



Executive council works to reopen communication

By Josh Davis
Associate Editor

(Dec. 14, 2017) Communication channels between committees, department heads and the general manager were reopened at the Ocean Pines Association Executive Council meeting last Monday at the Tern Grille.

The executive council — the board of directors and various committee chairs — generally convenes once or twice a year with mixed results.

Only three committee representatives attended a meeting in April 2016, but nearly all of the committees were represented in November 2016, the last time the executive council convened.

This time, members of at least 10 committees were present and representing areas of study ranging from by-laws and resolutions, to marine activities and aquatics, to food and beverage operations (clubs).

The previous administration discouraged many committees from working directly with Ocean Pines staff, which committee representatives said made it difficult to obtain good information.

Association President Doug Parks, however, said that was not how he wanted to operate.

"I want to encourage a lot of open dialogue and I need your help to try to figure out how we can do that," he said. "At this point, I'm open for any kind of effective method to communicate."

Parks repeatedly said there is expertise on each committee to help the board of directors make better decisions.

"I like to think the folks that ... volunteer their time are not here for window dressing," he said. "As president of the association, I'd be remiss if I didn't try and foster some way of getting us to work more cohesively. What I really don't know and I don't have a specific idea of is exactly how that works."

Clubs committee member Gary Miller said it would be helpful to have access to department heads. He added, however, that committees should not be able to give direction to staff.

"Whether it be the clubs being able to talk to the director of food and beverage or the golf committee being able

See OPA Page 6



JOSH DAVIS/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

SONG AND DANCE

The OC Stars take home second place in the Youth Performing category during a packed Berlin Christmas Parade, last Thursday on Main Street.

Lack of diversity in video questioned

By Josh Davis
Associate Editor

(Dec. 14, 2017) A new tourism video for the Town of Berlin, created by Good Clean Fun Life, has set records on social media by earning more than 25,000 views and 435 shares.

Running just under two and a half minutes, the video sweeps across Main Street, showing off gorgeous aerial views and panning across landmarks like the Atlantic Hotel and Globe theater. It highlights bicycling brewers, smiling shopkeepers and participants in town events like the Bathtub Races.

It is, however, missing something — only one African-American is featured prominently in the dozens of shots shown.

Berlin Councilman Dean Burrell brought up that issue at the Monday Town Council meeting, stopping an otherwise upbeat conversation on the video dead in its tracks.

"The only concern I got about the video was that a citizen stated to me that they wished there were more people of color," Burrell said.

Resident Greg Purnell, reached for comment Monday night, agreed.

"You gotta know how many people of importance saw it before it went out. Double that many didn't see anything wrong with it," he said. "Somebody other than Councilman Burrell noticed it also, yet until he spoke up, nobody would stand up and say, 'Wait a minute, this is Berlin 2017, not 1967, nor 1917.'"

"The only thing that good intentions gone bad needs to go on is for good people to sit or stand around doing and saying nothing," Purnell added. "That's what happened there. A video of that type should recruit townspeople to be filmed, period."

Purnell went as far as to say the lone representation smacked of "tokenism." "When there are two African-American councilmen and a chief of police who are not truly represented, that tells a tale of an ugly undercurrent in beautiful Berlin," he said.

Economic and Community Development Director Ivy Wells, who commissioned the video, emailed a statement on Tuesday.

She had introduced the video during the meeting by saying, "we've been working on this for about the last eight

months, the new promo video for the town."

"This video was specifically designed to be entered for the Great American Main Street Award and could only be filmed in the confines of our Main Street designation. It was meant to showcase our downtown businesses and events," she said in the statement. "We kept it as authentic as possible. The scenes were not staged."

"There will be other videos showcasing all of the Town coming soon," Wells added.

Town Administrator Laura Allen emailed a similar statement, Tuesday.

"The video was prepared for the Great American Main Street Award. The focus is on Main Street, the shops and activities we have downtown," Allen said. "The video was not intended to be representative of the entire community. This is one of many ways we market the Town. We're working on a town wide promotional video for next year which will represent all aspects of our cool town."

Representatives from Good Clean Fun Life did not respond to requests for comment.

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Auditors: 'financial health of the town appears strong'

Berlin receives solid marks from firm PKS& Company

By Josh Davis

Associate Editor

(Dec. 14, 2017) The Town of Berlin is in strong financial position, according to a fiscal year 2017 audit report by Salisbury firm PKS & Company.

Berlin received an unmodified or clean opinion, which is the highest level of assurance given, PKS partner Michael Kleger told the Town Council Monday night.

Kleger reported that the town's combined net position as of June 30 was \$30.5 million. Of that, about \$27.5 million was invested in capital assets and \$1.8 million was restricted, leaving an unrestricted balance of \$2.2 million.

The town electric fund had an operating income of \$312,000 and a total increase in net position of \$130,000, compared to a net decrease of \$75 last year. Service charges were up 6 percent and operating expenses rose 4 percent.

The water fund had an operating loss of \$176,000 and a total increase in net position of \$341,000, compared to a net increase last year of \$48,000. Special connection fees were up substantially, \$531,000 during fiscal 2017 against \$48,000 during the previous year, largely because of the addition of the Cannery Village development.

The Sewer Fund had an operating loss of \$839,000 and a total increase in net position of \$305,000, compared to a decrease in net position last year of \$1 million. Special connection fees of \$1.4 million were also up substantially.

The Stormwater Fund had an operating loss of \$136,000, not counting capital grants of \$916,000 and a transfer from the general fund of \$50,000. Grants from the Community Development Block Grants and the Maryland Department of Natural Resources were received for flood and drainage projects.

According to the audit statement, there were no amendments to the town budget throughout the year.

At the end of the fiscal period, the



ELAINE BRADY/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

HOUSE FIRE

No one was injured, but the home of Hank and Julie Koenig on 414 South Main Street in Berlin suffered significant fire damage on Tuesday. The Berlin Fire Company, Berlin Police and fire personnel from Showell, Ocean Pines, Newark and Ocean City responded to the scene, starting at about 1:15 p.m. Police officials said the "all clear" was given at about 3:50 p.m. The cause of the fire is under investigation.

town had \$45.4 million of accumulated depreciation invested in capital assets.

Major additions to the capital asset list included Cannery Village, construction of the new Berlin Police Department and the Flower Street wetlands, four 2017 Ford pickup trucks, two 2016 Chevy Tahoe's, one 2016 Ford Escape and one 2017 Ford F350, a 2016 mini excavator, 2015 John Deere cab tractor and 2016 John Deere bush hog.

"We feel like the financial records for the year are in good order," PKS

Manager Leslie Michalik said. "We encountered no significant difficulties in conducting our audit. Natalie [Saleh] and the rest of the finance department were very cooperative and responsive to all our requests and inquiries. Overall, the financial health of the town appears strong."

The Town Council voted unanimously to accept the audit results.

To view the full report, visit www.berlinmd.gov/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/FY17AuditedStatements.pdf.



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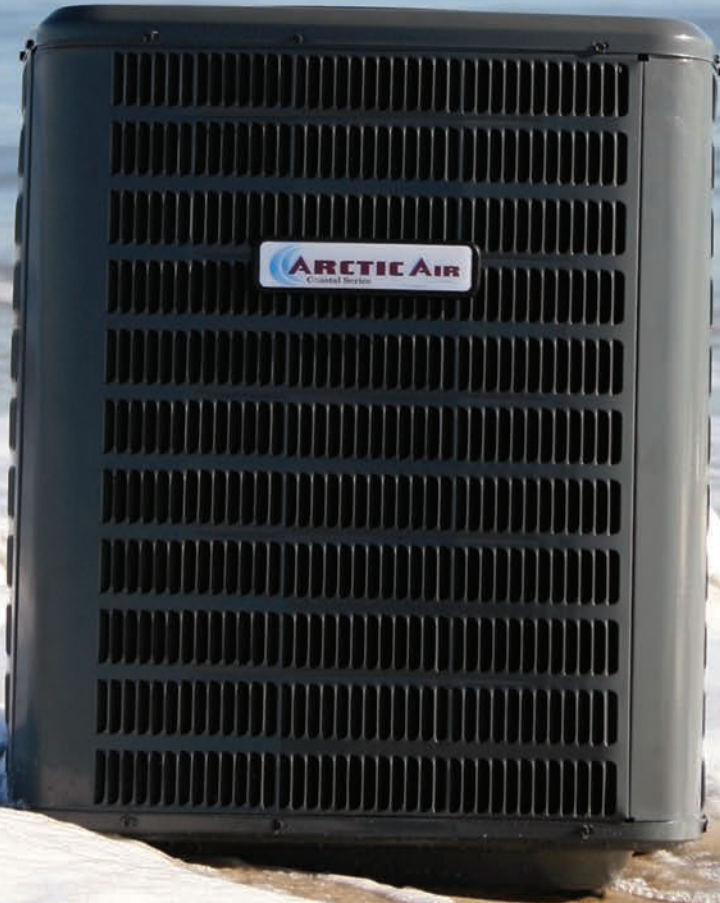
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Snow Hill to use county standards for adult business

By Josh Davis
Associate Editor

(Dec. 14, 2017) Snow Hill officials plan to adopt county government regulations that restrict adult-oriented businesses to industrial zone areas, Town Council members agreed at a work session last Tuesday.

Mayor Charlie Dorman said the town planning commission endorsed the action and a draft would be sent to Town Attorney Kevin Karpinski for review. A public hearing must be held on the ordinance before the council can formally vote on it.

The mayor and council's action would address an apparent gap in the town code that was discovered several months ago when Annette Gibbons-Tarr, a sales consultant with network marketing business Pure Romance, asked the council if she could rent commercial space for private parties. The sales gatherings she was holding in private venues, such as homes, were not subject to government review.

Edward Phillips, vice chairman of the planning commission, said the matter of adult establishments in city limits was not addressed during a recent comprehensive rezoning discussion. See COUNTY Page 8



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

WATER WORKS

Pocomoke City Public Works on Monday started replacing water pipes in the Pocomoke Heights area. City Manager Bobby Cowger said the work, intended to improve water quality, was "30 years in waiting." The project is estimated to last three weeks.

Pocomoke Chief Harden asks for more PD officers

By Josh Davis
Associate Editor

(Dec. 14, 2017) Pocomoke Police Chief William Harden wants at least one more police officer on staff, advising the City Council last Monday that only two officers generally patrol the entire town.

According to the department's most recent crime statistics Pocomoke Police answered 20,503 calls for service from Jan. 1 through Dec. 5 and made 391 arrests.

Of the 140 reported crimes, the majority were assault (85) and burglary (46). There also was one murder, four instances of rape and four robberies. Additionally, 25 juveniles were arrested.

Calls for service were slightly down from the previous year's 21,753, but instances of crime are up, from 122, with most of this December not yet included.

Harden said calls for service did not include the Pocomoke City Walmart, which accounts for about 300 calls each year.

Pocomoke Police also assisted the Worcester County Criminal Enforcement Team, which, during the last two years, made 27 arrests, issued 19 See VOTE Page 10

Praying for Christmas miracle in Pocomoke

By Josh Davis
Associate Editor

(Dec. 14, 2017) Pocomoke City citizens are hoping for a Christmas miracle, as Mayor Bruce Morrison recovers from a subdural hematoma, or traumatic brain injury, in a hospital in Delaware.

Morrison, according to town officials, was taken by ambulance from his home during the early morning on Nov. 29 to Peninsula Regional Medical Center in Salisbury and then transferred to Christiana Hospital in Newark, Delaware.

Councilwoman Esther Troast, who led the most recent City Council meeting in the mayor's absence, said she re-



Bruce Morrison

ceives regular updates from Morrison's wife, Laura.

She and other city officials, including Councilman George Tasker and City Manager Bobby Cowger, have also visited Morrison.

Troast said Morrison has not spoken or eaten solid foods and at this time has no motor functions on the right side of his body.

"The family hopes by the end of this week they will have some direction on where to proceed with his recovery," Troast said on Monday. "The last two updates have been encouraging and op-

timistic. Of course, the entire city is praying for that Christmas miracle. Bruce loves Christmas and if anyone deserves that miracle, it is certainly him."

Troast said Morrison was taken off a ventilator over the weekend and is breathing through an oxygen mask.

"According to Laura, he has removed it several times himself and his oxygen levels haven't dropped much when he does this," Troast said. "He did develop pneumonia [and] they have treated that aggressively with antibiotics, and much improvement has been accomplished. He has opened his eyes and responds with hand squeezes.

"He has even smiled a few times.

That's our Bruce," she added.

She said the most recent update was also a positive one.

"In tonight's update, Laura states that Bruce gave a big smile yesterday when he was shown the front page of the Bayside Gazette and the positive reporting on Pocomoke," she said. "Thanks for putting a smile on our Mayor's face."

Family friend Sue Tull posts regular updates on Morrison's Facebook page, often using the hashtag #Miracle-ForOurMayor.

Cards and notes can be sent to Christiana Hospital, Neuro Critical Care 2D room #2B06, 4755 Oglethorpe-Stanton Road, Newark, Delaware, 19713.

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Full house hears renovation pitch for Snow Hill's Sturgis

By Josh Davis

Associate Editor

(Dec. 14, 2017) Representatives of Annapolis-based landscape architects Campion Hruby presented several ambitious renovation concepts for Sturgis Park in Snow Hill at a well-attended public meeting last Tuesday.

Three named proposals were shown, with focuses ranging from ecological to civic, and each was designed to make use of the view of the Pocomoke River, as well as the potential for an excursion train.

According to the presentation, "The Porch welcomes everyone to the park with an open-air covered 'veranda' that contains an information center and public restrooms. The train shuttle and local bus stop here to pick-up/drop off visitors.

"The Info House will be a new structure occupying a corner of the library parking lot — complete with restrooms, a snack bar, and visitor information. The train shuttle and local bus will stop on Bank Street to drop off visitors.

"The Welcome Center uses the PNC Bank Building canopy as a covered train shuttle and local bus stop. The building will have visitor information, restrooms, a snack bar, gift shop, and waterside tables and chairs."

Jack Sullivan, a landscape architect and planner from Campion Hruby, said the renovations were meant to create a tourist attraction without taking away from the small town feel of Snow Hill.

He talked about protecting and enhancing the watershed and making sure any developments did not duplicate services at nearby Byrd Park. Stormwater improvements could be a part of the renovation and some funding could be available from the Department of Natural Resources.

A slide presentation touted several new events at the park, in addition to mainstays such as the 4th of July fireworks, and said a wish list of amenities included a visitor's center, play area for children, heritage art installation, "restaurant-friendly waterfront" and increased connection to the down-

town.

"This idea that you can have the park be public for everybody, that means everybody gets involved and everybody enjoys it," Sullivan said. "The more people are engaged, the more they're invested, and the more they're invested, the better they're going to take care of that park in the future, and they're going to take care of each other. It's just sort of how we work as a society.

Snow Hill Grant Administrator Ann Gibb, who organized the meeting, said a matching operating assistance grant for \$30,000 from the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development paid for the proposed redesign.

A request for proposals was issued before the town selected Campion Hruby and a previous meeting with the mayor and council was held, Gibb said.

"This meeting was for the public to have a chance to see what they had come up with so far ... and get some feedback from the community," she said. "This is part of the whole process for creating a master plan for Sturgis Park."

Gibb admitted the plan was ambitious, but said it would be implemented in stages over a period of years.



JOSH DAVIS/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Jack Sullivan, a landscape architect and planner from Campion Hruby, addresses a crowd of several dozen during a meeting at the old train station in Snow Hill about Sturgis Park improvements, last Tuesday.

She said the town previously applied for grants to upgrade the restrooms and install sidewalks to meet requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

"We applied three different times before to get some money for those things and we didn't, so we thought maybe a formal plan done by professionals would be better," she said. "We could send that to the state and see if they would help us that way."

Gibb said the next step would be to analyze the public feedback and schedule another meeting with the mayor and council to discuss the plan. That meeting likely would take place in January.

"We cannot do it all at once — it's much too big," Gibb said of development at the park. "Gradually, over the

years, we would be able to add different features and upgrade the park.

"The park is not quite 40 years old, but it's not very exciting — it's kinda boring, so why would you want to go down there?" Gibb added. "We want to make you want to go down there."

She said she was very happy with how the presentation turned out.

"We had a good crowd — we had 43 people," she said. "It was a nice, full room and they were very enthusiastic. People said this was exciting ... I think they were really pleased. Most people seemed really happy at the prospect that we were even thinking in this direction.

"What's not to like about it? I just would like it to be there right now so we could walk over there," Gibb added.



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OPA committee chairs meet with leadership from board

■ EXECUTIVE continued
to talk to the golf pro,” Miller said. “There has to be a way to communicate what the different department needs and what their plusses and minuses are, so that the committees actually know what the hell they should be looking at.”

General Manager John Bailey gave his one-word reaction, “yes.”

In other homeowner’s associations, Bailey said, department heads generally act as committee liaisons. In Ocean Pines, that responsibility falls on board members. Information then travels from the board of directors to the general manager and, eventually, back to staff.

Bailey also said some departments don’t have a committee to champion their needs. If public works needs a new bucket truck, for example, there is no committee assigned broadly to public works.

“I think the nexus of the problem is ... this is a great place to live, but it could be managed just a little bit better. But, we build barriers to managing it better,” comprehensive planning committee Chairman Frank Daly said. “We might have all the intellectual capital in the world in a committee, but if Mr. Bailey can’t access that and give that committee an assignment that his staff might not be able to do because of work load, because of expertise ... then we just might as well go out and blow that expertise away because it’s not being used.”

Daly said the number one complaint of each committee is “the board doesn’t listen to us.”

“I think the basic problem ... is it’s set up bass backwards,” he said. “These committees, with the expertise, should be working with Mr. Bailey and his staff to put together a plan for the future of this committee that the board approves – they shouldn’t be isolated out, talking with the board about things after the general manager and the board talks about them.”

Parks tried to paraphrase.

“If I heard you correctly, in essence, the board should not be the broker between the committee and the GM, because then you lose something in translation,” he said, adding open communication was different than “direction.”

For the last seven years, according to environment and natural assets Chairman Tom Janasek, “there hasn’t been a GM that actually wanted to interact with any of the committees.”

“It has to come from both sides – there can’t just be a committee that wants to go to the GM and fix something,” he said. “The GM has to want to use the information that the committees have.”

Parks cautioned about a “tsunami of information” overwhelming Bailey, who only took over as general manager in September.

“Now that we say, ‘hey, we want to do a better job and communicate,’ all

the sudden there’s 475 emails in one day asking for his time and his staff’s time,” Parks said. “I think we need to manage that.”

Rather than committees having unfettered access to the general manager, Daly suggested the general manager should have unfettered access to the committees.

“When he asks for information because he’s putting together the plan for the association for the board, then he can contact whom he needs ... and then it becomes a force multiplier rather than a tsunami that he’s dealing with of people wanting to know why the burger [at the yacht club] wasn’t well done,” Daly said.

Daly said there is little meaningful interaction between the board, general manager and committees.

“We’ve gotta change that system to manage the place better so that we can tap into the intellectual capital,” he said. “The easiest way to do it is to make that available to the GM when he wants it. Instead of having the committee drive the GM to make the food and beverage operation better, the GM wants to make it better so he drives the committee activity and the liaison can report back to the board. If that system works well, everybody should be on the same page.”

Parks said changing the current system might be “as simple as ... stating it publicly, JB, you have access to this intellectual capital, use it.”

“We need to publicly acknowledge the fact that we’re in this kind of level support,” Parks said. “At the end of the day, if a decision point comes up out of that discussion, it’s going to end up with the board. The board will have the liaison, the general manager, they’ll have information from the committee – all the necessary elements to make a decision.”

Miller added it would help if the executive council met more often, perhaps quarterly.

“These type of discussions would, I think, be helpful for everybody,” he said. “This is the biggest I’ve seen of any group that has included all the committees – I’ve been to some where there were two committees ... this is really refreshing.”

“I’ll use my authority as president to say, OK, I’ve heard you, let’s meet more than annually,” Parks said. “We’ve got a lot of good ideas and as time goes on things fall off the vine. I’d rather continue to have these discussions.”

“JB, you’ve got this inventory of intellectual capital, use it ... we implore you to take advantage of it, open up that dialogue,” Parks continued. “If there was a perceived restriction to staff assets for questions [from committees] ... take advantage of it. We can do that.”

Parks added a note of caution, “if we just assume everything’s going to be wonderful now that we’ve made this decision, somebody’s gonna go rogue.”

“We’re giving you some access, please respect that access – don’t abuse it,” he said.



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BFC defense again files motion to dismiss

First was denied two weeks prior; lawyers at odds over effect of mediation talks

By Josh Davis
Associate Editor

(Dec. 14, 2017) Two weeks after the denial of an initial motion to dismiss the Jeffrey James Dean lawsuit against the Berlin Fire Company, attorneys representing the company are trying again to have a federal court throw out Dean’s discrimination complaint.

At issue is whether discussion about a possible mediation delayed filing the suit. Dean was notified of his right to sue by the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission on Feb. 23, but did not file until Sept. 12.

Dean, a paramedic who no longer works with the company, said he “witnessed innumerable racial, sexual and other insults made by senior fire company officials.” These include then chief, Byron Trimble and Assistant Chief Derrick Simpson, President David Fitzgerald and EMS Supervisor Norris Phillip Donohue Sr.

Allegedly, Dean witnessed the harassment of Zackery Tyndall, who settled his own lawsuit against the Berlin Fire Company in 2015.

U.S. District Court Judge Ellen Lipton Hollander on Nov. 20 denied the original motion to dismiss, which claimed the Title VII civil rights suit was not filed within the 90-day window for litigation.

An amended complaint against the fire company, filed on Nov. 17 by attorney James L. Otway, states the suit was not filed in time because “At all times, Plaintiff, through counsel, believed that Defendant intended mediate the matter.”

“Had Plaintiff or counsel believed otherwise, Plaintiff would have filed suit” on March 7, the amended complaint states.

The complaint added that Dean’s lawyers “relied upon the statements

and representations of Defendant’s counsel and believed such reliance was reasonable in light of the past dealings between counsel in the Zachery Tyndall case, her response to Plaintiff’s counsel’s letter of March 7, 2017 and, most importantly, Defendant’s counsel’s statement not to file suit when discussing Federal Magistrate mediators.”

In the second motion to dismiss, filed on Dec. 1 by attorney Jo Anna Schmidt representing the Berlin Fire Company, Schmidt said that argument was false.

“Schmidt never stated that she was ‘confident’ that the matter could be resolved in mediation and never told

Otway that he should hold off on filing,” the motion states.

According to the motion, Schmidt, during a phone conversation on March 27, extended a “nuisance value settlement offer” and told Otway “that Plaintiff’s settlement demand was outrageous and in the ‘stratosphere.’”

“Given the significant disparity between Plaintiff’s settle demand and the nuisance value settlement offer made, Schmidt was not confident that the matter could be resolved,” the motion states.

Otway apparently rejected the settlement offer on April 18 and was told no other offer would be made “until such time as he made a more realistic

demand in light of the Tyndall settlement.” Schmidt wrote mediation was discussed, “However, Schmidt never told him or indicated in any manner that he should not file his lawsuit.”

Schmidt agreed mediation with a federal magistrate was discussed, but added she “did not tell [Otway] that he should not file, or hold off on filing the lawsuit.”

She wrote it was her understanding, after the April 18 phone conversation, “Otway would provide her with a list of proposed mediators, which he did on July 20, 2017, after the 90-day deadline had passed.”

No ruling on the motion was available as of press time.



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'SantaCon' 5K race dashes into Ocean Pines

(Dec. 14, 2017) The Ocean Pines Recreation and Parks Department invites area residents and visitors to take part in the inaugural "SantaCon" 5K fun run on Saturday, Dec. 16 at noon at Veterans Memorial Park, 11144 Cathell Road in Ocean Pines.

The family-friendly race benefits

Achilles International, an organization that works to enable people with all types of disabilities to participate in running events.

The course will loop around the Veterans Memorial, cross over into The Parke community, funnel back out onto Ocean Parkway and finish at the memorial.

Participants are encouraged to dress up as Santa or another Christmas character; the best-dressed runner will receive an award.

The pre-registration fee is \$25. Registration may be completed online at raceentry.com/races/ocean-pines-santa-con-5k-fun-run/2017/register or at the Ocean Pines Commu-

nity Center at 235 Ocean Parkway. In-person registration on the day of the event is \$35. The first 100 registered runners are guaranteed an event T-shirt.

Additional information about this event is available by contacting the Ocean Pines Recreation and Parks Department at 410-641-7052.



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Vote on new police hire delayed until Jan. 8

■ POCOMOKE continued

search warrants and seized two vehicles and four firearms in Pocomoke City. Drug seizures included more than 1,000 grams of marijuana, over 1,250 grams of cocaine and 12 grams of heroin, along with \$28,120 in cash.

"I know the timing for this request is probably not the best. I realize we have quality of life issues that may supersede some of the other issues within in the City of Pocomoke, but at the same time I need to speak up for our department and our city," Harden said.

The shortage of officers on duty can be troublesome, Harden said, especially if a suspect has to be transferred to the hospital such as Peninsula Regional Medical Center in Salisbury.

"For that time that ...one officer is gone to PRMC, I have one officer working the city. If we get something

heavy that goes down, we call Worcester County," he said. "They have graciously helped us out with some of the calls, [but] I think we should be a self-sustaining police department.

"I feel very uncomfortable with just having that one officer on the street in our city until the other officer returns to duty. It's the same thing if we lock someone up," Harden continued. "On a good day, [police have] three officers on the street. Average day? Two officers on the street. I don't even like saying that in public, but it's the truth."

He said the lack of manpower also restricts police coverage of Route 113, where busts of drug and cigarette smuggling, and potentially human trafficking, could occur more regularly.

"That would be my intent, is to get somebody out there periodically, a little bit more than we could now," he said. "I get a lot of flak from some individuals in the community and maybe even some members of the council about us working on Route 113 ... but I can tell you I just talked to Sheriff [Reggie] Mason last week. As we say in police work, '13 is banging.'"

Harden said \$68,000 in seized money was used to purchase two new police vehicles, replacing "two very old vehicles." He guessed about \$17,000 from cigarette smuggling busts would also come back to the department.

"Our goal ... would not be to leave the city null and void," Harden said. "I would actually make a special traffic and enforcement group. They could cover things like the mayor's Christmas event [and] the parade ... in order for me to do that now, as chief, I've gotta call people in, if available, on overtime."

He said police were already down two officers, because one recently retired and another moved on.

City Manager Bobby Cowger said



Pocomoke Police Chief Bill Harden addresses the City Council, to request funds for an additional officer, during a meeting at Town Hall last Monday.

those two positions were budgeted for.

"I'm here to ask to fill additional officers beyond that number," Harden said. "In doing so I believe that will reduce our overtime spending."

Harden said he recently had a discussion with Mayor Bruce Morrison, who asked if he needed a police captain.

"I said I don't need a captain. I have two lieutenants that are very capable – extremely capable – of running the department when I'm not there," he said. "I said, 'I need officers.'"

According to Harden, Morrison encouraged him to approach the City Council.

"Having more officers allows us to be more proactive instead of reactive," he said.

The cost to hire a new officer can vary, depending on whether it's a cadet or "lateral transfer" from another agency.

According to estimates provided by Pocomoke Police, cadets, including six-months of salary in the police academy (\$24,343), can run \$78,610 for the first year.

Certified officers, Harden's preferred approach, cost about \$74,000, including \$46,363 in salary and \$27,643 in benefits.

Harden said the national average salary for a plain-clothes police officer is between \$60,000 and \$65,000.

"Looking at the numbers, it's kinda scary and I get that," Harden said. "But I believe, between overtime and some of the other savings and some of the other plans that I have to bring money in, be they grants or be they any particular stops we might make out on [Route] 13 ... I think the city will recoup any money that you put out for these additional officers."

He said Pocomoke Police would send one officer through the academy in January and expected him to start in about eight months. Another hire, a lateral transfer, could occur soon.

Harden said he had a third officer in mind, if the council approved.

Councilwoman Esther Troast said she is Harden's "number-one fan," but asked for Finance Director Janet Wilson to look over the budget before the council commits.

"We're trying to be very conscious with our dollars right now," Troast said. "First responders, in my opinion, [are] very, very important, but ... we would like to know that that money's there before we approve it."

She suggested a vote occur during the next scheduled City Council meeting, Jan. 8.



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Snow Hill High School Marching Band (First place, Marching Bands)

PACKED PARADE
Several thousand people attended the annual Berlin Christmas Parade on Main Street, last Thursday. Eighty-three groups participated and trophies were given to first-, second- and third-place finishers in more than a dozen categories.
JOSH DAVIS/
BAYSIDE GAZETTE



Stephen Decatur High School Cheerleaders (First place, Youth Marching Units)



Stephen Decatur High School Choir (Third place, Youth Performing)



Pocomoke High School Marching Band (Second place, Marching Bands)



Santa Claus

Expanded mental health care at WY

By Josh Davis
Associate Editor

(Dec. 14, 2017) Two grants totaling \$250,000 will help expand access to mental health care in the area, according to Worcester Youth and Family Counseling Services Executive Director Steve Taylor.

Taylor, who announced the awards in The Ray room at Worcester Youth in Berlin last Wednesday, said the Maryland Health Community Health Resources Commission and the Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation each issued grants of \$125,000. The money will be used to hire two new mental health clinicians.

Worcester Youth's clinical program serves about 425 clients each year from Worcester, Wicomico and Somerset counties. Demand for services, however, is estimated to exceed 500 people and the average wait is three months before a mental health therapist can see new clients, according to a press release from the non-profit.

The two new hires have all the necessary training, Taylor said, but require an additional 2,000 hours of clinical supervision "before they can start billing insurances for their services." The grants will cover the two-year period, similar to a doctor's residency in a hospital.

Taylor said Del. Mary Beth Carozza helped to obtain the grants by offering him her contacts at Maryland Health Community Health Resources Commission. That award of that grant apparently helped leverage the second one from the Baltimore-based Weinberg Foundation.

Carozza called the announcement a "win, win, win."

"We can think about how many more families and youth we're serving," she said. "Worcester Youth and Family [does] just a phenomenal job of serving our youth and our families, and a state commission that is



JOSH DAVIS/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Worcester Youth and Family Executive Director Steve Taylor addresses a crowd during a press announcement of two major grants, to be used for expanded mental health services, last Wednesday in Berlin. Also pictured, from left, are Maryland Community Health Resources Commission Chairman Dr. Allan Anderson, Del. Mary Beth Carozza, Worcester Youth Clinical Director Dr. Jennifer Leggour and Maryland Community Health Resources Commission Executive Director Mark Luckner.

a good steward of our health care dollars ... if they're going to give a grant you know, as taxpayers, you're going to get your money's worth."

She said the acquisition of funds was a good example of "the way these partnerships are supposed to work."

"You've got the state involved, you've got an effective an effective nonprofit that's serving our local community involved, and you got the private sector and all those donors who contributed to Weinberg and others," she said.

"I was thrilled that we were going to go forward and make a big announcement, because I'm convinced that this is the way that we need to continue together through these partnerships," Carozza continued. "We can leverage these dollars, and, in the end, we are going to serve more of our families and serve more of our youth, and particularly with this focus on mental health, we're also going to be saving lives."

Also present during the announcement were Berlin Councilman Zack Tyndall, Ocean City Councilman Wayne Hartman and Pocomoke City Councilman George Tasker.

Taylor noted each town contributes financially to Worcester Youth.

"It's great to have Worcester Youth and Family here in town. It's a tremendous asset and this is a great expansion of your services," Tyndall said.

Hartman said there is a huge need for mental health services in the area, adding, "It's great to see that need being met."

Tasker is a former board member of the Family Connection program of Worcester Youth that provides advocacy, community resources, and education to families.

"I'm still proud of it. I still back it. I still fight for it, and I just love seeing it grow," Tasker said.

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The Berlin Pop Warner junior varsity football team trumped the Southern Marin Broncos of California, 39-14, Dec. 7, in its second competition at Walt Disney World's Wide World of Sports.

Berlin Pop Warner squad wins ‘Super Bowl’

By Kara Hallissey
Staff Writer

(Dec. 14, 2017) The Berlin Pop Warner junior varsity football team trumped the Southern Marin Broncos of California, 39-14, Dec. 7, in the annual Super Bowl game at Walt Disney World's Wide World of Sports.

“We knew we’d have a little trouble with their offense since they plowed and grinded down the mid-

dle,” Head Coach Jul Airey said. “We scored a touchdown on the first possession and every time we touched the ball. It was 32-8 at halftime. They had nothing to combat our passing game. The team was elated and it was pretty cool to be ranked the No. 1 division three junior varsity team in the nation.”

The team will be recognized on Jan. 8 during the Berlin Town Council meeting.

On Dec. 4, the Berlin squad defeated the Pasadena Trojans from California, 19-6, in Disney World to solidify its spot in the Super Bowl game.

“[The Pasadena Trojans] were a tough team and they were the first division three team to score on us this year,” Airey said. “The score was 0-0 at halftime. We played tough and put points on the board in the second half. A couple of their main guys didn’t like getting hit that hard.”

Last Tuesday, while his players were spending the day at Disney’s Magic Kingdom park, Airey was in his hotel room watching his team’s film from Monday in addition to their opponents’ game film.

After practice ended last Wednesday morning, the 22 junior varsity

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After tragedy, Hindi put full focus into opening pet spa

By Josh Davis
Associate Editor

(Dec. 14, 2017) Less than a week after Mike Hindi returned to Worcester County after facing down nightmare conditions created by Hurricane Maria in the Caribbean Island of Dominica, he started working on, of all things, a new pet store.

“It started with a life in shambles,” Hindi deadpanned from the couch inside Sirius Pet Spa in Ocean Pines, which opened last week. “Dominica was like Eden on earth, but the storm just took everything from those people, from me. Insurance or no insurance, you didn’t have two stones to bang together in the meantime. So I had to get out of there.”

It’s a story already well told in this paper and in scores of other news outlets. Hindi escaped the brutal aftermath of the storm with his dog, Dallas, and came back to the area where he grew up. He’s a graduate of Stephen Decatur High School and two years ago, as a 25-year-old, ran for the Maryland House of Delegates seat that would eventually go to Mary Beth Carozza.

Hindi and a business partner were building a bar and restaurant in Dominica. When that was literally swept away, his partner came up with a new pitch.

“[He] has been in the pet industry before, managed boutiques and salons in the past and knows a lot about nutrition.

He said, ‘You know what, there’s a real dearth of this kind of business here and we think you’re the perfect person to get together with,’” Hindi said. “I’m good with people, I’m good with human capital – and I love dogs.

“That’s why that previous story took off, because of Dallas. I’m sure the Lifetime movie will come out any day now, ‘Not Without My Dog,’” he added with a laugh. “But I told him, if you can get me the tools I need, we can build this business together.”

Hurricane Maria struck Dominica on Sept. 18. Hindi moved back to Ocean Pines on Sept. 27 and started working on the store four days later. It opened on Dec. 2.

“Within 60 days we were open, and I kind of needed it,” he said. “For me, things weren’t normal. I was in this tropical clime that turned into a disaster scape and people were descending into post-apocalyptic societal arrangements.

“This kind of gave me something to focus on ... something to immediately throw myself into,” Hindi added. “It was a where do I begin again kind of thing and it was very good for me.”

The concept, he said, is a grooming salon “with all your sundry needs,” from high-end pet food, to nearly indestructible dog toys.

“We look at things that are very nutritionally dense. I don’t want to carry Ol’ Roy or Rachael Ray’s Nutrish,” Hindi said. “I looks like a handsomely packaged product, but it will kill your dog.”

He said they literally bet the farm on Victor, a highly rated Texas-based company that makes classic multigrain, select protein and grain-free formulas, but is still affordable.

The shop also carries West Paw dog toys.

“These are guaranteed tough against your dog,” Hindi said. “The lifetime that you own the product they’ll replace it one time if the dog destroys it – but your dog won’t be able to destroy it.



JOSH DAVIS/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

After surviving unprecedented devastation in Dominica during Hurricane Maria, Mike Hindi moved back to the Pines area and opened Sirius Pet Spa. Pictured below is his dog, Dallas.

“That’s the kind of thing we want to have – we can sell you a superior product and we feel comfortable standing by it,” he added. “And they’re all made in the U.S., in Montana. And Montana is just about as wholesome and as hearty as you can get.”

A full-service grooming station is available at the rear of the storefront in a space that was previously used as a stockroom. That decision, Hindi said, was partly the convenience of not having to tear down a wall and partly the need to create a safe space for pets.

He compared the alternative to glass rooms generally used by groomers in larger chain stores.

“You feel like you’re in a fishbowl and your dog is even more miserable, because they know that you’re there, but they can’t get to you,” he said. “It’s actually easier on the dogs and easier on the groomers.”

Packages start at \$29 for basic grooming, and first-time customers receive \$10 off any package. Full-grooming packages cost \$45 and \$59.

“Our prices, I think, are literally the best of any brick and mortar store that is operating as a business, other than going to someone’s home,” Hindi said. “We’re the same or cheaper than the big-box chains in a lot of our products here. I think we’re really going to be at a price point that people in the Pines are going to love.”

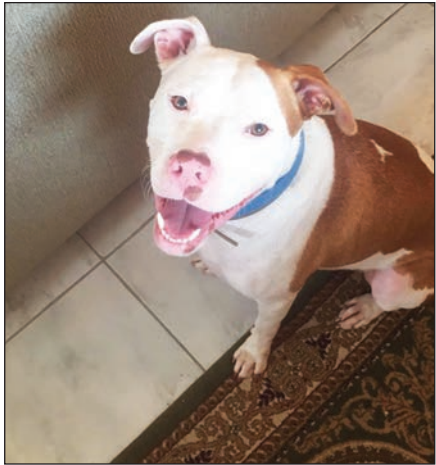


PHOTO COURTESY MIKE HINDI

In the future, Hindi would like to expand with more groomers, possibly into a larger space, as well as offer boarding, kenneling and doggy daycare services.

As for what Dallas thinks of the shop, Hindi compared it to your dad owning a candy store or a toy store, “but he’s not cool.”

“It’s a lot of, ‘No, put that back! That’s for paying customers,’” Hindi said. “But he does get to eat a king’s ransom in pig ears.”

Visit Sirius Pet Spa on 11312 Manklin Creek Road, unit 5B, near DeNovo’s Trattoria.

For more information, call 410-600-4224 or visit www.facebook.com/pg/siriuspetspa.

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Interior design and unique gifts at Diamond on Pearl

Formerly in old Emporium space, shop in Snow Hill just moved one door down

By Josh Davis

Associate Editor

(Dec. 14, 2017) A Diamond on Pearl owner Jack Helgeson is a huge fan of Snow Hill, having moved to the town about two years ago from Cambridge.

He opened the shop, part interior design showcase and part repurposed art gallery, in the old Emporium building on 111 Pearl Street, but recently moved one building down, to 109 Pearl Street, after some gentle nudging from his landlord.

"Gary [Weber], who owns the building, asked me to move over here many times. And I finally did," he said. "It is a gift store where everything is made locally and everything is unique, and an interior design store. I make all my draperies and do all my own upholstery."

Helgeson also rents tuxedos. "It's a collection of things I've done for about 25 or 30 years," he said.

He said business is picking up in Snow Hill, although he still does the majority of his interior design work in Cambridge, often traveling back and forth, 108 miles round trip, several times a week.

Each time he leaves, Helgeson can't wait to come back home.

"I wouldn't live anywhere else unless I had to, because I love living here," he said. "It's the first place in my entire life where all my neighbors

came to me and welcomed me to my neighborhood, and all the business people came and welcomed me to the business neighborhood. It's wonderful – it's Cambridge 20 years ago."

He loves the people, the scenery and the surrounding shops downtown.

"We just need to enhance what we have," Helgeson said. "This is a beautiful little town. Architecturally it's one of the most interesting that I've seen. And I love that we have a small river here instead of the Choptank [in Cambridge]."

Helgeson said he would like to see more locally made crafts and recycled products in his shop and hopes the interior design business in Snow Hill continues to grow. He has recently focused on Christmas trees and

holiday decorations, much of which can be seen on the shop's Facebook page, www.facebook.com/adiamondonpearl.

"I would love for people to go [online] and look at my pictures, because my pictures speak louder than I can," he said. "I am a perfectionist with my work – not me, but my work!"

"I just love taking something and, if it's beautiful making it more beautiful and more purposeful, whether it's a window, a house, a yard, a crab basket, or somebody's who's getting married," Helgeson added. "Making that little part perfect makes the other person happy, and then they don't have to worry about it."

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'I would love for people to go [online] and look at my pictures, because my pictures speak louder than I can.'

Jack Helgeson,
A Diamond on Pearl owner



PHOTO COURTESY JACK HELGESON

A Diamond on Pearl owner Jack Helgeson is an accomplished interior designer, working both from his shop in Snow Hill and commuting to Cambridge for large projects, like the Harbor ShareSpace on Cedar Street.



PHOTO COURTESY JACK HELGESON

Along with interior design work, A Diamond on Pearl in Snow Hill carries locally created unique art and craft items, many of which were made from recycled materials.

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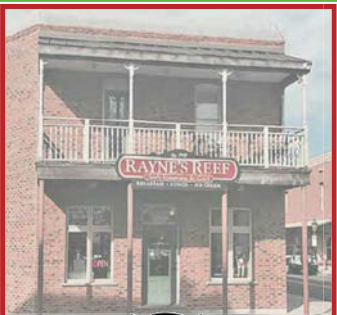
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Opinion

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

Cooler heads prevailed

Common sense is breaking out all over in Worcester County and, boy, is it welcome in these otherwise rancorous times. This past week, two different governing bodies calmly discussed, explained and agreed on courses of action, and in so doing demonstrated that reasonableness in government continues to exist. The mayor and council of Snow Hill and the executive council in Ocean Pines, in their separate sessions, matter-of-factly and correctly addressed situations that could have spurred a more contentious debate.

In Snow Hill's case, the mayor and council agreed to revise the town code to incorporate county government's zoning rules regarding where adult shops may be located — in industrial zones. That, in itself, wasn't remarkable, but they then went on to explain their reasons, the constitutional limitations on their authority and their unanimous belief that respecting the rights and needs of all involved would deliver the desired results. If every government took the time to explain what it's doing and why, as the mayor and council did, the public would be much better off. In the meantime, the Ocean Pines Executive Council — the board of directors and the chairs of the association's many committees — agreed that it's ridiculous to appoint committees and then to ignore them. Board Chairman Doug Parks struck exactly the right tone in bringing the committees and their expertise back into the fold, as did General Manager John Bailey and the committee chairmen themselves.

As now structured, the system of committees will be allowed to help Bailey carry out his duties by acting as fact-finders and gatherers of information to be employed in his presentations to the board. As Parks made clear, this doesn't mean the committees can inundate Bailey with requests, nor can they instruct department heads in any fashion. Obviously, this is a reasonable approach to getting the job done, but even more important is the civil and deliberate process that led to this agreement.



"I am so excited that she is learning new words. Today when we came home she said "chip or swipe."

Letters

Thanks to Berlin parade sponsors

Editor,
The Town of Berlin and Berlin Main Street wishes to thank the following businesses for their donations toward the 47th annual Berlin Christmas Parade. Many thanks and wishing you a happy holiday season.
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NEWS

Editor

Stewart Dobson sdobson@oceancitytoday.net

Managing Editor

Lisa Capitelli editor@oceancitytoday.net

Associate Editors

Josh Davis editor@baysidegazette.com

Brian Gilliland bg@oceancitytoday.net

SALES

Assistant Publisher/Sales Director

Elaine Brady ebrady@baysidegazette.com

Account Managers

Mary Cooper mcooper@baysidegazette.com

Shelby Shea shelby@oceancitytoday.net

Classifieds/Legals Manager

Nancy Hawrylko classifieds@oceancitytoday.net

GRAPHICS

Senior Designer: Susan Parks susan@oceancitytoday.net

Graphic Artists: Kelly Brown, Kaitlin Sowa

ADMINISTRATION

Publisher: Christine Brown cbrown@oceancitytoday.net

Admin. Assistant: Gini Tufts gini@oceancitytoday.net

The Bayside Gazette is published 52 weeks per year and is distributed free of charge. Subscriptions are available at a cost of \$75 per year or \$40 for six months. The contents of the Bayside Gazette is copyrighted by Flag Publications, Inc. No part may be reproduced without permission from the publisher.

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New AGH grief support group forms

(Dec. 14, 2017) Atlantic General Hospital has created a new support group for those who have lost a loved one to addiction or overdose. "Losing someone you love is one of the most painful trials life can throw your way," said Gail Mansell, director of supportive care services at Atlantic General Hospital and founder of the support group. "Each person who

goes through the grieving process does it in his or her unique way. Grief can take a serious toll, even on the most resilient individuals." The support group was created with the intention of being a supportive and safe place to allow people to share their stories confidentially with those who have experienced similar loss. The first grief support

group meeting will be held on Saturday, Dec. 16 in conference room #1 at Atlantic General Hospital from 10-11:30 a.m. There are no special or advanced requirements to attend, as well as no sign-ins at the door. Refreshments will be available for all who attend. Any questions can be directed to Mansell at gmansell@atlanticgeneral.org.

Have an opinion?

We invite you to share it, but all letters are subject to verification, so please include your name and phone number. All letters are subject to editing for space and to protect the author and this newspaper from legal action. Email letters to editor@baysidegazette.com. For questions, call 410-723-6397.

Historic District Commission approves butcher shop signs

By Josh Davis

Associate Editor

(Dec. 14, 2017) J&M Meat Market on 101 William Street held a soft opening last week, replacing the former Berlin Butcher Shop.

The shop will apparently take over the entire building starting in January. The Beez Kneez Boutique currently occupies a section adjacent to the butcher shop.

The Historic District Commission last Wednesday unanimously approved new signs for the front, rear and north side of the building facing William Street, and on the existing metal pole. All would be the same dimensions as those approved for the previous tenant.

The commission also approved a new exterior paint job of the entire building, including black trim on the front French doors, two front windows, the metal roof, awning and existing sign frame. The new owners, Heidi and Eric Johnson, plan to repaint the exterior front walls white and add white paint to the raised trim

on the metal roof, for contrast.

Heidi Johnson said the new shop would have "kind of the same concept [as Berlin Butcher Shop], except we're adding quality meats."

"We'll do an extensive deli, some barbecue, and we plan to grow," she said. "We also plan to have a market so you can grab your eggs, your bacon, your home sausage – all that stuff."

J&M will also carry fresh vegetables from local farms in a produce cart.

She said the acquisition of additional space, which becomes available on Jan. 1, would be used to expand the market.

"I think having the whole building is really going to be an asset to what you want to do with the market," commission Chairwoman Carol Rose said.

"Timing has been on our side," Johnson said. "And our community is growing. We're excited."

Johnson said a grand opening date will be announced.

Cleanup costs could end up tripling original estimates

By Brian Gilliland

Associate Editor

(Dec. 14, 2017) Although the county government cleanup effort along Racetrack Road across from Ocean Downs is progressing, the property's problems are so severe that the \$10,000 budgeted for the job is far less than what the job will cost.

Ed Tudor, director of development review and permitting, told the county commissioners on Tuesday that he was happy to report work had started as of Nov. 27, but the scope of the project was beyond what he'd imagined.

"The more we clean up, the more we find," he said.

Tudor said he had no doubt the effort would exhaust the \$10,000

planned to be spent on the cleanup, and asked the commissioners waive the normal bidding process to allow the contractor already on site to continue work until the job is completed.

Tudor said eight dumpsters had already been filled with debris and hauled to the landfill, and more were certainly coming.

Commissioner Chip Bertino said he'd been to the site, and agreed there was no way the job could be done for \$10,000.

Commissioner Ted Elder asked if there was a ballpark amount Tudor expected to spend before the cleanup is complete, and he obliged with a guess of between \$20,000 and \$30,000.

Christmas concert at Saint John Neumann this Sunday

(Dec. 14, 2017) The adult choir of Saint John Neumann Catholic Church will present a Christmas concert on Sunday, Dec. 17.

The event will begin at 3 p.m. and last about one hour at the church, located on Beauchamp Road off Race-track Road. The concert will be composed of choral pieces, instrumental selections and seasonal readings. There will also be time for meditation and reflection.

"Jesus Christ the Apple Tree," The Father's Love" and "He Is Born" are

among the choral selections. Instrumentalists include Carole Loehmann on the piano and organ and Mary Mergott and Erica Holdren playing violin.

Josephine Cover directs the St. John Neumann choir and members of the parish will provide the readings. Father Joseph Cocucci, pastor of the church, will preside at the non-denominational offering.

There is no admission charge to attend but a free will offering is welcome. Parking is available.



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Snapshots



JOSH DAVIS/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

2ND FRIDAY

Geo Mcelroy displays an original oil painting at the Worcester County Arts Council during a snowy 2nd Friday, last week.



JOSH DAVIS/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Ron Michaels highlights his photography during an exhibition at the Worcester County Arts Council, last Friday.



JOSH DAVIS/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Artists and crafters participating in the Marker's Market last Friday move into the upstairs gallery space at the Globe after heavy snows started to fall. Pictured, from left, are Heather Layton, Kathy Denk, Amanda Hanke and Wendy Helmuth.



PHOTO COURTESY JUDY DUCKWORTH

ANNUAL MEETING

The Ocean Pines Boat Club concluded its 27th year with the Annual Meeting and Change of Watch dinner and dance on Nov. 5 at Adolfo's Restaurant in Ocean City. Commodore Richard Marchesiello turned the helm over to the Boat Club's new Commodore, Patricia Marchesiello, who will lead the way during the 2018 season. Elsie MacMullin received the Outstanding Member Award. Pictured, from left, are directors Steven Stein and Marchesiello; Commodore Marchesiello; Vice Commodore Joseph DiMartino; Rear Commodore Thomas Southwell; directors, Stuart Glassman and Nancy Engelke; Treasurer Fred Heinlen; and directors Lawrence Walton and Doris Lloyd. Secretary Janet O'Brien, Fleet Captain David Landis and director Timothy Collins are not pictured.



JOSH DAVIS/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

OFF THE CHAIN

Artists participate in the "Off the Chain" exhibition at the Globe in Berlin last Saturday, using bicycle chains to create art in a wide range of mediums. The show benefited the Eastern Shore chapter of the International Mountain Bicycling Association. Pictured, from left, are Jim Coltellino, Max Stanley, Mike Perry, Lisa Cherivtch, Wendy Helmuth, Tres Denk and Jaiden Denk.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

QUARTER AUCTION

The Worcester County Humane Society held its Fall Quarter Auction on Nov. 4 at the American Legion Post 166 on 24th Street. Nearly 200 guests attended and more than \$10,000 was raised for the no-kill shelter in Berlin. Pictured are Quarter Auction Committee volunteers.

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Snapshots



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DECATUR VOLUNTEERS

The Worcester County Humane Society held its Fall Quarter Auction on Nov. 4 at the American Legion Post 166 on 24th Street. Nearly 200 guests attended and more than \$10,000 was raised for the no-kill shelter in Berlin. Pictured are Stephen Decatur High School KAAAT (Kids Against Animal Abuse and Testing) members who volunteered during the event.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

MUSICAL MALLARDS

Worcester Prep's new Lower School Music teacher, Joanie Brittingham, has created an after-school club called The Musical Mallards (M & M's) for students in grades 3-5. The singing and dancing troupe of more than 40 boys and girls meet weekly to rehearse their routines, many written and choreographed by Brittingham, to perform in school and around the community. The M & M's made their debut in the Ocean City Christmas Parade, held Dec. 2, followed by the Berlin Christmas Parade on Dec. 7.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

ENGLISH HONOR SOCIETY

Fifteen Stephen Decatur High School students were inducted into the National English Honor Society this fall. The club has many service campaigns including holding an annual book drive, managing the school's writing center and collaborating with local elementary schools for reading projects. Pictured, in back, from left, are Mia Dill, Madilyn Ortega, Jeff Helvig, Zain Brady, Jake Rider, Casey Dent, and Kaitlyn Peters; center, Sarah Beesley, Kate Carpenter, Rachel Gillin, Lily Rakow and Anna Kieseewetter; and in front, Corinne Krasner, Tara Fischer and Haley Vest.



HELPER

Berlin Intermediate sixth grader Yami Portela turned in sand dollars as part of the Positive Behavior Intervention Support program incentive. She spent time in Melissa Vit's class assisting students during a fifth grade social studies webquest about the Jamestown Colony. In this photo she is helping fifth grader Judah Ponds navigate through the webquest.

SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

PARK MAINTENANCE

Members of Stephen Decatur High School's National Honor Society rake leaves, pull weeds, trim bushes and provide some landscaping improvements at a Berlin park, Oct. 28. For several years, the group has adopted several beds in the park. Pictured, in back, are Hayden Zaiser, Conor Boyle, Brandon Yusuf, Parker Wheeler, Shane Cioccio, Kyle Jarmon and Preston Whittaker, and in front, Diamond Rounds, Alexis Abrams, Montajha Bowen, Justin Hammond, Zachary Pilarski and Allyson Possident.



SUBMITTED PHOTO D.J. LANDIS, SR.

FOOD DRIVE

The Kiwanis "Dawg Team" served an assortment of food during the recent Ocean Pines Craft Fair. Pictured, from left, are "Dawg Team" members Roy Foreman, Wilma and Ralph Chinn, Char Vanvick, Pat Winkelmayer, and Joe Beall and Sue Wineke.

Two friends re-team to hike Appalachian Trail, raise funds

By Kara Hallissey
Staff Writer

(Dec. 14, 2017) Snow Hill resident Jean Schrecengost and her friend, Melissa Ordway, will attempt to hike more than 750 miles of the Appalachian Trail while also raising awareness and funds along the way for the Jesse Klump Suicide Awareness and Prevention Program.

The two hikers were scheduled to start their trek in New Hampshire on Dec. 13 and head south before finishing up on Feb. 1 in what they hope to be Pine Grove, Pennsylvania, but everything depends on the weather. They will be distributing information about suicide prevention and awareness in addition to posting on Facebook throughout their journey.

"If it snows or it's icy, we can only do six to 10 miles a day," Schrecengost said. "If it's dry, we can do up to 20 miles a day. I have to go back to school and Mel has to go back to work [at a coal mine in Alaska.]"

If they don't complete their intended mileage by Feb. 1, she said they will probably finish hiking the entire trail at another time.

This is not their first time on the trail. The duo completed the Springer Mountain, Georgia, to Pine Grove portion of the trail, from April to July in 2013. The entire Appalachian Trail is approximately 2,181 miles.

"The goal is to raise at least \$10,000 for the Jesse Klump Memorial Fund," Schrecengost said. "This is an important and worthy cause because it affects every single person in the world. A large part of the greater community is struggling with addiction, which is a part of mental health. It is important to create a space to talk about it and not be ashamed."

The nonprofit organization's main objective is to end the threat of suicide in Worcester County and beyond through outreach and education.

The Jesse Klump Suicide Awareness and Prevention Program hosts several community-organized events throughout the year. Each month, there is a support group meeting for those who have lost loved ones to suicide and who are having difficulty coming to terms with their grief.

Personally, Schrecengost, 37, has watched members of her family struggle with their mental health; her uncle com-

mitted suicide.

"The more we talk about it, the more we reduce the likelihood of suicide and help people seek assistance with their mental health issues," Schrecengost said.

Ordway, 36, of Alaska, has also lost loved ones to suicide. Her 14-year-old nephew after being bullied in school and a friend who was battling post-traumatic stress disorder and frequent seizures from epilepsy both took their lives.

"I think it's important for people to be aware and talk about these things because you never know what a person is dealing with and sometimes getting out into the wilderness and away from everyday life can help clear your head," Ordway said. "Hopefully this hike will encourage people to get out into the world and see there's more to it than the mental problems we think are worth not living and see the beauty in it."

The two friends met about six years ago in Antarctica and have different schedules. It happened by circumstance that they both were off from school and



PHOTO COURTESY JEAN SCHRECENGOST

Friends Jean Schrecengost, left, and Melissa Ordway complete the Springer Mountain, Georgia, to Pine Grove, Pennsylvania, portion of the Appalachian Trail in 2013. At it again, the two hikers were scheduled to start their 750-mile trek in New Hampshire on Dec. 13 and head south before finishing up on Feb. 1 in what they hope to be Pine Grove, Pennsylvania while also raising awareness and funds along the way for the Jesse Klump Suicide Awareness and Prevention Program.

work for a few months this winter.

"We want to bring a broader reach of awareness to the organization and mental health," Schrecengost said. "We are partnering with the Jesse Klump Memorial Fund to help them raise more money."

Donations can be made directly at <https://jessespaddle.donorpages.com/OntheTrailtoEndSuici> or check out "On the Trail to End Suicide" on Facebook. For more information on the Jesse Klump Memorial Fund, visit www.choosetolivemaryland.org.

Pine Tones Chorus offer 'A Christmas Wish'

(Dec. 14, 2017) The Pine Tones Chorus will present a Christmas Concert at Atlantic United Methodist Church on Fourth Street and Baltimore Avenue in Ocean City on Friday, Dec. 15 at 7:30 p.m.

The "A Christmas Wish" concert offers a variety of festive holiday music. Fans of TV and show tunes may recognize the songs "We Need a Little Christmas" from Auntie Mame and "God Bless Us, Every One" from the musical version of Dickens'

"Christmas Carol." Fred Waring has set to music the famous poem "Twas The Night Before Christmas" to be sung as a beautiful ballad.

Traditional melodies will include "For Unto Us a Child is Born" from Handel's Messiah and "I heard the Bells On Christmas Day" based on the poem from Henry Wadsworth Longfellow.

The Pine Tones Chorus includes more than 55 singers from Ocean Pines, Ocean City and nearby areas.

June Todd is the chorus director and Dick Smith is the group's pianist. As an added attraction, guest musicians will include Julie Barton playing oboe, Tom Baione the string bass and Curtis Krams on drums.

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 individual donations and patrons as well as the Worcester County Arts Council, Maryland State Arts Council and the National Endowment for the Arts.

These organizations are dedicated to cultivating a vibrant cultural community where the arts thrive.

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NOW PLAYING



THE STIMS
HARVEST MOON TAVERN
Friday, December 15, 7-10 p.m.

BJ'S ON THE WATER

75th Street and the bay
Ocean City
410-524-7575
www.bjsonthewater.com
Dec. 15: Bird Dog and the Road Kings, 9 p.m.
Dec. 16: The Girlfriends, 9 p.m.
Dec. 20: Christmas Party w/Teenage Rust & the Fabulous Rustettes, 6-9 p.m.

BOURBON STREET ON THE BEACH

116th Street, behind Fountain Head Towers Condominium
Ocean City
443-664-2896
www.bourbonstreetonthebeach.com
Dec. 15: Pearl, 7-11 p.m.
Dec. 16: Baltimore Boyz, 7-11 p.m.
Dec. 17: Just Jay, 6-9 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.

CASINO AT OCEAN DOWNS

10218 Racetrack Road
Berlin
410-641-0600
www.oceandowns.com
Dec 15: Everett Spells, 5:30-9:30 p.m.
Dec 16: Aaron Howell, 4:30-8:30 p.m.; Kevin Poole, 9:30 p.m to 1:30 a.m.

THE COVE AT MUMFORD'S LANDING OCEAN PINES

1 Mumford's Landing Road
Ocean Pines
410-641-7501
www.oceanpines.org
Dec. 15: Tranzfusion, 8 p.m.
Dec. 16: Trivia Night, 4 p.m.

DUFFY'S TAVERN

130th Street in the Montego Bay Shopping Center
410-250-1449
www.duffysoc.com
Dec. 15: Bob Hughes, 5-9 p.m.
Dec. 16: Team Trivia w/DJ Chuck D, 7 p.m.

HARBORSIDE BAR & GRILL

12841 S. Harbor Road
West Ocean City
410-213-1846
www.ocharborside.com
Dec. 15: DJ Billy T, 4 p.m. to 2 a.m.
Dec. 16: Side Project/Chris Button, 2-6 p.m.; DJ Jeremy, 9 p.m. to 2 a.m.
Dec. 17: Opposite Directions, 2-6 p.m.; DJ Billy T, 8 p.m. to 1 a.m.

HARVEST MOON TAVERN

208 W. Green St.
Snow Hill
410-632-9890
harvestmoontavern@gmail.com
Dec. 15: The Stims, 7-10 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 Friday and Saturday: DJ Dusty, 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.
Dec. 15-16: On the Edge

PICKLES

706 Philadelphia Ave.
Ocean City
410-289-4891
www.picklesoc.com
Dec. 16: Dust n Bones, 10 p.m.



DUST N' BONES
PICKLES PUB
Saturday, December 16, 10 p.m.

SEACRETS

49th Street and the bay
Ocean City
410-524-4900
www.secrets.com
Dec. 15: Ocean 98 & Seacrets Christmas Party, 5-10 p.m.; Lima Bean Riot, 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.
Dec. 16: Whiskeyhickon Boys, 5-9 p.m.; Gypsy Wisdom, 10 p.m. to 1:50 a.m.
Dec. 21: John McNutt Band, 5-9 p.m.

SKYE RAW BAR & GRILLE

66th Street, bayside
Ocean City
410-723-6762
www.skyebaroc.com
Dec. 15: Aaron Howell 4-8 p.m.

WHISKER'S BAR & GRILL

11070 Cathell Road, Suite 17
Pines Plaza, Ocean Pines
410-208-3922
www.whiskersbar.com
Dec. 15: Karaoke w/Donnie Berkey



THE GIRLFRIENDS
BJ's ON THE WATER:
Saturday, December 16, 9 p.m.

Three businesses team for one gift basket

By Kara Hallissey

Staff Writer

(Dec. 14, 2017) Local business Gifts Fulfilled has teamed up with Coffey Town Roasters and Kramelot Candles to offer a globally-themed coffee basket for holiday shoppers this season.

Clients at the Worcester County Developmental Center assembled the gift baskets within the last couple of weeks to ensure orders are ready for Christmas.

"It is a global-themed basket with four different coffees paired with dark chocolate coffee beans, espresso candy, chocolate biscotti sticks and a coffee candle— it's like heaven up your nose," Gifts Fulfilled owner Kim Shanahan said. "It is really cool three local businesses could come together and produce this for the holidays over at the Worcester County Developmental Center."

Coffey Town Roasters, out of Salisbury, is a micro-batch, artisan company with ethically-sourced single origin beans owned by Kyle Coffey. Four different coffee samples from Indonesia, Columbia, Ethiopia and Mexico are featured in the gift basket.

Kramelot Candles, also in Salisbury, produces all-natural, hand-poured soy candles with no color dyes that are non-toxic, environmentally friendly and support United States soybean farmers.

The company is owned by Curtis Krams and gift baskets come with a coffee candle, which was created with beans from Coffey Town Roasters.

"The candle is a big hit with coffee drinkers," Shanahan said. "Kyle knows Curtis because they worked together on creating the coffee candle. I met Kyle through a business networking group and we started talking about putting together a global coffee basket."

can go all year long and works for all occasions," Shanahan said. "It smells so good when you open the basket and we are very excited about it."

To order the coffee gift basket, visit www.amazon.com/dp/B077T3X2BF.

In addition, Gifts Fulfilled also has

network of volunteer business experts.

Gifts Fulfilled was one of 102 entrepreneurs who received a \$1,000 Sam's Club gift card, an all-expense-paid trip to a training and networking event last April in Texas, in addition to SCORE mentoring and publicity throughout the year.

"The best part was getting the recognition," Shanahan said. "It validates what we are doing, that we are on the right track and it was an honor to be one of two businesses recognized in Maryland. My mentor [Len Kidwell of Bethany Beach] put things into perspective, which was vital and helpful to me."

In January, Gifts Fulfilled is slated to move out of the Worcester County Developmental Center in Newark to another location in Berlin on Racetrack Road.

"Some of the clients cried when we told them because they were so happy," Shanahan said. "You couldn't find people who are more excited to come to work every day. It gives them so much pride."

The Worcester County Developmental Center provides employment opportunities, day habilitation training, residential services and community-based support for adults with intellectual disabilities in Worcester, Somerset and Wicomico counties.

Gifts Fulfilled plans to hire five clients from the center to help with assembly, shipping and receiving.

To order a gift basket from Gifts Fulfilled, visit www.giftsfulfilled.com or Amazon.com.



PHOTO COURTESY KIM SHANAHAN

Showing off their new gift basket at the Worcester County Developmental Center in Newark, from left, are Kramelot Candles owner Curtis Krams, Gifts Fulfilled owner Kim Shanahan and Coffey Town Roasters owner Kyle Coffey.

The global coffee basket also has dark chocolate-covered coffee beans, Bali's Best espresso candy, and java bean flavored chocolate-covered biscotti sticks.

Currently, Amazon Prime is selling the gift basket for \$67.50 until Dec. 15, which is normally priced at \$75.

"It is perfect for the holidays, but it

baby, birthday, get well and special occasion-themed items including student care packages, Mother's Day and a number of Christmas-themed baskets which are sold on Amazon and the Gifts Fulfilled website.

In March, the local business was named an American Small Business Champion by SCORE, the nation's largest



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\$5 Craft Beers, \$6 Burgers

Cuisine

Over fresh spritz cookies holiday favorite

The following article originally ran in a Dec. 18, 2014 edition of the Bayside Gazette.



By Paul Suplee,
MBA, CEC, PC-3

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 re-gifted 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 because 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 c. Cake flour
1/4 tsp. Salt
3/4 c. Unsalted butter, room temperature
1/2 c. Sugar
1 egg yolk
1/2 tsp. Almond extract
1/2 tsp. Vanilla extract
Food coloring and sprinkles, optional

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 soft.

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 Associate Professor of Culinary Arts at Wor-Wic Community College. Find his ePortfolio at www.heartofakitchen.com.

107 So quiet you can
hear ____ drop

108 Isn't up to date

111 Early 2000s
outbreak, for short

113 Old resident
at Versailles

114 "Star Trek" spinoff,
to fans

116 Elevs.

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. 14

GENEALOGY WORKSHOP: INTERNET RESOURCES
Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, Ocean Pines, MD, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Tom Dempsey will show how to unlock the power of the Internet while in search of ancestors. Attendees are encouraged to bring a laptop or tablet. Pre-registration is required: 410-208-4014

REINDEER GAMES
Snow Hill library, 307 N. Washington St., Snow Hill, MD, 10:30 a.m. Holiday science, art and fun for ages 3-7 years. 410-632-3495

STORY TIME ‘MR. AND MRS. SANTA’
Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, Ocean Pines, MD, 10:30 a.m. For 2 to 5 year old children. 410-208-4014

COASTAL HOSPICE GRIEF SUPPORT
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

WRITING WITH RUTH
Ocean City library, 10003 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, MD, 1 to 3 p.m. Monthly gathering of local writers. Receive encouraging feedback. Ill writers welcome. 410-524-1818

AN HERBAL HOLIDAY: GIFT MAKING
Snow Hill library, 307 N. Washington St., Snow Hill, MD, 2 p.m. Learn how to make unique and personalized gifts using herbs for health and healing. From lotions and soaps to cordials and spiced vinegars. 410-632-3495

SMITH ISLAND CAKE MAKING DEMO
Pocomoke library, 301 Market St., Pocomoke City, MD, 2 p.m. Lisa Evans will demonstrate ow to make a famous Smith Island cake from start to finish. 410-957-0878

BEACH SINGLES
Harpoon Hanna’s, 39064 Harpoon Road, Fenwick Island, DE, 3 to 6 p.m. Every Thursday, Beach Singles 45-Plus meets for happy hour. Info: Arlene, 302-436-9577 or Kate, 410-524-0649. <http://www.BeachSingles.org>

LAP TIME
Ocean City library, 10003 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, MD, 3:30 p.m. Children, under 2 years old, will be introduced to songs, games and finger plays. 410-524-1818

ANIMATION AFTER HOURS
Ocean City library, 10003 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, MD, 6:30 p.m. Seth Nedrow will host this educational showcase of rare, classic, groundbreaking and bizarre animation from every era around the world. Designed for adult audiences.

410-524-1818

FRI, DEC. 15

COFFEE AND COLORING
Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, Ocean Pines, MD, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Relaxing coloring session. Coffee provided. 410-208-4014

FIBER FRIENDS (FORMERLY BALLYCASTLE KNITS)
Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, Ocean Pines, MD, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Bring your lap work and join these informal get-togethers. Knitters, crocheters, embroiderers, etc. are welcomed. Victoria Christie-Healy, moonlightknitting@gmail.com, 703-507-0708

LAP TIME
Berlin library, 220 N. Main St., Berlin, MD, 10:30 a.m. For infants and toddlers up to age 2 and their caregivers. 410-641-0650

BERLIN BOOK OF THE MONTH
Berlin library, 220 N. Main St., Berlin, MD, 1 p.m. Selection is “The Bell Jar” by Sylvia Plath. Copies of books are available in advance at the library. 410-641-0650

ROLLIN’ WITH ESSENTIAL OILS
Ocean City library, 10003 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, MD, 2 p.m. The group will make roller balls of oils for calmness, muscle pain, headaches and more. Class is limited. Register: 410-524-1818

DECEMBER HOLIDAYS ACROSS CULTURES
Pocomoke library, 301 Market St., Pocomoke City, MD, 6 p.m. Explore different multicultural celebrations and traditions from around the world with crafts and various activities. Some dishes will be provided but feel free to bring your own cultural dish to share. For the whole family. 410-957-0878

CHRISTMAS CONCERT
Atlantic United Methodist Church, 105 Fourth St., Ocean City, MD, 7:30 p.m. Featuring “A Christmas Wish” by the Pine Tones Chorus. Admission is free and an offering will be received. After the concert, refreshments will be served in the social hall. Info Pat Beisler, 410-208-2682 or June Todd, 410-289-7373

SAT, DEC. 16

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

WALK WITH A DOC
Ocean Pines War Memorial, South Gate

Pond, Ocean Pines, MD, 9 to 10 a.m. Family and pet friendly event. There is a short presentation by a doctor on a current health topic followed by a walk around the pond. Ashley, agodwin@atlanticgeneral.org, 410-641-9644

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP MEETING
Atlantic General Hospital, Conference Room 1, 9733 Healthway Drive, Berlin, MD, 10 to 11:30 a.m. There are no special or advanced requirements to attend, as well as no sign-ins at the door. Refreshments available. Gail Mansell, gmansell@atlanticgeneral.org

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY CHRISTMAS PARTY
Ocean City library, 10003 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, MD, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. There will be holiday crafts, snacks and special treats for all ages. 410-524-1818

‘THE CORDDRY COMPANY CROSSING’ TRAIN GARDEN
The Pocomoke River Canoe Company, 2 River St., Snow Hill, MD, 1 to 4 p.m. Featuring an operating O gauge train garden. Fun for all ages.

ANNUAL ‘COOKIES & CANDY BY THE POUND’ SALE
St. Mary’s Episcopal Church, 18 Third St., Pocomoke City, MD, 1 to 3 p.m. Come early for the best selection. Barbara Randall, barbrandall@sbcglobal.net, 757-824-4713

CHRISTMAS BASH BOWLING FUNDRAISER
Eastern Shore Lanes, 1834 Market St., Pocomoke City, MD 21851, 5:30 p.m. Featuring bowling, unlimited Pepsi and pizza, performances, raffles and pictures with Santa for the kids from 6:30-7:30 p.m. Performances start at 5:30 p.m. and bowling starts at 6 p.m. Cost is \$20. Fundraiser for Samaritan Shelter.

SUN, DEC. 17

‘THE CORDDRY COMPANY CROSSING’ TRAIN GARDEN
The Pocomoke River Canoe Company, 2 River St., Snow Hill, MD, 1 to 4 p.m. Featuring an operating O gauge train garden. Fun for all ages.

THE NUTCRACKER
OC Performing Arts Center in the Ocean City convention center, 4001 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, MD, 2 p.m. Sussex Ballet presents The Nutcracker. 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

LESSONS AND CAROLS
St. John Neumann Catholic Church, 11211 Beauchamp Road, Berlin, MD 21811, 3 to 4 p.m. Christmas concert composed of choral pieces, instrumental selections and seasonal readings, there will be time for meditation and reflection. There is no ad-

mission charge but a free will offering is welcome.

DARK NIGHT WORSHIP SERVICE
Bethany United Methodist Church, 8648 Stephen Decatur Highway, West Ocean City, MD, 7 p.m. For those who are coping with troubles and loss, a special service of prayers, scripture and music. All are welcome. bethany21811@gmail.com, 410-641-2186

MON, DEC. 18

LAP TIME
Snow Hill library, 307 N. Washington St., Snow Hill, MD, 10:30 a.m. Children, under 2 years old, will be introduced to songs, games and finger plays. 410-632-3495

GREAT BOOKS DISCUSSION
Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, Ocean Pines, MD, 2:30 to 4 p.m. The group meets twice a month to discuss both classic and modern reading selections. Lisa Harrison, 410-632-3970

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

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

TUE, DEC. 19

PLAY TIME
Pocomoke library, 301 Market St., Pocomoke City, MD, 10:30 a.m. Learn new skills while playing with educational toys. For infant to 5 year old children. 410-957-0878

STORY TIME ‘HOLIDAYS’
Berlin library, 220 N. Main St., Berlin, MD, 10:30 a.m. For 2 to 5 year old children. 410-641-0650

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

COLORING FOR CALMNESS AND CONVERSATION
Berlin library, 220 N. Main St., Berlin, MD, 2 p.m. Monthly adult coloring ses-

Calendar

sions. Bring your own coloring pages or use those provided. Colored pencils, gel pens and felt tips available, along with coffee and cookies. 410-641-0650

SOOTHING STORIES

Ocean City library, 10003 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, MD, 4:30 p.m. Featuring “Polar Bear, Polar Bear, What Do You Hear?” All children of all abilities are welcome every other. Tuesday night. Providing a calming story, along with playtime using sensory toys and activities. 410-524-1818

TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY MEETING

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

'A BETTER MARYLAND' PUBLIC MEETING

Snow Hill library, 307 N. Washington St., Snow Hill, MD, 6 p.m. The Maryland Department of Planning encourages the public to attend and express their opinions concerning the new state development plan. 410-767-4500 or 877-767-6272, <http://www.Planning.Maryland.gov>

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. 20

HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE

Snow Hill library, 307 N. Washington St., Snow Hill, MD, All Day The library will provide light holiday refreshments, and feel free to bring a sweet, favorite recipe or just yourself. 410-632-3495

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>

MARYLAND VA REPRESENTATIVE

Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, Ocean Pines, MD, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs representative, Michelle Licata, is available to offer outreach services to veterans and their families. No appointment necessary. 410-713-3482

PLAY TIME

Ocean City library, 10003 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, MD, 10:30 a.m. Learn new skills while playing with educational toys. For infant to 5 year old children. 410-524-1818

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). Lunch is provided. RSVP: Women Supporting Women, 410-548-7880

INFORMATION LITERACY: SECURING YOUR COMPUTER

Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, Ocean Pines, MD, 2 p.m. Karen Earp will show how to make sure computers are secure and how to be safe on the Internet. 410-208-4014

DELMARVA HAND DANCE CLUB

Ocean City Elks Lodge, 13708 Sinepuxent Ave., Ocean City, MD, 5:30 to 9 p.m. The group meets every Wednesday. Jitterbug, swing, cha-cha to the sounds of the ‘50s, ‘60s and Carolina Beach music. A \$5 donation per person to benefit Veterans and local charities in the Delmarva region. Elk members and their guests welcome. dance@delmarvahanddancing.com, 410-208-1151, <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

RENEE GAVAS EMOTIONAL SUPPORT GROUP

Ocean Pines Community Center, 235 Ocean Parkway, Ocean Pines, MD, 6:30 p.m. A group for people who just want to share and talk, whether you are there to offer guidance or seek it there is no judgment.

ONGOING EVENTS

BAY TO OCEAN WRITERS CONFERENCE

This is a day for all who have been inspired to write a blog or poetry, research non-fiction, get cracking at that next novel or increase your income with other forms of writing. Offering a holiday gift discount for non-members, now thru Dec. 31, of \$95. Go to www.easternshorewriters.org and register before Dec. 31. After that the price is \$120.

WINTERFEST OF LIGHTS

Northside Park, 200 125th St., Ocean City, MD, through Dec. 31. Featuring more than one million holiday lights and hundreds of animated light displays. The heated Winterfest Village pavilion, features photos with Santa and hot chocolate. Admission is board the train is \$5 for adults 12 years and older. Children, 11 years and younger, ride free. Hours are Sunday through Thursday, 5:30-9:30 p.m. and Friday and Saturday, 5:30-10:30 p.m. www.ococean.com

BOOK A LIBRARIAN

Any branch, through December. Need some one-on-one help with your resume, job application, E-Reader or basic computer skills? Contact your closest library branch to schedule a personal appointment.



PHOTO COURTESY D.J. LANDIS, SR.

COAT DRIVE

Annual Kiwanis Coat Drive coordinators Sue Wineke, left, and Char Vanvick display some of the donations. Coordinator Kitty Wrench is not pictured. More than 100 coats were delivered to St. Peter’s Lutheran Church in Ocean City and Joseph House in Salisbury.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

NEW MEMBERS

Ocean City-Berlin Rotary Club District 7630 Governor Elect Pete Booker left, and President Margaret Mudron, right, install new members, Nancy Bradford and Sonia Baker. The Ocean City/Berlin Rotary Club meets on Wednesdays at 6 p.m. in the Captain’s Table Restaurant in the Courtyard Marriott Hotel on 15th Street and N. Baltimore Ave. in Ocean City.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

BLOOD DRIVE

The Stephen Decatur High School Key Club held its annual blood drive with the Blood Bank of Delmarva on Nov. 3. Nearly 100 donors showed up to give blood. Each year, the school is in the running to be the largest blood donation facility on the lower Eastern Shore. Stephen Decatur seniors Dayton Lantz and Brianna Watts served as assistants during the annual Key Club blood drive.

CALL
410-723-6397
BY MONDAY
5 P.M.



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the Bayside Gazette
each week and online at
oceancitytoday.net and
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Human Resources

10100 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, MD 21842

Fax: 410-723-9109 ~ lwatson@clarionoc.com

EOE M/F/D/V

wcdcservices.org

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Direct Care Professional providing supervision and supports to individuals in their home. Diploma or GED and valid and clean Driver's License required. Full & Part-time hours available.

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Direct Care Professional providing one-on-one companionship to an individual in the community, assisting with accessing community activities. Diploma or GED & valid Driver's License required. Part-time hours available.

See website for details: www.wcdcservices.org

To Apply: send resume to:

WCDC, ATTN HR, PO Box 70, Newark, MD 21841

TOWN OF BETHANY BEACH ACCOUNTING/BILLING CLERK

The Town of Bethany Beach is seeking a highly motivated individual to fill the position of full-time Accounting/Billing Clerk. This position processes water utility bills, property tax bills, business licenses, rental licenses, rental taxes and other fees. The position also maintains property files, arranges for water services, answers phones and assists the public. Successful candidates must be motivated to handle a heavy workload and provide exceptional customer service. Excellent organizational and computer skills in Excel and database programs are essential. Salary commensurate with experience and qualifications. Excellent benefits package.

Please send resume to be received no later than January 15, 2018.

WATER PLANT OPERATOR

The Town of Bethany Beach is seeking a highly motivated individual to fill the position of Water Treatment Plant Operator. This full-time position performs a variety of skilled technical duties in the operation of the 1.75 MGD treatment plant and distribution system. Weekend, holiday and on-call work is required.

Preferred candidates should have a water supply operator certification with appropriate endorsements, a minimum of two years' experience in water or wastewater treatment operations, plus a high school diploma (or equivalent), supplemented by college level courses in chemistry or related fields. One must be capable of performing math and chemistry calculations and laboratory procedures. Working knowledge of SCADA, plus computer skills in MS Word and Excel preferred.

Must pass a pre-employment drug screen and background check. A Class "B" CDL must be obtained within six months of hire. Salary commensurate with experience and qualifications. Excellent benefits package.

Town Manager's Office, Town of Bethany Beach
PO Box 109; Bethany Beach, DE 19930

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Clarion Resort Fontainebleau Hotel
Attn: Human Resources Dept.

10100 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, MD 21842

Phone: 410-524-3535 Fax: 410-723-9109

EOE M/F/D/V

Accounting Clerk Wanted

Full Time - \$14-\$16 per hour

Responsible for providing accounting support to accounting supervisors and other managers within the department. Keys daily worksheets to the general ledger system, ensures files are complete and maintained as needed, handles accounts payable duties, and assists accounting personnel.

Job Tasks and Responsibilities:

Perform accounting and clerical functions to support supervisors.

Research, track, and resolve accounting problems.

Compile and sort invoices and checks.

Issue checks for accounts payable.

Record business transactions and key daily worksheets to the general ledger system.

Record charges and refunds.

Support accounting personnel.

Input type vouchers, invoices, checks, account statements, reports, and other records.

Provide front desk customer service.

File and tally deposits.

Work with adding machines, calculators, databases and bank accounts.

Match invoices to work orders.

Process bills for payment.

Open mail and match payments to invoices.

Arrange for money to be delivered to bank.

Utilize computer systems to run databases, pay bills and order supplies.

Contact individuals with delinquent accounts.

Ensure customers accept payments or refunds.

Email Resume to: dunkindonutjobs@gmail.com -

Subject Line: Accounting Clerk

or Apply in Person @

9919 Golf Course Rd., Ocean City, MD

Serious inquiries only, must live within a 30 minute radius of West Ocean City Maryland.

* Early Deadlines *

Classified deadline

for issue of

Dec. 28th will be

Friday, Dec. 22nd, 12 p.m.



Director of Sales and Marketing Comfort Inn Gold Coast 112th St Ocean City

We are accepting applications for the position of Director of Sales and Marketing.

We are seeking an energetic and self motivated Sales professional with significant hotel sales experience. The ideal candidate will have extensive knowledge of the Ocean City market.

If you do not have extensive HOTEL sales experience, please do not apply.

Qualified candidates please submit your resume and cover letter via email to: jpeck@comfortgoldcoast.com

Loss Prevention Assistant Wanted

Full Time - \$10.00-\$12.00 per hour

Job Tasks and Responsibilities: Conducts video surveillance of assigned stores to identify loss of company assets and non-compliance with store operating policies and procedures.

Education and Experience: High School Diploma or Equivalent. Competent computer skills including MS Office or equivalent internet skills including use of e-mails, group messaging and data collection, numeracy and literacy skills

Required Key Competencies: Strong skills in accuracy, attention to detail, prioritizing and follow up, and problem solving. Organization and planning skills, Verbal and written communication skills, flexibility, reliability, and teamwork

Email Resume to: dunkindonutjobs@gmail.com -

Subject Line: Loss Prevention

or Apply in Person @

9919 Golf Course Rd., Ocean City, MD

Serious inquiries only, must live within a 30 minute radius of West Ocean City Maryland.



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Director of Sales & Marketing

Hotel is seeking, a year round full time Director of Sales & Marketing. 250 rooms & 85 suites on the beach with a 40,000 sq ft conference center. Must have hospitality experience and demonstrate strong sales & marketing skills. Responsible for leading sales, catering, golf and convention services team.

Applicant must be computer literate - Delphi and Opera experience a plus. Excellent salary, benefits and working conditions. Salary commensurate with experience. Qualified applicants only, forward resume with salary requirements to:

Clarion Resort Fontainebleau Hotel
Human Resources

10100 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, MD 21842

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Daily	Assateague Point, Berlin	1BR/2BR/3BR	Mobile	From \$100,000	Tony Matrona/Resort Homes
Daily, 10-5	Gateway Grand – 48th Street	3 & 4BR, 3BA	Condo	Inquire	Fritschle Group/Condominium Realty
Sat-Mon, 11-4 pm	Heron Harbour, 120th St., Bayside	1BR/2/BR/3BR/4/BR+	Condo, Towns & SF	—	Nanette Pavier/Holiday Real Estate
Sat. 11-2pm	11100 Crusader Ln #105, Glen Riddle	4BR/3.5BA	Townhome	\$378,900	Phyllis Fennessy/Shamrock Realty

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