use of any drug, submit to alcohol and drug screening as directed by her probation supervisor and consent to any treatment, testing or evaluation mandated by the probation supervisor as part of their probation.

Bonser and Denton were convicted as part of a plea bargain for stealing spray paint from the Berlin Wal-Mart and then using it, along with an unnamed juvenile, to tag vehicles and buildings with movie quotes, offensive language and random doodles in January 2015.

As part of the deal, they each pleaded guilty to 11 of 40 charges, were placed on probation, were ordered to perform a total of 450 hours of community service, ordered to pay restitution in the amount of \$8,843.06 to the victims and write letters of apology to the town. In exchange, prosecutors did not pursue the remainder of the charges.



Foal-naming auction down to last few days

By Brian Gilliland

Associate Editor

(Dec. 15, 2016) With only two days left in the current and final auction of the naming rights for the remaining foal from this year's new additions, the winning bid will only increase the nearly \$5,200 already raised in support of the park and its programs.

This total will, in all likelihood, fall short of the \$7,900 raised last year on a single foal, but that number was an aberration, according to Assateague Island Alliance spokeswoman Ashlie Kozlowski.

"Before that, in 2014, we raised 3,100 — also on a single foal," she said.

This year's bumper crop of baby horses is because of a relaxation in the techniques the park uses to control population, with one exception. The mare Carol's Girl is immune to PZP, Porcine Zona Pellucida vaccine, which controls birth rates by causing the mare's immune system to deactivate sperm receptors in egg

More foals can be expected next year, as the park plans to skip the PZP injections and allow the herd to

Which it has also done on its own. A surprise foal, born in November, will miss this round of auctions, but whose name will likely be raffled off next year.

We haven't had a board meeting, so it hasn't officially been decided, but I think it's very likely we will hold another raffle," Kozlowski said. Raffles have been held for naming foals in the past. "We limit the amount of tickets to 500, and sell them for \$20 each. We'll let it run from spring until about October, or until all the tickets are sold."

With the potential for an As-

Mama Della

Pizza & Sur

sateague horse baby boom on horizon, Kozlowski said the Alliance would be exploring other options for naming rights in the future.

'We're trying to think of new ways for people to get to name a new foal not just those who have a lot money," she said.

Only one of the new names, from the already complete auctions, has been made public.

Leigh Shuck of Frederica, Delaware

placed the highest bid in the first auction. Shuck chose to name N2BHS-O, also a sorrel colt, "Sarah's SweetTea" to honor her late daughter.

"I lost my daughter, Sarah, to cancer in 2009. She loved to ride horses and had one of her own. I have chosen the name "Sarah's SweetTea" for this colt in honor of my Sarah. She loved drinking sweet tea and was my sweetie," Shuck said in a release.

The results of the second and third auctions will be announced in January, as the opportunity to name the horses N2BHS-AO and N2BHS-AIO will be presented as a holiday surprise.

Park Administrator Debbie Darden must approve names after the auction.

The raised funds, Kozlowski said, would go towards genetic testing for the herd, which would help determine how best to manage the horse population in the future.



The first of four new foals was named "Sarah's SweetTea" as part of the annual foal-naming auction overseen by the Assateague Island Alliance.



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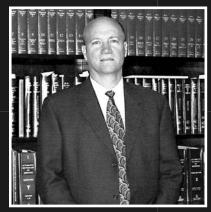
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County, enthusiasts propose expansion of disc golf course

By Brian Gilliland

Associate Editor

(Dec. 15, 2016) While it's still a bit early for the Worcester County Commissioners' budget season, one proposal that made it into the Recreation and Parks department's request is ready to hit the ground running and features a relatively low cost: expanding the existing disc golf course at John Walter Smith Park in Snow Hill from nine to 18 holes.

The project, jointly proposed by players' group Mid-Delmarva Disc Golf Alliance and county staff, would up the challenge of the existing course by adding new obstacles and effectively double the size of the existing course for less than \$10,000.

Neither the county staff nor the alliance are waiting for approval, which comes in June as the county commissioners set the budget, because the money isn't the most important factor in the expansion.

"In the next couple of weeks, we're going to install poles where the baskets will eventually go, so while you won't have a basket, you'll have a target, and will be able to see what we're shooting for," Neil Stegman, the Mid-Delmarva Disc Golf Alliance member spearheading the project, said.

The money will be used for things such as baskets, which are used like the pins in traditional golf, and for landscaping.

And while \$10,000 is more than loose change, in terms of parks and recreation equipment, it's practically

"You could spend \$100,000 on one of those composite playground systems. This project is the equivalent of redoing a fence on a baseball field. It's a really minimal cost, and no long-term maintenance cost, Parks Superintendent Bill Rodriguez said. "Once it's set up, it's a mowing situation, not something we'll be replacing in 20 years."

The course can also be used for different activities even while in use by golfers. Rodriguez said there is a network of trails near and throughout the area, and the proposed area is practically unused under normal circumstances.

"As our population ages, we need more passive recreation projects," Rodriguez said.

Rodriguez said the department plans to add more plantings to offer more challenge to the wide-open existing course, and so-called "volunteer trees" that have sprouted up in some areas will be left to grow.

Volunteer trees are those that have taken root outside of landscaped areas in places like parks.

Disc golf is played much like traditional golf, except the only equipment requirement is a flying disc like a Frisbee. Though the game can be played with standard discs, specialized ones, similar to different clubs, are available for purchase and come in three main types: distance, midrange and putter.

Like golfers, disc golfers often have a selection of discs to use in different situations. Obstacles such as trees and water hazards play an increased role in adding difficulty to the game, because throwing a disc towards a desired destination is easier than driving a small ball hundreds of yards towards a hole.

"We know that people will travel to go to an area where different courses are clustered together," Stegman said.

The lower shore has full courses at Schumaker Park in Salisbury, Trappe Pond State Park in Laurel, Delaware, and at the Horse Bridge Golf Course near the Salisbury-Wicomico airport.

'In this particular situation, we had something that wasn't used for anything, and now it's going to be a full disc golf course with trails integrated within it," Rodriguez said.

Two Worcester firms appear on list of state dispensaries

■ MEDICAL MARIJUANA continued although a change in venue is a possibility because of the reduced scope of the operation.

Pre-approval awardees have a meeting scheduled with the Maryland Medical Cannabis Commission later this month, and Lyndsey Odachowski said the company would hold off on making a decision until after that meeting.

Matt Odachowski said he owned several suitable properties to house the operation. The Snow Hill mayor, Charlie Dorman, and council sent a letter to the commission endorsing the Odachowskis' efforts during the application phase last year.

Little is known about OC Botanicals

LLC. The firm does not have a website or social media presence, and the only search engine results on the name are published media reports and the news release from the commission announcing the awardees.

The pre-approved dispensary candidates continue to stage two of the process, which includes criminal background investigations, financial due diligence, compliance inspections by the commission, completing regulatory requirements, raising capital and securing local zoning approvals and facil-

The commission will then vote for licensure during a public meeting once the regulatory requirements are met.

OP committee officially dissolved

Directors vote 5-1, Monday, to repeal resolution, which created racket sports panel

By Josh Davis

Associate Editor

(Dec. 15, 2016) As hinted during a work session last Monday, the Ocean Pines Board of Directors formally dissolved its racquet sports advisory committee at its meeting last Friday.

Board President Tom Herrick proposed a motion to "give notice and first consideration" to repeal resolution C-14, terminating the committee and to allow each of the three sports formerly covered - tennis, platform tennis and pickle ball - to have "the ability to represent their own respective needs and interests separately."

Director Cheryl Jacobs opposed the motion.

This is not the appropriate way to deal with issues that present themselves within our committees," Jacobs said. "I don't see anything that prohibits [the] different racquet sports groups from presenting what they individually want ... you don't need to repeal or deactivate this resolution in order for that to happen, so I'm totally opposed to that.

Herrick, who chairs the commit-

tee, argued that all three sports had "different needs, interests and wants," and that the committee as a whole did not serve those interests

The individual committee members were also apparently not getting along. Herrick had previously described their disagreements as spiraling out of control and leading to "personal attacks [and] verbal abuse" during public meetings.

In effect, [the nature of the committee] causes a compromise which actually doesn't best represent the individual sport itself, and unfortunately it causes internal turmoil and problems within that committee," he said. "Each sport does not have the full representation from that committee.

Interim General Manager Brett Hill said terminating the committee would bring "responsibility back up to the board," which needed to hap-

"The staff involvement [because] of the needs of solving three different sports has become very time consuming," he said. "It's leading to, I believe, a moral conflict of the staff trying to appease residents."

Having a means for the individual sports to come directly to the board rather than working through staffers, he said, "would be in our best interest."

"There are competing needs to be satisfied and there needs to be board involvement for discrimination as to what's right - where is the best business case to allocate our money and where do our project go," Hill said. "We're not doing that right now at all."

Board Vice President Dave Stevens said each sport had different requirements and used different facilities and were - essentially -'different."

"There's no reason to think that policy for one sport [would] be exactly the same as the policy for another," he said. "What do they have in common? The answer is not very much, and to try and force-feed it ... is not working for one thing, and there's no reason to think it should work."

Herrick said there were separate committees for each sport in the past, which he said were "managed very successfully.'

Each sport, he added, already had an individual board and a president. Herrick speculated that it would not be difficult to establish direct lines of communication between those bodies and the board of directors.

The vote to dissolve the committee was 5-1, with Jacobs voting no and Director Pat Supik abstaining.



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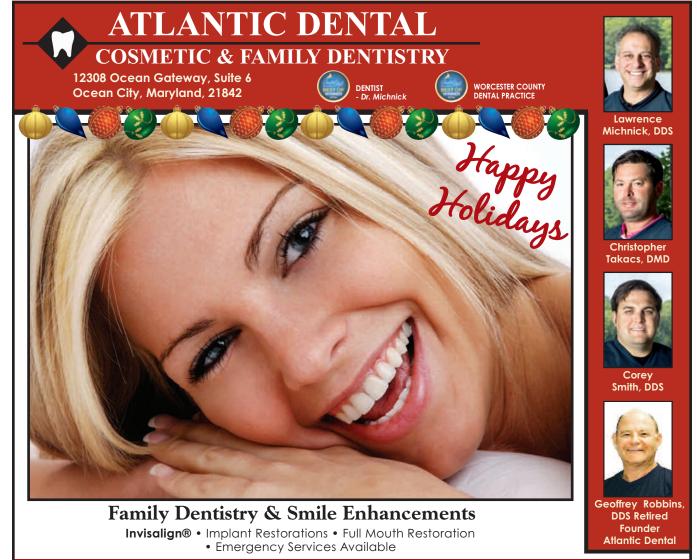
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IOSH DAVIS/RAYSIDE GAZETTE

The Berlin Board of Appeals, last Wednesday, overturned a previous ruling by the town historic district commission denying a large, pylon sign over the Berlin Butcher Shop on Williams Street. Because of the new ruling, the sign may remain up.



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Shop sign stays; appeals board overturns HDC

By Josh Davis

Associate Editor

(Dec. 15, 2016) A sign inserted into a large pylon outside the Berlin Butcher Shop on Williams Street will stay in place, following a ruling by the Berlin Board of Appeals last Wednesday.

That decision overturns an October order by the Berlin Historic District Commission, when Commissioner Robert Poli said the sign presented a series of violations and that it went up without commission approval.

Citing town code, Poli said at the time, "anyone making changes within the historic district without approval by the commission shall be deemed guilty of a municipal infraction."

The historic district commission voted 3-0, with two members abstaining, to deny the sign, but a unanimous 4-0 vote by the board of appeals negated that ruling.

Attorney Paul Abu-Zaid, representing Berlin Butch Shop Owner Lisa Hall, said the historic district commission had approved a nearly identical sign that was mounted on the butcher shop.

Hall said the commission gave no specific reasons for the denial of the sign, other than they thought the pylon itself was "an eyesore."

Planning Director Dave Engelhart said the commission could not order the pylon to be removed, but could only accept or reject the insert.

Abu-Zaid said the commission had not accepted legal design standards, and that town code did not "give a whole lot of guidance" to the panel.

"The decision was erroneous because it wasn't based on any substantial evidence on the record and it did not adhere to the code requirements," he said. "[The historic commission's] issue really is with the pole, and she's not modified the pole.

He also argued that because the building, and the pylon, predates the commission, it had no authority to rule on it.

"They have to establish is this a valuable historic site ... that wasn't done," Abu-Zaid said.

No mention was made of the sign's installation before a scheduled hearing with the historic district commission in October, which seemed to be part of the basis for its rejection.

Appeals board member Jay Knerr said he was "somewhat confused" by the meeting minutes of the historic commission that provided the bulk of the evidence during the hearing.

"I didn't feel there was any clear-cut reason to deny the sign," he said. "It wasn't clearly articulated or spelled out, in my opinion.

Woody Bunting, also a member of the appellate board, agreed.

"I felt the same way when I was reading the minutes," he said. "I didn't understand what was being rejected or denied."

Four of the five members of the historic district commission were present during the hearing, but none offered comment on the reason for the denial.

Berlin Library project will be bid soon

By Greg Ellison

Staff Writer

(Dec. 15, 2016) The new Berlin Branch Library project will enter the construction bidding phase next month after the Worcester County Commissioners approved a final pre-bid cost estimate at its meeting last Tuesday.

In presenting a progress report, county library Director Jennifer Ranck said the library project has received more than \$1.7 million in state grant funds, with another \$1.01 million pending approval.

"The governor's capital budget bill is scheduled to be released on January 18, 2017 and we will know then if the fiscal year 2018 request has been included," she said. "On top of what we've received from the state, the Worcester County Library Foundation has made through donations and pledges (an additional) \$425,000."

Jeff Schoellkopf, principal with the Vermont-based Design Group, said initial design was completed in August 2015.

"We've been working now since our last progress report in August a year ago on the design development and construction documents," he said. "We've gotten to the point where we've actually submitted permit plans to the town (of Berlin) and we've gotten the fire marshal's blessing."

At this point, Schoellkopf said the

overall project cost is estimated at \$6.4 million.

"The project now stands about a 12,000-square-foot building with about 2,400 square feet of decks and porches," he said "We are shooting for a building envelope of 40-50 years to make sure we build things that don't need constant repair and replacement," he said

In an effort to reduce costs, Schoellkopf said he consulted with construction management firm Whiting-Turner to perform a cost analysis of a woodversus-steel building exterior.

"We came up with a savings of about \$100,000 for the all-wood building, (with a) mostly wood frame (with) a little bit of steel beams," he said. "The floors do have to handle a pretty heavy load."

He also noted the two-story structure was designed to mesh with Berlin's downtown image.

Other highlights mentioned include landscaping to screen nearby neighbors, 60 parking spaces and turnaround area for bus access.

"It will have garden planters to accommodate the garden club which has been operating a garden program at the existing library," he said. "We are trying to keep low key street lighting and will have 14 foot mounted poles every 50 feet."

Upon entering the first floor of the library patrons will be greeted by a cir-

culation desk, with adult stacks located to the right and an array of offerings for kids to the right.

"The children's area includes a small reading circle, children's book collection and craft and homework areas," he said. "Off of the children's area is a porch and the front entrance has a porch."

The second floor will contain a multi-purpose room that can be accessed from an outside entrance during library off hours.

"It can be used for theater productions with 120 people seated," he said.

The room includes four rows of retractable seating and can comfortably accommodate 80 to 90 people for business conferences. The second floor also includes other adaptable spaces.

"The loft area includes a closed in history room, a teen area and some youth computers," he said.

Kelly Shannahan, county assistant chief administrative officer, said the commissioners could either approve the bid package now based on the concept or do a more detailed review and call for bids in January.

"If you're comfortable with the design, I'm not sure the specific detailed review of the bid packages would be necessary," he said.

Commissioner Bud Church made a motion to approve the project for bids, with a second from Commissioner Ted Elder.

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Fazzalaro named new IT director

(Dec. 15, 2016) The Ocean Pines Association has announced the addition of a new network administrator to its staff of full-time employees.

Paul Fazzalaro has accepted the position of network administrator for Ocean Pines. He has over 16 years of experience in information technology activities. He has a proven record of achieving results through customer relationship building and completing programs ahead of schedule and under budget.

Fazzalaro comes to Ocean Pines from the Tennessee Department of Children's Services, where he served as the deputy director of IT operations and was senior project manager. He oversaw telecommunications, network and management systems and provided application server and production control support.

A graduate of Star Technical Institute in Lakewood, New Jersey, Fazzalaro is a Six Sigma Green Belt, a CSC-certified associate in project management, an ITIL expert and certified in CompTIA Security.



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Snapshots



SUBMITTED PHOTO/ BAYSIDE GAZETTE

SERENITY CHECK

Michelle O'Ferrall, owner of Serenity Salon in Ocean Pines, presents Emily Rantz from Women Supporting Women with a check from their fundraiser on Oct. 16 in recognition of Breast Cancer Awareness Month.



JOSH DAVIS/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

TASTY TREATS, GOOD COMPANY

About a dozen local shop owners celebrate a business after hours hosted by the Berlin Chamber of Commerce at Bruder Hill and Gilbert's Provisions, last Thursday.





JOSH DAVIS/BAYSIDE GAZETTE



2ND FRIDAY

Ribbon cuttings at Bungalow Love, top left, and Sheppard Realty celebrate anniversaries at the Berlin businesses during the 2nd Friday art stroll, Dec. 9. (Above, left) Authors Tony Russo ("Eastern Shore Beer"), left, Jeffrey Smith ("Mesabi Pioneers") and Stephanie Fowler ("Crossings"), take part in a live podcast taping at Salt Water Media during 2nd Friday in Berlin.

Yacht club to get pirate playground

By Josh Davis

Associate Editor

(Dec. 15, 2016) Ocean Pines will soon build a new bar inside its yacht club and install a playground area for children on the outside patio, according to interim General Manager Brett Hill.

"Tuffy's Tavern" will be installed in the lobby area next week, using a sign apparently rescued from the previous yacht club. During a public meeting Friday, Hill said it would be open for service "in the very near future."

The new section would allow for carryout sales - Hill said the yacht club's liquor license allows for "off-premise sales of beer and wine – and would be able to serve guests prior to seating.

A "private foundation to the association" also apparently provided a donation that will go towards a new pirate ship-themed playground area that was shown in a slide during the meeting. Hill said the playground would be installed in the memory of a "former resident.

Hill said staff had long wanted to erect a playground to satisfy young families in the area, but funding had been difficult to secure. He estimated it would be finished by "late winter [or] early spring" and would be on the east side of the building, in a section of the patio between the pool and bathrooms.

In an email interview on Monday, Hill added that "an Amish company out of Lancaster" Pennsylvania was the lowest bidder on the playground.

"The actual unit to be built for us will be slightly modified with additional railings ... for a commercial install," he said. "The foundation is still working through the site approvals to finalize the donation, which I hope to have addressed this week, at which point we can share the final plans and their information."

As for Tuffy's, he said that was part of a larger rebranding campaign for the yacht club being overseen by new Marketing Director Denise Sawyer.

"We are really trying to better identify our food and beverage operations, so that nonresidents realize we are open to the public, and have a lot to offer," Hill said. "Tuffy is the nickname of Charles Mumford, the namesake of Mumford's Landing.'





An anonymous donation was made to Ocean Pines toward pirate-themed playground equipment at the community yacht club, which will go along with the theme of "The Cove" restaurant there



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Fourth annual 'Shop with a Cop'

CRICKET Center and state police partner for outreach, assistance prog. for youth

By Kara Hallissey

Staff Writer

(Dec. 15, 2016) Twenty Worcester County elementary school children spent last Saturday morning racing around the Berlin Wal-Mart while picking out Christmas presents with a Maryland State Police officer following closely behind, pushing a cart full of their treasures during "Shop with a Cop."

The Berlin Barrack state troopers partnered with the Worcester County CRICKET Center for the fourth annual event where students ranging in age from 5-12 years old were paired with a police officer and given \$100 each to spend at Wal-Mart however they chose for Christmas.

"Overall, the program has grown and been a great success in the community," said First Sgt. Chris Davala, who has participated in the program since its inception. "This year, 20 Worcester County children went home with smiles and cherished moments of spending the morning with Maryland State troopers. Someday, one of those kids may raise their right hand to take the oath."

The morning was memorable for all participants, with children and officers interacting, in addition to taking away from routine and tough days in police work.

"It is a fantastic experience, but what makes it even better is the smiles and laughter of the kids when they finally warm up to the men and women in uniform," Davala said. "This year, we had troopers and cadets aged 17-48 helping out. Family members of troopers and volunteers from the community made the five hours the kids were with us fun for us all. Many of the troopers look

forward to the time spent with fellow troopers from around the area and the kids who come from all walks of life"

Each student received a tour of the Berlin Barrack, had a police car show-and-tell, was acquainted with Maryland State Police canines and were provided honorary Junior Maryland Trooper badges before jumping on a bus to Wal-Mart.

'It does a lot of things at once.

First and foremost, it helps people who may be in need this time of year. It also fosters a relationship between the officers, kids and community here.'

Trooper Marlin Myers

"It does a lot of things at once. First and foremost, it helps people who may be in need this time of year," said Trooper Marlin Myers, the officer who brought the program to Berlin four years ago. "It also fosters a relationship between the officers, kids and community here."

After shopping, everyone returned to the barrack where volunteers assisted in wrapping all the purchased presents and children enjoyed sandwiches and cookies donated by Chick-fil-A.

Recently, Davala took a position as a supervisor in the Aviation Command Division in Baltimore, but "made it a point" to get in touch with Myers and participate in the program this year.

"Another major reason for why I enjoy participating is my family volunteers, as many other troopers' families do too," Davala said. "My two boys, who are 8 and 12, and wife, cherish the time with the kids. My

wife and I try to instill in our boys it is nice to share and give back to those in need. Their smiles are just as important to me as the ones of the kids they are helping."

Myers read about "Shop with a Cop" a couple years ago in a trooper magazine and similar programs have taken place in Baltimore and the Cumberland areas. He thought it was a great idea to help community kids in need and brighten their holidays.

Through the program, participants will know they can always go to police if they need help.

Davala explained how police deal with tragedy and heartache every day, yet programs such as "Shop with a Cop" help to remind why they became law enforcement officers in the first place.

"We are not perceived as humans, but rather the ones who are there to take freedoms away," Davala said. "Contrary to many, we have feelings too and with those feelings come the pain. We see families suffer. When it reaches the kids in the world, it hurts and in that hurt comes a drive to help and be a part of a positive experience with law enforcement. I get a charge back into my reasoning for why I became a trooper and why I do what I do each day."

The program has continued because of donations from Wal-Mart and the National Wal-Mart Foundation, Harbor Marine in West Ocean City, DeNovo's Trattoria Restaurant in Ocean Pines, Chick-fil-A in West Ocean City, Atlantic Physical Therapy in Ocean Pines, the Makemie Memorial Presbyterian Women, private citizen donations, the Worcester County Board of Education, the Worcester County Health Department, the Worcester County CRICKET Center, and the men and woman, both sworn and civilian, of the Maryland State Police Salisbury, Princess Anne and Berlin barracks.

U.S. accepted as intervenor in civil rights case

(Dec. 15, 2016) Federal District Court Judge J. Frederick Motz recently ruled the United States Department of Justice can intervene as a plaintiff in the lawsuit filed by three former Pocomoke City Police officers who allege that they were subjected to discrimination in violation of the Civil Rights Act.

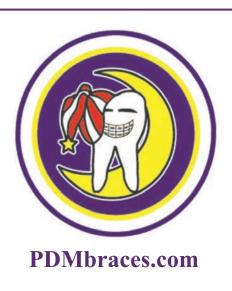
The complaint filed by the United States on Dec. 1 is similar to the one already filed by former officers Franklin Savage and Lynell Green and former Pocomoke City Police Chief Kelvin Sewell. The defense has already filed a motion to dismiss the new claim on similar grounds as the original claim, but a judge has yet to rule on the issue.

The basis of the complaint starts with Savage, who claims he was subjected to a hostile work environment by the Sheriff's Office, and by extension, the state, while he was assigned to a joint task force.

Savage also alleged that he was subject to further retaliation by the Sheriff's Office and Pocomoke City, up to and including his termination.

Further, Green and Sewell contend they faced retaliation for supporting Savage's claims. Green eventually resigned from the Pocomoke department, and Sewell was fired by the city.

In July, Green and Sewell were indicted by a grand jury on charges of misconduct in office and conspiracy to commit misconduct in office. Sewell was convicted of misconduct in office this week, but cleared of conspiracy charges, and Green is scheduled for court on Dec. 19.





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Berlin Council Briefs

By Josh Davis

Associate Editor

(Dec. 15, 216) The Berlin Mayor and Council discussed the following items during their Dec. 12 meeting at Town Hall

Audit report

PKS & Company presented an "unmodified" opinion of Berlin financials, also known as a "clean opinion," which PKS Partner Michael Kleger said was the "highest level of service" the company could provide as auditors.

According to the firm's review, general fund revenues grew from \$5.3 million in 2015 to \$5.7 million in fiscal year 2016, about seven percent, and expenses increased from \$5.1 million last year to \$8.1 million during the current fiscal year, largely because of the purchase of the former Tyson's Chicken property on Old Ocean City Boulevard.

Oceans East

The council unanimously approved the sale of 24 EDUs for \$400,464 to Rinnier Development Company for the first 24 apartments in the Oceans East complex on Seahawk Road.

The developer purchased a 120acre parcel of land in 2013 that was annexed into the town last year. Rinnier plans to build 144 apartments there over a period of about a decade.

A public works agreement for the first portion of the build was also approved unanimously.

Flower Street and stormwater update Water Resources and Public Works Director Jane Kreiter said the town had to reroute part of its culvert replacement plans on Flower Street because a waterline that was not on existing maps was discovered. She said the discovery would not change the timeline of the project.

A similar discovery apparently occurred on West Street, where stormwater plans had to be redrawn because four lines – two abandoned water lines and one each for stormwater and gas – were discovered.

Break-ins

Police Chief Arnold Downing cautioned residents to lock their cars, and said seven break-ins had been reported during the last month. Thieves were apparently looking for packages purchased by holiday shoppers.

Downing urged residents to "be diligent."

Happy holidays

Monday's meeting was the last of 2016 in the town and each member of the council wished Berliners a safe and happy holiday.

"I hope everyone takes a few minutes during this holiday season ... [to] appreciate and acknowledge how blessed and fortunate we are to live in a community where the hue and glow or coloration of the Christmas decorations is an issue," Mayor Gee Williams said with a laugh. "That's wonderful. We are so fortunate."

Generator update

A two-piece, 22,000-pound generator at the Williams Street electric plant was being brought back online after repairs were done to fix flooding damage done by a recent heavy rain.

Electric Utilities Director Tim Lawrence said a new three-stage pumping system was being installed to prevent similar situations in the future, and that alerts would be sent from the system to town officials via text and email in case of any flooding concerns.

OPA Briefs

By Josh Davis

Associate Editor

(Dec. 15, 2016) The Ocean Pines Association Board of Directors discussed the following items during its Dec. 9 public meeting in the community center:

Treasurer's report

According to the monthly treas-

urer's report presented by Director Pat Supik, Ocean Pines finished the four-month period ending on Oct. 31 with a \$3.698 million net, with \$9.649 million in operating revenue against \$5.951 million in expenses.

Reserves ended that period with a \$7.764 million balance. She added that 97.1 percent of assessments had been collected as of that date.

GM report

Hill said financials at the yacht club had been positive during the last several months and that November revenues, in particular, were twice what were budgeted.

Reporting on ongoing projects, he said the new roof installation for the country club was about halfway done and that the new bathrooms at Whitehorse Park should be wrapped up next week.

Installation of playground equipment at Huntington Park was nearly done. The sports fields there, while graded and ready for grass, will have to wait for permanent coverings until the spring, Hill said, because of the cold weather.

Change order

The directors voted unanimously to budget \$44,000 as part of a change order related to bridge repairs.

Deputy Public Works Director John Ross said water and sewer lines would have to be run above ground. Funding from the county to bury those lines was apparently available in the past, but delays in starting bridge repairs blamed on a previous administration in Ocean Pines caused the county to allocate that money elsewhere.

The association could have put off the work and waited to see if new funding became available through the county, although Ross said that might not have happened until May or June of next year.

Hill speculated that could have take even longer – perhaps upwards of a year.

Closed meeting

Following the open portion, the directors adjourned to a closed session to discuss separate negotiations related to the fire company and Ocean Pines' contract with golf management company Landscapes Unlimited.

According to a statement emailed by Hill on Monday, "No votes for any matter were taken in the closed session. The directors strictly provided guidance for negotiations with the Ocean Pines Volunteer Fire Company and Landscapes Unlimited related to the upcoming budget."



SECTION 106 PUBLIC NOTICE

TowerCom VI, LLC is proposing to construct a 155' tall monopine telecommunications tower located near 11517 Gum Point Road, Berlin, Worcester, MD, 21811, at Latitude N38° 21' 28.27", Longitude W75° 09' 20.60". TowerCom VI, LLC seeks comments from all interested persons on the impact of the tower on any districts, sites, buildings, structures, or objects significant in American history, architecture, archaeology, engineering, or culture, that are listed or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. Specific information about the project, including the historic preservation reviews that TowerCom VI, LLC is conducting pursuant to the rules of the Federal Communications Commission (47 C.F.R. Sections 1.1307(4)) and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (36 C.F.R. Part 800) will be made available to interested persons who request the information from the contact below. All questions, comments, and correspondence should be directed to Virginia Janssen at Dynamic Environmental Associates, Inc., 3850 Lake Street, Suite C, Macon, GA 31204, 877-968-4787, Sec106@DynamicEnvironmental.com within 30 days from the date of this publication. Re: 21610015.

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Berlin Historic District Commission Briefs

By Josh Davis

Associate Editor

(Dec. 15, 2016) The Berlin Historic District Commission discussed the following items during its Dec. 7 meeting at Town Hall:

Four votes

Four of the five members of the panel were present during the meeting: Chairwoman Carol Rose and commission members Mary Moore, Robert Poli and Laura Sterns.

Odd Fellows

The commission approved two changes to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows building on 4 South Main Street.

Gail Lewis, speaking on behalf of the order, asked for and received per-

mission to paint the existing awning red to match the original color, and to install a new light fixture on the side of the building "in keeping with the

Postponement

Homeowner Scott Taylor requested approval to replace several windows on his home on 203 South Main

Rose noted the building was conveyed to an Episcopal church in 1892, which owned it until they sold it to Taylor a few years ago. He had asked permission to replace windows on the front of the home, with the intention of eventually replacing all of the windows.

After discussing specifics, including whether the windows needed a grid, Rose suggested a continuation of the matter during the Jan. 4 commission meeting. The other members and the homeowner agreed, and Rose said the panel would look at similar homes on that street before the next meeting. Additionally, Taylor was asked to bring sample materials to the follow-up session.

Safety lights

Garrett Need of Bay Floor LLC was given the go-ahead to install landscape and safety lights near the Sea La Vie and Go Organic shops. He said his grandfather built those buildings, and said there had been some vandalism in that area.

"I had to re-glaze two of the windows in the last month," he said, adding that the lights would also help accent the shops during evening hours or special events.

Moore said both buildings, officially on Artisan's Way, were "charming."

"They do bring so much [to the town], both of them," she said. "I think they're really special."

Wooden Octopus

The commission unanimously approved signs for the Wooden Octopus art gallery on 8 Jefferson Street.

Owner Matthew Amey also floated the idea, potentially to be discussed during a later meeting, of installing a large sculpture on the side of the house, facing Main Street, which would double as an "old platform pulley system."

By day it would appear to be a sculpture, but it would also be functional and allow him to lift heavy items to the second floor of the house, Amey said.



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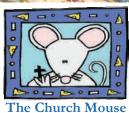
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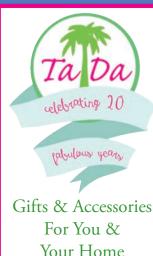


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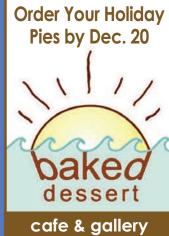


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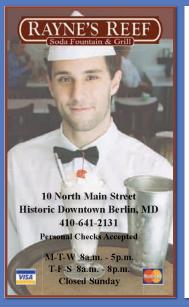
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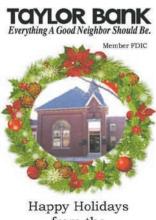
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'Deck the Paws' kitten yoga offered at Zenna Wellness

(Dec. 15, 2016) It's time to "Deck the Paws" at Zenna Wellness

A yoga class will be held on Saturday, Dec. 17 from 3-5 p.m. at Zenna Wellness Studio located at 10 South Main Street, Berlin. This class is unique because participants will practice yoga alongside adoptable, cuddly, playful kittens from Worcester County Humane Society.

This event, with Chrissy Ehrhart, is a donation-based class with all proceeds going directly to the care of the many animals at the no-kill shelter.

The class is open to those ages 9 and older and no prior yoga experience is required. All minors

must have a parent present. Participants are encouraged to bring their own yoga mats if they have one otherwise one will be provided.

Spaces are limited and this class will fill up quickly. Call Ehrhart at 443-373-7069 to reserve a spot.

The Worcester County Humane Society is a private, nonprofit, no-kill animal shelter, located at 12330 Eagles Nest Road, Berlin, that depends on donations and fundraising to care for the many animals who are housed at the facility until they are found by their forever family.

Follow the shelter on Facebook and Instagram for available pets and upcoming events.



PHOTO COURTESY D.J. LANDIS, SI

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K-KIDS ADVISERS VISIT

Every week, Speakers & Programs Chair J. Graham Caldwell arranges for a guest speaker to address the Kiwanis Club of Greater Ocean Pines-Ocean City. The advisers to the K-Kids Kiwanis Student Leadership Club at Showell Elementary School recently spoke to the group. Pictured, from left, are President Barb Peletier; Teacher Adviser to the Showell K-Kids Club, Evy Collins; and Jackie Todd, who is the Kiwanis Club's Adviser to the Showell K-Kids.



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Opinion

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

Generosity is news, too

Charities in this area — and there are plenty of them — get frequent publicity, because it's necessary to remind the public that all these institutions and organizations can only do their good works if residents do their share as well.

As dedicated as the volunteers and leadership of these groups might be, their efforts will come to naught without the participation of the public.

That's why it's good to see a little operation like the Church Mouse in Berlin doing so well this holiday season.

Helen Wiley, who runs the shop as an outreach for St. Paul's Episcopal Church, put it best when she said that the thrift shop's success is a tribute to the kindness of the people of Berlin.

It truly is, just as the success of the multiple charities in this county reflects well on the thousands of residents and businesses who give regularly, especially this time of the year.

And there are plenty of places to do that. According to the National Center for Charitable Statistics, 82 outright charities, as well as organizations that also do charitable works as part of their mission, have filed returns with the Internal Revenue Service in the past few years.

They represent only a slice of the total giving that involves the more than 300 registered nonprofits in Worcester County, as well as all the impromptu fund drives and appeals that take place during the course of the year.

Contrary to property tax statistics that put Worcester in the top tier of wealthy counties, its per capita income, as calculated by the state, lands it in the 13th spot. Even then, those numbers are skewed by the more affluent — if that's even correct as compared to towns on the western shore — northern half of the county. Yet, Worcester goes beyond other areas in terms of charitable giving.

In December, the Church Mouse distributed \$6,000 to other charities and services in the county. That's not an overwhelming amount of money in today's world, but it came through the help of many people for whom every dollar counts. And that says a great deal about who we are.

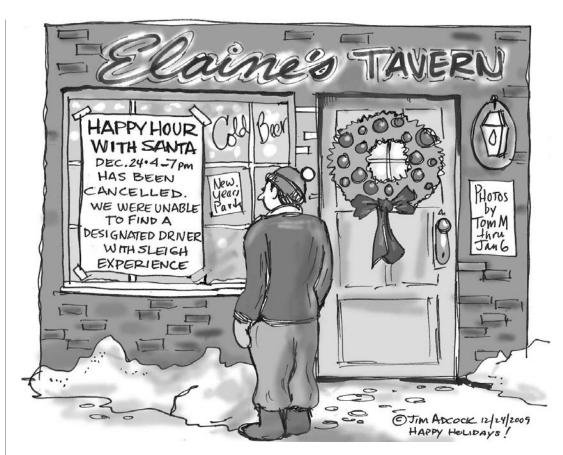
BAYSIDE W GAZETTE

Controller: Christine Brown cbrown@oceancitytoday.net **Admin. Assistant:** Gini Tufts gini@oceancitytoday.net

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Phone: 410-641-0039 • Fax: 410-641-0085
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Letters

Donate during 'Giving Season'

Editor

"To everything there is a season ... and a time for every purpose under heaven." – Ecclesiastes 3:1

This well-known quote has stood timeless among so many thousands of seasons of change. In a time that for those of us seeking clarity in a time of seemingly constant change, this simple, but eloquent statement, gives us all an opportunity to put our lives in perspective.

While it is easy in our contemporary society to be consumed by the daily grind of life, for many this is a special time of year to reflect on a more meaningful understanding of both our individual and collective purpose.

With time, and experience, it becomes clear that life is about choices. And this is particularly true as it relates to financial resources and economic security. Being self-sufficient and supporting our families being paramount but, in addition, finding ways to serve the greater good.

We are all part of the larger community, whether we realize it or not. The quality of so many aspects of our lives is based on the actions, decisions, and circumstances of so many who we will likely never know. We see it every day at the Community Foundation – the selfless acts of individuals sharing what they have to help someone else.

Volunteers ringing the bell for the Red Kettle Campaign, adopting families in need for Christmas or serving warm meals to hungry neighbors. Generous souls dropping dollars in the Red Kettle, making contributions to their favorite charities, or helping a friend or family member who has fallen on hard times. We make the difference for each other in our community.

We are fortunate that at this time every year, regardless of our diversity of faiths, ethnic origins, or cultural identity, we all have an opportunity to do our part to make a difference in the lives of others in our community. This time of year is seen by many as the "The Giving Season." The spirit of sharing our time, energy and resources to do something nice for someone else.

As a child, we greatly enjoy the act of receiving – embodied by the act of sitting on Santa's lap and listing all the things we "need" and want. As we mature, the focus of the season shifts to helping to make other's holiday brighter at home, in our extended families and in our community.

With so many ways to make an impact, how do you go about deciding where your charitable gift should go or how to start? May I suggest you start by thinking about the causes that matter to you. The needs of others on the Lower Shore are incredibly diverse and timeless. But we can be grateful that in our region there are so many outstanding, dedicated and effective nonprofit organizations that meet these needs and more, each and every day.

The Giving Season gives every one of us a wonderful opportunity and yes, quite possibly, a responsibility to make a difference to enhance the greater good throughout our community – our extended family. Don't let this time pass without experiencing the special joy, we may all share – through charitable giving.

Erica Joseph President, Community Foundation of the Eastern Shore, Inc.

Continued on Page 19

Letters

Continued from Page 18

WYFCS, donations big impact on area children

Editor,

Worcester Youth and Family Counseling Services (WYFCS) would like to thank our donors for their continuous support through the years.

Your financial assistance provides a brighter future for children in our community and helps families who are struggling emotionally and financially. As you know, not all families have support systems in place that can help them through difficult times, but they know, and you know, that WYFCS is here to help.

For 41 years, we have been making a difference in the lives of the people we serve. Because of you, we were able to serve thousands of people in Worcester County this year. helped impoverished families find needed resources, gave at-risk adolescents hope for a brighter future, provided educational and wellness experiences to children, provided therapy services to people of all ages, and advocated for neglected and abused children who live in our community.

We are excited to share with you that over \$4,000 was donated to WYFCS through the Giving Tuesday campaign held Nov. 29. Giving Tuesday is a nationally recognized day designed to give thanks and show



HIGHLIGHTING INTEGRITY

Nine eighth grade students recently graduated from the Surf into Integrity program at Stephen Decatur Middle School. Each student stood in front of their parents and teachers to explain what integrity means to them and their favorite chapter of "The Surfer's Code," by World Champion Surfer Shaun Tomson.

appreciation for our personal successes by donating to charities that make the world a better place to live.

Since our focus is right here in Worcester County, we partnered with the Community Foundation of the Eastern Shore to promote Giving Tuesday for local charities.

We are so grateful that you remain committed to our organization and entrust us to brighten the future for our neighbors and friends. If you were not able to give on Giving Tuesday, it is not too late! Please send your donation to WYFCS at 124 N. Main Street, Suite C, Berlin, Maryland 21811, or you can donate online at www.gowoyo.org by selecting the donate button at the top of the main webpage.

Steven Taylor Executive Director Worcester Youth & Family Counseling Services, Inc.



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Ketel One Vodka (L) \$19.99

Rum Chata (1.75ml) 515

Boston Crème De Café (L) \$4

Boston Crème De Banana (L) \$3.25

Ciroc Red Berry (750ml) 51-

Teavine American Sparkling Wine (750ml) \$\frac{5}{4}\$

Imperial Blend (375ml) ***

Bayou White Rum (200ml) \$2.50

Bayou Spiced Rum (200ml) \$2.50

Ciroc Vodka (L) \$19

Smirnoff Raspberry Sorbet (L)

Smirnoff Pineapple Coconut Sorbet (L)

Few Spirits American Craft Gin (750ml) 2

Barton Gold Rum (L) \$4

Rum Jumbie Passion Fruit (750ml) \$6.49

Ciroc Peach (750ml) 5

Please Drink Responsibly

Pine Tones Chorus present Christmas concert, Dec. 16

(Dec. 15, 2016) The Pine Tones Chorus will present a Christmas concert at Atlantic United Methodist Church, located on Fourth Street and Baltimore Avenue in Ocean City, on Friday, Dec. 16, at 7:30 p.m.

The Pine Tones Chorus includes more than 50 singers from Ocean Pines, Ocean City and nearby areas. June Todd is the chorus director and Cathy Morgan is the group's pianist.

Featured instrumentalists will include Judy Benton and Fr. Michael Moyer playing trumpet, Jim Meckley the clarinet, Don Gury the trombone and Tom Baione on string bass.

The concert is titled "Carol, Singers, Carol!" and offers a festive variety of holiday selections. Traditional melodies will include the theme from Beethoven's "Ode to Joy" and the classic "O Holy Night," sung by soprano, Evonne Lee.

Fans of jazzy songs may enjoy the Ray Charles arrangement of "Jingle Bells," and a swinging version from Tchaikovsky's "Nutcracker Suite," featuring four hands on the piano.

Movie fans may recognize the Hawaiian Christmas song "Mele Kalikimaka," as sung by Bette Midler, Bing Crosby and others.

Admission is free and an offering will be received. After the concert, guests may enjoy refreshments in the church social hall.

The Pine Tones Chorus has been entertaining local audiences in the Ocean Pines and Ocean City areas since 1984. For additional information, call Chorus President Pat Beisler at 410-208-2682, or Todd at 410-289-7373.

Funding for Pine Tones Chorus activities has been provided by the Worcester County Arts Council, individual donations and patrons. The Arts Council is dedicated to cultivating a vibrant cultural community where the arts thrive.

Vehicle thefts in area underscore need to lock cars

(Dec. 15, 2016) Area police are reporting an increase in vehicle tampering and theft from vehicles during the last

The Maryland State Police Berlin Barracks is reminding residents to be vigilant in locking their vehicles and ensuring valuables are not left unattended.

There also have been reports of both commercial and home burglaries in the county. In attempt to prevent this, police are recommending that residents lock vehicles and home doors, keep exterior lights on and activate alarm sys-

Report any suspicious activity immediately without delay to the local police department.



GRANDPARENTS' DAY

Worcester Prep Lower School students hosted Grandparents' Day, showering their loved ones with activities, handmade gifts, and heritage presentations on Oct. 28. WPS kindergartener Cruz Rinnier Malone is all smiles surrounded by his grandparents, from left, Ginnie Malone, Marlene Rinnier, Bob Malone and Bill Rinnier.



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Dec. 16: Tranzfusion, 9 p.m. Dec. 17: Chest Pains, 9 p.m. Dec. 21: 2 Guys & A Mama, 5

BOURBON STREET ON THE BEACH

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www.bourbonstreetonthebeach.co

Dec. 16: Dave Sherman, 7-11 p.m.

Dec. 17: TBA, 7-11 p.m. Dec. 18: Just Jay, 6-9 p.m. Dec. 21: Open Mic, 8-11 p.m. Dec. 22: Chris Button, 7-10 p.m.

CAPTAIN'S TABLE

15th St. & Baltimore Ave. Ocean City 410-289-7192 www.captainstableoc.com Every Friday & Saturday: Phil Perdue, 5:30 p.m.

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Dec. 16: Everett Spells, 5:30-

9:30 p.m.

Dec. 17: Tear the Roof Off, 4:30-8:30 p.m.; Aaron Howell Duo, 9:30 p.m. to 1:30 a.m.

DUFFY'S TAVERN

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. 16: DJ RobCee, 9 p.m. Dec. 17: Speakers of the House, 1 p.m.; Jocelyn & Chris Arndt, 9 p.m.; DJ Groove, 10 p.m.

HARBORSIDE BAR & GRILL

12841 S. Harbor Road West Ocean City 410-213-1846 www.ocharborside.com Dec. 16: DJ Billy T, 4 p.m. Dec. 17: Simple Truth/Side Project, 2-6 p.m.; DJ Jeremy, 9 p.m.

Dec. 18: Opposite Directions, 2-6 p.m.; DJ Billy T, 6:30 p.m. Dec. 21: Karaoke w/DJ Jeremy Dec. 22: Opposite Directions, 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.

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Dec. 16: Dave Hawkins, 5-10 p.m. Dec. 17: Dave Sherman, 6-10

Dec. 22: Kevin Poole, 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. 16-17: On The Edge, 9:30 p.m. to 2 a.m.

SEACRETS

49th Street and the bay Ocean City 410-524-4900 www.seacrets.com

Dec 16: Christmas Party w/Jocelyn & Chris Arndt, Pressing Strings, Sweet Leda, Rivers & Rhodes, The Swell Fellas, Side Project and Human Connection, 5-10 p.m.; Victoria Watts Band, 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.

Dec 17: 19th Street Band, 5-9 p.m.; DJ Cruz, 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.; Steal the Sky, 10 p.m. to 1:50

SKYE RAW BAR & GRILLE

66th Street, bayside Ocean City 410-723-6762 www.skyebaroc.com Dec. 16-17: TBA

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. 16: Karaoke w/Donnie Berkey



SIMPLE TRUTH

Harborside Bar & Grill: Saturday, December 17, 2 p.m.



CHEST PAINS

BJ's On The Water: Saturday, December 17, 9 p.m.





Puzzles



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- '04 HONDA ODYSSEY

Answers to last week's puzzles

su|do|ku

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HARD - 26

Fill in the blank spaces in

the grid so that every vertical column, every horizontal row

and every 3 by 3 box contains

the numbers 1 through 9, with-

out repeating any. There is re-

ally only one solution to each

puzzle.

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RETRONYMS

BY TOM MCCOY / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

ACROSS

- 1 "The cauldron of Democracy'
- 8 Leaving word
- 13 Figure skater Cohen
- 18 Opponents of the Protestant Reformation
- 19 Pickup truck's capacity, maybe
- 20 Common word in insurance company
- names 21 Dialect that was called 22-Across
- before the age of colonialism
- 23 Giving heat?
- 24 Share
- 25 Dummy symbols in ciphers
- 26 Fever fit
- 28 _ point
- 29 "Fernando" band
- 33 System that was called 34-Across before the Internet
- 35 Concept that was called 36-Across before research into the square root of negatives
- 37 Airport figs.
- Can 38 PBS's " Cook"
- 39 Small newt
- 40 Coins that pay for passage over the River Styx
- 41 Believes (in)
- Online subscriptions: Today's puzzle and more than 4,000 past puzzles, nytimes.com/crosswords (\$39.95 a year).

- 43 Gridiron gains: Abbr. 95 Realtor's goal
- 45 Terrier carrier
- _ splints (runner's ailment)
- 48 Machinelike
- 51 Cackle from a greedy person
- 52 Food that was called 53-Across before Twizzlers and the like
- 54 Skimobile, informally
- 55 "Tell me how you really feel!"
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- 58 Squeeze (out)
- 59 Symbol for density
- 62 Cinnamon candies
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- 67 Jackson 5 No. 1 hit
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- 74 Source of the saving "It is more blessed to give than to receive"
- 78 Fastener that was called 80-Across before a rounded design was implemented
- 82 Dancer Duncan
- 85 Belonging to the highest level
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- 92 Quaint contraction
- 93 Nickname of a "Game of Thrones" dwarf, with "the"

- 96 Entertainment category that was called 97-Across before talkies
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- 101 "Good enough"
- dixit
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- 104 Ages and ages
- 105 Something you might have a gut feeling about?
- 106 Painter Jean
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- 115 Degree
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- 4 Mass, e.g.
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- 6 Small monetary amts. 7 Light-colored wood
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- 10 Reply to 5-Down 11 "Rosy-fingered" Greek goddess

- 12 Releases
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 - 13 Without a doubt 14 Something to bank on

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- 19 Burdens
- 20 Home of Haleakala National Park
- 22 Empower
- 27 Stomach-related 29 South American corn cakes
- 30 Happened to
- 31 Mark of success in business?
- 32 Portrays feelings
- 33 Was horrible
- 34 Onetime title for Bernie Sanders 36 "Me neither"
- 37 Former attorney
- general Holder 41 "Oof!"
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- 42 They go about two 44 Ailing 46 Spock's rank: Abbr.
- 47 Declined
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- **60** "lol"
- 61 Upright 63 Observe
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- 81 Ticket
- 83 Court reporter, e.g. 84 Helper: Abbr.
- 87 Caesar's "Commentaries on the ____ War"
- **90** "The Real Slim Shady," for one 91 Actor Bruce
- 96 "Brown Sugar" band,
- with "the"
- 97 Not as lax

94 Primps

- 98 Vibrating device
- **99** Siri : iPhone :: _ Amazon Echo
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- 113 Opposite of paleo-
- 114 Goal for some
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- 106 "O mio babbino caro," for one 108 Be an agent (for) 110 Charles, par exemple

Cuisine

Share tradition with Christmas 'spritz'

This column originally ran in the Dec. 18, 2014 edition of the Bayside Gazette.



By Paul Suplee, CEC PCIII

How many of us remember the smells that wafted through the houses of family and friends during the holiday season? For me, I'm talking the early '70s. For some of you, it may very well be the Dark

Ages, but I won't pick on you.

I will never forget the cookies fresh from the oven or the roast beef and Yorkshire pudding overshadowing the honey ham. Once the mashed potatoes were scraped from the Kitchenaid to one of our Franciscan bowls, it was game on. We knew that there was a gallon of gravy somewhere and the stage was set. And it wasn't just our house, it was everyone's house.

One of my fondest Christmas memories was the annual pilgrimage we would make to Uncle Tom and Aunt Terry's house on Christmas Eve. We lived outside of Annapolis and they lived outside of D.C. All in all, it was a 45-minute drive, but as children it felt like an eternity.

But once we got there, we knew there would be a mountain of food, with brie wrapped in puff pastry being one of my favorites. The kids would retire downstairs to race the Green Machines on the concrete floor and, of course, we would scout out the stack of presents under the tree in the basement.

Upstairs, the table would be set with cheese and crackers, a fantastic meal seeing as how Tom was and is quite the gourmand, and it would be finished with divinity, spritz cookies, preacher's cookies and fruit cake.

Of course, like 99 percent of the rest of the country, I never personally warmed up to the fruitcake. I agree with Johnny Carson that there are only three actual fruit cakes in the world, and they just keep getting regifted since no one eats them.

One of my favorite holiday treats on the table was the plate of spritz cookies, which I haven't made since I was a little kid. Once I was old enough, it was definitely not cool to bake cookies with your mother, but as a younger tot, I remember the process, the tools and, of course, eating the broken pieces and mistakes. After all, we couldn't leave a mess, could we?

Maybe I'm feeling nostalgic be-



cause this is our first year without our mother. Maybe I'm just tired of looking at the spritz press as it collects dust without us ever using it. Or maybe I just want to eat some spritz cookies, which I haven't done in a very, very long time.

Whatever the reason, I know that this is going to be a worthwhile endeavor, so I'll wait for the kids to come home so they can help me. Hopefully, they'll enjoy it as much as I did when I was younger.

As we packed up from a night of dinner, drinking (we had to stick with

soda), presents, Green Machines and frivolities at Tom and Terry's, it was time to pack into the Polara station wagon and make the long trek home. There was a buzz in the air, since we knew that we were only one more wakeup to Santa. A quite palpable tension flew through the car until one by one, we all fell asleep; except for our father, who, of course, was driving

I always pretended to be asleep when we got home, because having my dad carry me inside still remains one of my favorite memories of him. It was the only time during the year that this great courtesy would be bestowed, so I took advantage of it until he finally said "enough."

I'm excited that the house now smells like Christmas cookies, and I'm thrilled to know that I'm sharing a tradition with my kids as it was shared with me. Holidays and family, what a wonderful thing.

Spritz Cookies

Makes about 60 cookies
2 cups Cake flour
1/4 tsp. Salt
3/4 cup Unsalted butter, room temperature
1/2 cup Sugar

1 egg yolk 1/2 tsp. Almond extract

1/2 tsp. Vanilla extract
1/2 tsp. Vanilla extract
Food coloring and sprinkles, op-

onal

1. A slight variation to the original recipe is to replace parchment paper with buttered baking sheets. When chilled in refrigerator, the butter helps to hold onto the dough as you pull the press upwards

2. Preheat an oven to 350F.

- 3. Sift together the flour and the salt. Set aside.
- 4. Put butter in a stand mixer with a paddle attachment and beat until
- 5. Slowly add sugar and beat on medium speed until it is creamy and light.
- 6. Turn the mixer on low and add egg yolk and extracts, mixing until well combined.
- 7. Add flour in a steady stream and combine.
- 8. You can leave it as is, add some food coloring, or split it into three batches. The first keep plain, the next use red food coloring and the third use green food coloring. This is a simple way to add a great deal of color to the cookie tray.
- 9. Follow manufacturer's instructions when pressing the cookies. Make sure to change out the press tip so that you have multiple designs. This is the great thing about spritz cookies. They're so easy to make!
- 10. Decorate with sprinkles or anything that you like.
- 11. Bake for 8-10 minutes or until cooked through and just lightly coloring.
 - 12. Cool on a rack and serve.

 Source: MSN Food & Drink App

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

Calendar

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

THU, DEC. 15

YOUNG & RESTLESS 'REINDEER GAMES'

Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, Ocean Pines, MD, 10:30 a.m. Holiday art and games for ages 3 to 7 years. 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. 16

FREE INTRODUCTORY TO PICKLEBALL

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.

OCEAN 98 HOLIDAY LISTENER APPRECIATION PARTY/SEACRETS CUSTOMER APPRECIATION PARTY

Seacrets, 117 49th St., Ocean City, MD, 5 to 10 p.m. Featuring drink specials, free buffet, silent auction and many bands including River & Rhodes, Swell Fellas, Side Project, Jocelyn & Chris Arndt, Pressing Strings, Sweet Leda w/ Ron Halloway and Human Connection. Proceeds from auction benefits the Ocean 98 Cash For College Fund. Seacrets will also be accepting donations for Toys for Tots. This is a 21+ event.

http://www.facebook.com/events/5629 27930564729/

PINE TONES CHORUS CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Atlantic United Methodist Church, 105 Fourth St., in Ocean City, 7:30 p.m. The chorus includes more than 50 singers accompanied by featured instrumentalists on piano, trumpet, clarinet, trombone and string bass. The concert is titled "Carol, Singers, Carol!" and offers a festive variety of holiday selections. Admission is free and an offering will be received. Afterwards, refreshments will be served. Info: Pat

Beisler, 410-208-2682 or June Todd, 410-289-7373

'A CHRISTMAS CAROL' PERFORMANCE

Washington Academy and High School, 10902 Old Princess Anne Road, Princess Anne, MD, 7 p.m. The Lower Shore Performing Arts Company will present "A Christmas Carol." The cast will be comprised of local residents, Somerset County Public Schools staff members and students. Cost is \$12 for general admission, \$8 for seniors 65 years and older, military and children 12 years and younger. http://www.lowershorepac.org

'UGLY SWEATER' FUNDRAISER

28th St. Pit & Pub, 2706 Philadelphia Ave., Ocean City, MD, 7 p.m. Featuring guest bartenders, happy hour pricing, mystery boxes, silent auction, raffles and an ugly sweater contest. There is no admission fee. Every dollar raised is a vote for the Pit & Pub to win the Believe In Tomorrow Prom Court. http://www.BelieveInTomorrow.org

SAT, DEC. 17

COLLECTION FOR PET PANTRY

Applebee's, 12849 Ocean Gateway, West Ocean City, MD, All Day Applebee's will be collecting pet food and pet toys for Kenille's Kupboard on Dec. 17 and 18. Kenille's Kupboard is a pet pantry and rescue that helps pet owners keep their pets at home and out of animal shelters during tough times.

BREAKFAST BUFFET WITH SANTA

The Restaurant at Lighthouse Sound, 12723 St. Martin's Neck Road, Bishopville, MD, 8 to 11 a.m. Take your cameras for photos with Santa and his Elves. Live holiday music. Menu includes pancakes, scramble eggs, hash browns, sausage gravy and biscuits, coffee, tea, milk and orange juice. Cost is \$10 for adults, \$5 for children ages 6-12 years and free to those 5 and younger. Tickets at the door; cash or check only. Proceeds benefit Diakonia. info@diakoniaoc.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. 410-641-7717, Ext. 3006

FLAP JACK BREAKFAST FUNDRAISER

Applebee's, 12849 Ocean Gateway, Ocean City, MD, 8 to 10 a.m. Special guest appearance by Santa. Tickets cost \$8 for adults and \$4 for children 6 and younger. To purchase tickets, see any member of the Ladies Auxiliary of the Ocean City Volunteer Fire Company or call Denise at 443-359-2014. Proceeds benefit the firefighters and cadet pro-

HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS

Delmarva Discovery Center and Museum, 2 Market St., Pocomoke City, MD, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Children can spend the day at the Discovery Center while parents are away. Participants will learn all about river otters and many other animals; make crafts such as sea glass ornaments or survival bracelets and many more one of a kind gifts; watch a holiday movie; and make new friends. Fees are as follows: Half-day (10 a.m. to 1 p.m.) \$15 for members and \$20 for non-members. Full-day (10 a.m. to 4 p.m.), \$30 for members and \$35 for non-members. Bring a packed lunch. Event requires pre-payment: 410-957-9933 or stacey@DelmarvaDiscoveryCenter.org.

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, Dec. 17, 18 and 24. Cost is \$10 per person. Kids 3 years and under ride free. Randy Davis, 443-783-1409

'DECK THE PAWS' KITTEN YOGA

Zenna Welless Studio, 10 S. Main St., Berlin, MD, 3 to 5 p.m. Participants, ages 9 and older, will practice yoga alongside adoptable, cuddly, playful kittens. A donation based class with all proceeds going directly to the Worcester County Humane Society. No prior yoga experience is required. Take your own yoga mat if you have one; otherwise one will be provided. Reserve a spot: Chrissy, 443-373-7069.

PARENTS 'TIME-OUT'

Bethany United Methodist Church, 8648 Stephen Decatur Highway, Berlin, MD, 2 to 5 p.m. Parents take a "timeout" to relax or handle holiday preparations. Free, fun-filled afternoon of activities, crafts and games for ages pre-K through grade 6. Register: Megan, 443-614-3870.

CHRIST BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

Powellville United Methodist Church, 35606 Mt. Hermon Road, Powellville, MD, 5 p.m. The evening begins with a fellowship dinner followed by scripture, special music and singing of old hymns by candle light. 443-880-8804

'A CHRISTMAS CAROL' PERFORMANCE

Washington Academy and High School, 10902 Old Princess Anne Road, Princess Anne, MD, 7 p.m. The Lower Shore Performing Arts Company will present "A Christmas Carol." The cast will be comprised of local residents, Somerset County Public Schools staff members and students. Cost is \$12 for general admission, \$8 for seniors 65 years and older, military and children 12 years and younger. http://www.lowershorepac.org

SUN, DEC. 18

BUS TRIP TO DUPONT THEATRE

Ocean Pines Community Center, 235 Ocean Parkway, Ocean Pines, MD, 9:30 a.m. 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. Open to the public. Reservations required. Ocean Pines Recreation and Parks Department, 410-641-7052

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, Dec. 17, 18 and 24. Cost is \$10 per person. Kids 3 years and under ride free. Randy Davis, 443-783-1409

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

'A CHRISTMAS CAROL' PERFORMANCE

Washington Academy and High School, 10902 Old Princess Anne Road, Princess Anne, MD, 2 p.m. The Lower Shore Performing Arts Company will present "A Christmas Carol." The cast will be comprised of local residents, Somerset County Public Schools staff members and students. Cost is \$12 for general admission, \$8 for seniors 65 years and older, military and children 12 years and younger. http://www.lowershorepac.org

'THE NUTCRACKER' PERFORMANCE

Performing Arts Center, 4001 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, MD, 2 p.m. Sussex Ballet, a pre-professional ballet company comprised of students from Sussex Dance Academy in Rehoboth Beach, presents "The Nutcracker." Meet the lead characters after the performance. Tickets available through Ticketmaster and at the Convention Center Box Office. Tickets cost \$18 for orchestra, \$15 for theatre and \$13 for seniors, 60 years and older and children, 12 years and younger. 410-289-2800 or 800-626-2326, http://www.ocmdperformingarts-center.com

HEROIN ADDICTION AWARENESS FUNDRAISER

Johnny's Pizza Pub, 5601 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, MD, 2 to 8 p.m. Featuring all-you-can-eat plain or pepperoni pizza, salad, sodas and Klondike bar for dessert at a cost of \$10. Randy Lee Ashcraft with open mic from 2-6 p.m., EMT's and Matt James will talk about rescue and the heroin epidemic. A recovering addict will also

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Calendar

speak. Brian's Christmas Songbook, featuring Melissa Alesi and Lauren Glick will be played from 6-8 p.m. and CD's will be sold for \$1. Appearances by musicians on the CD expected. Proceeds benefit heroin treatment.

DARK NIGHT WORSHIP

Bethany United Methodist Church, 8648 Stephen Decatur Highway, Berlin, MD, 7 p.m. For those not feeling the joy of the Christmas season — perhaps grieving the death of a loved one; enduring a painful, broken relationship; suffering a chronic or terminal illness; or generally feeling lonely. Service offers quiet music, lighted candles, comforting scripture and readings. Rev. Connie Paulson, wesconnie55@gmail.com, 410-641-5194

MON, DEC. 19

DEMOCRATIC WOMEN'S CLUB OF WORCESTER COUNTY MEETING

Ocean Pines Yacht Club, 1 Mumford's Landing Road, Ocean Pines, MD, 9:30 a.m. Coffee served at 9:30 a.m., followed by the meeting at 10 a.m. All are welcome. Call 410-208-2969. The group will also be collecting non-perishable food, toiletries and paper products to be shared with a local food ministry. Info: 410-641-8553.

CPAP MASK FITTING

Atlantic General Hospital Sleep Disorders 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

TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY MEETING

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

DELMARVA SWEET ADELINE CHORUS

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

TUE, DEC. 20

PLAY TIME

Pocomoke library, 301 Market St. Pocomoke City, MD, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Children, infant to 5 years old, will read, sing, talk, write and play with educational toys. 410-957-0878, http://www.worcesterlibrary.org

ALZHEIMER'S SUPPORT GROUP

Berlin Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, 9715 Healthway Drive, Berlin, MD, 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. Support group for caregivers of Alzheimer's patients. It meets the third Tuesday of each month.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETT

ART SHOW WINNERS

The Worcester County Arts Council announces winners in the juried art exhibit themed: "Small Wonders." Pictured, from left, are judge Angela Herbert-Hodges, Brigitte Bowden, Dee Brua (accepting award on behalf of her husband, Stan), Jason Giusti and Adolph Bucci.

Open to the community. Info: Heather Cormack, 410-641-4400, Ext. 6123 or Kenneth Lewis, 410-208-1701 or 410-430-4818

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. 21

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

BREAST CANCER SUPPORT GROUP

Atlantic Health Center Conference Room, 9714 Healthway Drive, Berlin, MD, 1 to 2 p.m. Women Supporting Women/AGH Support group for women and men who are battling breast cancer (current patients and survivors). The speaker will be Roopa Gupta, MD, Medical Oncologist, Regional Cancer Care Center. Lunch is provided. RSVP: Women Supporting Women, 410-548-

PLAY TIME

Ocean City library, 10003 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, MD, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Children, infant to 5 years old, will read, sing, talk, write and play with educational toys. 410-524-1818, http://www.worcesterlibrary.org

HYPERTENSION CLINIC

Walgreens, 37088 W. Fenwick Boulevard, Selbyville, DE, 1 to 3 p.m. Sponsored by Atlantic General Hospital. 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

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

ONGOING EVENTS

WINTERFEST OF LIGHTS

Northside Park, 200 125th St., Ocean City, through Jan. 1, 2017. Board the Winterfest Express and tour hundreds of animated, lighted displays. The heated, Winterfest Village pavillion features hot chocolate, Yukon Cornelius' gift shop and photos with Santa. Admission is \$5 or adults and free to children 11 and younger. Hours are Sunday through Thursday, 5:30-9:30 p.m. and Friday and Saturday, 5:30-10:30 p.m. Info: 800-626-2326 or 410-250-0125.

THE AVENUE OF TREES

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

WSW SUPPORT GROUP

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

FALL AND WINTER BUS TRIPS

On Jan. 7, The Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. presents "Wicked." The bus will depart Ocean Pines at 8:30 a.m. to arrive in time for the 1:30 p.m. performance. Cost is \$120, which includes show and transportation.

Reservations required: Ocean Pines Recreation and Parks Department, 410-641-7052.

LEARN MORE ABOUT THE CATHOLIC FAITH

RCIA is a process for individuals, adults and children 8 years and older, who are seeking Baptism. Also for those already baptized in another Christian tradition who want to come into the Catholic Church. Call Rita at 410-289-7038 or come to a session held on Monday evenings at 7 p.m. in the Father Connell Parish Center, 1705 Philadelphia Ave., Ocean City, MD. All are welcome.







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

HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED

EPA Certified HVAC Technician Needed.

Competitive Salary: \$16-\$20/hr. depending on experience. Health, 401K, Vacation, Sick Time.

Email resume to: ddconstructionmanager@gmail.com Fax to 410-520-0199/ Apply online:

https://www.delmarvadd.com/DunkinDonuts/construction.html

Banks Wines & Spirits is seeking a highly motivated, outgoing, "do what it takes" retail management professional to become part of our team as

- WINE MANAGER -

MANAGEMENT POSITION PREREQUISITES:

- - drive sales. Proven success of building strong positive working relationships.
 POS & Computer knowledgeable. Possess great sales skill.
 - Ability to organize and prioritize a variety of tasks/projects Salary commensurate with experience. Benefits package included.

Please email resumes to kami@BanksWinesAndSpirits.com

Park Facilities Manager

Treasure Beach Campground & RV Park. Applicants must possess at a minimum a H.S. diploma, 5 years of applicable supervisory experience, strong management and organizational skills and a valid driver's license. Experience and familiarity with all trades and heavy equipment operation preferred but not required. This is year-round full time position available immediately. Salary and benefits commensurate with experience and qualifications.

Serious applicants may forward a resume to info@treasurebeachrvpark.com or obtain an application in person at our office Mon – Fri, 8am to 4pm.

NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE.



Maintenance Man

Looking for reliable individual to work hotel maintenance. Pool knowledge helpful.

Must be personable, hardworking and possess a valid drivers license. Exp. in plumbing, electrical, HVAC a plus but not necessary. Weekends & Evenings required.

Lifeguard

Part-Time Lifeguard for Indoor Pool. Must be available weekends, including Sundays.

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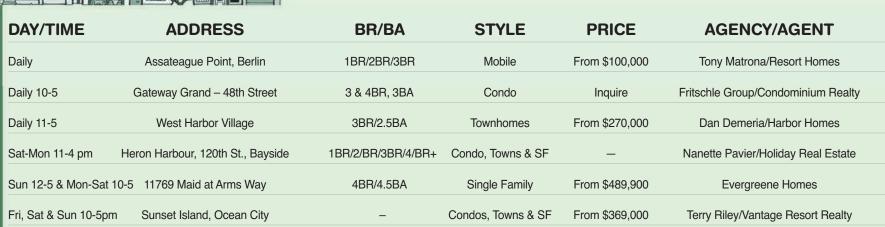
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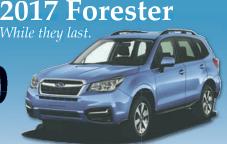


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