JANUARY 4, 2018

BERLIN • NORTH WORCESTER COUNTY• OCEAN PINES

FREE



JOSH DAVIS/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

FOR THE BIRDS

West Ocean City resident Frank Penetta stops to feed waterfowl at the frozen North Gate pond, Tuesday in Ocean Pines.

Pines 50th celebration underway

By Josh Davis

Associate Editor

(Jan. 4, 2018) A yearlong anniversary celebration begins Saturday in Ocean Pines with the dedication of a series of commemorative signs at association entryways.

Signs celebrating the 50th anniversary of the community will go up on the north and south gate entrances, as well as on the corner of Route 589 the Cathell Road, where the ceremony is scheduled to start at 11 a.m.

Expected to speak are Ocean Pines Association President Doug Parks, General Manager John Bailey and 50th Anniversary Committee Chairwoman Jennifer Cropper-Rines.

"We're going to say a few words, we're going to kick off the year and show the signs that were installed [on Jan. 2]," Cropper-Rines said. "The board has been invited and the committee has also been invited for the kick off."

Cropper-Rines encouraged homeowners and residents to "keep an eye on the activity guide" for news and upcoming events "and start thinking about the events they might want to attend over the course of the year."

Plans for the semicentennial celebration include an anniversary sign dedication on Jan. 6, anniversary license plate event on March 24, parade and community day on June 2, golf tournament on June 30, 5k run on July 4, beach bash on July 22, time capsule opening and cocktail reception on Aug. 11, racquet sports tournament on Aug. 18 and winter gala on Nov. 10.

"Every event has a task force and collectively as a group we've really put a lot of time and thought in," Cropper-Rines said. "It's a lot of work, but everybody on the committee has worked very hard and we've got a wealth of energy into it."

She added that Marketing and Public Relations Director Denise Sawyer has "put a lot of time into this, also."

"We are excited to honor and recognize the legacy of Ocean Pines, a premier residential and resort community that continues to provide awe-inspiring amenities and fun for the entire family year-round," Sawyer said. "We invite residents and nonresidents to experience 'The Pines' at one of our many anniversary events this upcoming year. We trust you will fall in love with the waterfront community that had swept Delmarva, Maryland and even the country."

Sponsorships for several of the events as well as the overall anniversary are available, ranging from platinum levels at \$5,000, to "Friends of Ocean Pines" starting at \$50.

Gold level sponsorships are \$3,000, silver are \$1,500 and patron/bronze are \$500.

Larger, corporate sponsors will receive benefits including prominent listing on 50th anniversary save-thedate rack cards, entry into the 50th anniversary parade and plaques and banners to be displayed during events, among other perks.

For more details, visit www.oceanpines.org/administration/sponsor-2018-anniversary or contact Sawyer at 410-641-7717 ext. 3006 or email dsawyer@oceanpines.org.

Tattoo committee to seek extension on Jan. deadline

Group making progress and will meet again this month

By Josh Davis

Associate Editor

(Jan. 4, 2018) A committee of three Berlin citizens and two councilmembers have been drafting a tattoo regulation for the town, but will likely ask for more time before to complete the job.

The deadline to approve the measure is January, following the Berlin Town Council's approval in September of a 120-day moratorium on new tattoo businesses so regulations could be developed. The council created the Tattoo Ordinance Committee and appointed its members on Nov. 13.

That group, which includes councilmen Dean Burrell and Zack Tyndall, tattoo artists Matthew Amey and Dana Helmuth and parks commission members Patricia Dufendach, met for the first time last month.

Town Administrator Laura Allen, who helped facilitate the first session, said the group worked with drafts of ordinances from Ocean City and Baltimore, as well as Worcester, Calvert and Alleghany counties. Allen also provided the group with copies of tattoo regulations for Maryland and Delaware.

"We also talked about the state health department and county commissioners' role in managing the health department. To the extent that the group is interested in health-related regulations, which I believe is the case, we will need to be doing some work with the country to have those regulations put into place," Allen said.

Also during the meeting, the group elected Amey as chairman and Helmuth as vice chairman.

Allen said the moratorium would expire at the end of January, but she expects Amey and Helmuth to attend the next mayor and council meeting, Jan. 8, to request an extension.

Amey, reached for comment, said first meeting went well and he hoped officials from the health department would attend the next scheduled Tattoo Ordinance Committee meeting, Jan. 25 at 6 p.m. at Town Hall.





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Children prepare to descend upon a candy-filled package during a special New Year's Eve celebration in downtown Berlin. The earlier "ball drop" was accompanied later in the evening by the traditional end-of-year countdown at midnight.



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BRIAN GILLILAND/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

DIFFERENT KIND OF PENGUIN SWIM

A sunny spot on the frozen surface of the Pocomoke River collected a few Canada geese near Byrd Park in Snow Hill on Tuesday.

Revitalization efforts intensifying

By Josh Davis

Associate Editor

(Jan. 4, 2018) Pocomoke officials have a simple resolution for the New Year: get serious about revitalizing the town

Several projects designed to do that are already underway, including improving water quality throughout Pocomoke, addressing delinquent and dilapidated properties, creating incentives for new development, and cleaning up the downtown.

To start, City Manager Bobby Cowger said Delmarva Power & Light workers removed eight old light poles in the downtown area last week.

"They've been there 50 years or better," he said. "The trees and the wires were all grown up in them."

He said the city installed new ornamental lights several years ago, but never removed the old ones.

"That's all we're going to have now

is [the new lights]. It will give it a lot better look downtown," he said.

Additionally, removal of several old trees in a two-block area, from Front Street to Second Street, started on Tuesday.

"Those trees are so overgrown, they're up taller than the buildings and leaning up against some of them," he said. "They're old Bradford pear [trees], so they're not real sturdy anyway. If one of those limbs would break off, they would fall right into somebody's front window and the city would have liability. They're breaking up our sidewalks and they're just unsightly. They're all coming down, starting this week."

Cowger said the city also sent letters to downtown business owners asking them to address any vacant or run-down properties.

run-down properties.

"We've requested they set up a meeting with myself and our planning

director Dan [Brandewie], to let us know what their plans are," he said. "The city is definitely going to mandate something to be done with those buildings downtown."

For those who want to make improvements, he said up to \$25,000 in matching façade grants are available, like those available in Snow Hill and Berlin.

"I've definitely got some interest on some new building downtown. I've just got to have the property owners tell us either they're going to build back or they don't want to build back, they want to tear down and sell their property ... and I'll have that within the next 30 days," Cowger said. "I'm going to have a commitment one way or the other from these business owners of what they're going to do.

"The majority of the property owners tell me their buildings are so old, See CITY Page 9 Online campaign already gathered more than \$24K **By Josh Davis**Associate Editor

Hardwire helping

to raise money for

Pocomoke mayor

(Jan. 4, 2018) Pocomoke-based Hardwire LLC is leading fundraising efforts to help the family of Mayor Bruce Morrison pay for medical costs, following his traumatic brain injury in late November.

Morrison was rushed to Peninsula Regional Medical Center in Salisbury on Nov. 29 with an apparent subdural hematoma, and then transferred to Christiana Hospital in Newark, Delaware.

According to a Dec. 26 text from Morrison's wife, Laura, the mayor was recently taken to the sixth floor of Christiana Hospital in what she called "a turning point."

"This is the stroke floor with rehab capabilities. This is the next step before an actual rehabilitation facility," she said. "Please keep the prayers coming – they are working and since we have a long way to go we can't stop now!"

Meanwhile, Hardwire Chairman and CEO George Tunis helped raise more than \$24,000 on a GoFundMe page, including a \$14,000 donation from the company.

"I've known the mayor before he was mayor," Tunis said in a phone interview, last Wednesday. "He works for the company and Bruce is just a really good soul. He's been a great employee and he's been with us since the early days.

"He's just one of those guys that works all day, he's working at night cutting grass, he's the mayor. He helped his kids start a little bakery on the corner and puts on the Christmas parade, and he's the president of the Maryland Mayors Association," he continued. "The poor guy took a lump, that's for sure."

Before Morrison became mayor, Tunis said, "I don't even think we had a Ruby Tuesdays yet – we didn't have a hotel" in Pocomoke.

"For a growing business, when you don't have a place for people to stay See POCOMOKE Page 8

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Tyndall to seek county commissioner seat

Berlin councilman served on several key committees during first year as official

By Josh Davis

Associate Editor

(Jan. 4, 2018) Berlin Councilman Zack Tyndall announced this week that he is running for the District 3 (Berlin) Worcester County Commissioners seat currently occupied by four-term Commissioner Church, a Republican.

A former paramedic in his native Berlin, Tyndall was elected to the Town Council in 2016.

He holds a bachelor of science in management from Salisbury University and is pursuing a masters of business administration degree at the school.

Tyndall also serves on the Maryland Municipal League Hometown

OPA Aquatics host free open house at **Sports Core, Jan. 7**

(Jan. 4, 2018) Ocean Pines Aquatics will host an open house at the Sports Core Pool on Sunday, Jan. 7 from 2-4 p.m.

This free event is great for those curious about underwater bikes, trampolines, treadmills and elliptical

"Let a qualified instructor show you how to use each machine safely and effectively," Aquatics and Recreation Director Colby Phillips said. "Take a seven-minute bike or trampoline class, learn how to target various muscle groups with the water weights, get instruction on all the ways to use the treadmill or take a turn on the elliptical."

Whether you enjoy working out solo or in a group, with a personal trainer or with a friend, the heated indoor Sports Core Pool in Ocean Pines has the perfect class and the right equipment.

"Join us and see what working out in the water can do for you," Phillips

Guests will have free use of the pool workout equipment, at 11144 Cathell Road in Ocean Pines, during the open house. In addition to showcasing new aquatics equipment, Ocean Pines will be offering a variety of swim programs this winter, including indoor swim lessons for all ages, aquatics fitness classes and family swim events.

(Fish)

CUPPA DI MARE

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For more information about the open house or other aquatics events, contact the Ocean Pines Aquatics Department at 410-641-5255. Information regarding additional Ocean Pines aquatics programs, including an online version of the Ocean Pines Activity Guide, is available at www.OceanPines.org.



Emergency Preparedness Ad-hoc Committee, which encourages joint emergency preparedness across all levels of government.

He will turn 28 in February.

"I'm still relatively young, but when I went onto the council I was young," he said. "It's nice to work with a group of people where you get a difference of opinion. We don't always agree, but we always move forward together as a team and I think I can bring that to the county level as well.'

His first year a councilman, he said, was a busy one. Tyndall already knew much of the history of the town, but said he was anxious to study its inner workings.

He said he learned much from Water Resources/Public Works Director Jane Kreiter and Wastewater Superintendent Jamie Latchum.

Berlin is one of five municipalities in Maryland that can generate its own electricity, and Tyndall said he also picked up plenty from Electric Utilities Director Tim Lawrence.

'I've covered a lot of ground and I made it point when I joined the council that, regardless of what my views were, I tried to make decisions that

were in the best interest of people I represent," he said. "I'm not up there to reflect my own, personal opinions. I'm there to work for the people and let everybody have a chance to speak, and really take and evaluate that material and make the best decisions."

He also helped reach several notable compromises, developing and serving on groups including the Naming Parks and Public Spaces Committee, Berlin Falls Park Advisory Committee and Tattoo Ordinance Committee.

"It's hard to get things done when the tempers start to increase a little bit," he said. "I found that, maybe forming subset committees and being able to get everybody's opinions and sit down and have some dialog [is valuable]," he said. "Like with tattoos, I know it's a polarizing issue, but there are a lot of people with tattoos in this world and a 1985 policy may not be the best coverage for today.

Tyndall said he's running, in part, because of rumors that Church would seek election to the Maryland House of Delegates seat being vacated by Del. Mary Beth Carozza (R-38C) as she challenges incumbent Democratic State Sen. Jim Mathias in District 38.

"A couple months ago I was approached because there have been some rumors that Bud Church won't be running again and may be pursuing a different seat. Some of my constituents have come up and said, 'we like the work that you're doing at the town and we'd like to see that continue at the county level,' Tyndall

"Having somebody that's going from a municipal level to a county level, I also understand how we can't micromanage municipalities," he continued. "As the layers of government increase, you've got to allow the other subsets to do their jobs, independently, and not micromanage ... as we work throughout the county with different municipalities, we've got to be able to understand their concerns.

Although he's a Democrat, Tyndall said party affiliations mean little at smaller levels of government.

"At the municipal level, we know who is a Democrat and who is a Republican, but that doesn't influence how we work together," he said. "Bringing that same perspective of being able to work for people is important. I don't get too caught up with the Democrat or Republican title.

He has not, so far, talked to Church about his candidacy.

'I think the county, as a whole, is doing a great job and I hope that I can continue that path and that direction forward," he added.



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Pines Budget and Finance Committee enjoy larger role

Group granted more input under new administration; fiscal 2019 plan underway

By Josh Davis

Associate Editor

(Jan. 4, 2018) A year ago, under a different administration, members of Ocean Pines' Budget and Finance Committee said they were left out of much of the budget process.

That's not the case this year, according to Committee Chairman John

Viola, who briefly served as finance director, said new General Manager John Bailey has been much more receptive to committee suggestions.

"The GM has definitely listened to guidance given to him from the B&F Committee," Viola said, via text, last Friday. "JB has also asked me questions and I have discussed items with him. At this point I can give a 'yes,' that there have been meetings for input from the committee to the GM and the board."

The budget and finance committee met last Wednesday, but its first look at the proposed 2019 fiscal year budget was postponed until Jan. 4 because Bailey asked for more time, Viola said.

Viola said committee members made specific suggestions to Bailey such as changing the budgeting approach for "revenue projections, utilization of ... historical data, payroll and overtime costs, telephone bill analysis (specifically yacht club) [and] more detail on information technology costs.'

He said consultants and personnel service contracts were discussed, with an emphasis on a human resources position.

Phone bills at the yacht club have been a particular curiosity, about \$15,000 in fiscal 2015, almost \$16,000 in fiscal 2016 and projected at \$16,260 in fiscal 2017 and 2018.

Viola said he asked, but did not yet receive specifics on, why the costs were so high.

"I did address with prior acting GM and now have updated JB on the situation," he said. "I have requested the detail and will ask for substantiation during the January review. I raised it again in this week's B&F Committee meeting.'

Viola scheduled an additional meeting on Jan. 8 "to review the budget with the B&F Committee to prepare for the three-day review with the GM."

According to a draft schedule of budget deliberations, Bailey is scheduled to submit a draft of the fiscal 2018 budget to the committee, Thursday. He will present the budget and review it with the committee next week, Jan. 10-12, during a series of meeting from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. each

The committee will meet with Bailey for a final review of the proposed budget and vote on any suggested changes on Jan. 16 at 10 a.m.

Viola and Bailey will hold a budget hearing for the membership on Jan. 20 at 10 a.m. and meet again on Jan. 22 at 10 a.m. to consider any changes, based on the hearing.

Bailey will present the proposed budget to the board of directors on Jan. 27 at 10 a.m. Board members may provide budget amendments from Jan. 27 to Feb. 23.

The board will hold a series of work sessions from Feb. 5-7, from 9 a.m. to

A budget hearing for members, presented by the board, is scheduled for Feb. 10 at 10 a.m.

All of the above meetings are scheduled to occur at the Tern Grille inside the country club on 100 Clubhouse Drive.

A board vote to adopt the budget is set for Feb. 24 at 10 a.m. at Assateague Room inside the community center on 235 Ocean Parkway.

Berlin Town Council to honor Pop Warner Nat'l Champions

(Jan. 4, 2018) The Town of Berlin will recognize the national champion junior varsity Berlin Seahawks Pop Warner football team and its coaches during the Mayor and Council meeting on Monday, Jan. 8.

The meeting starts at 7 p.m. in the Berlin Town Hall Council Chambers. The public is invited to attend.

The junior varsity Berlin Seahawks Pop Warner team won the Division 3 Pop Warner Football National Championship in Orlando, Florida in early December. The team is organized under the leadership of Head Coach Jul Airey. The players, ages 10 to 13, traveled to Florida for the national championship games with the support of their friends and families.

"We are extremely proud of the said Berlin Mayor Gee Williams. "They finished the season ranked number one nationally after winning a two-game championship series on Dec. 4 and Dec. 7, at ESPN Zone Stadium in Orlando.

The Mayor and Council wish to honor these young athletes who at an early age are already leading by example," he continued. "They show all of us that although we choose to live in a small town, that does not mean we should limit our dreams and aspirations today, or in the future."

WYFCS provides gifts to help more than 100 families

(Jan. 4, 2018) Worcester Youth and Family Counseling Services recently provided holiday gifts to more than 100 children and families in Worcester

Through a collaborative effort, the organization worked with Toys for Tots, Bless Our Children, Raven's Roost Ocean City, Worcester Gold, Stevenson United Methodist Church and anonymous family sponsors to ensure children and families in the community have a happy and joyful holiday.

Worcester Youth and Family Counseling Services thanks everyone involved in making the season bright and special for all, including John Lowery and his holiday helpers for coordinating and packaging the bulk of the toys. This undertaking would not have been possible without the support of the community and the strong partnerships among the various resource agencies and the faith-based community.

For over 40 years, Worcester Youth and Family Counseling Services has been at the heart of what is happening with families in the community. Its programs strive to maximize the potential of each person within the home and to increase awareness about mental health and social issues within the community. Because of its supporters, Worcester Youth is able to make a difference in the lives of the people it serves.

This year, the Berlin-based organization served more than 1,000 community members by: helping struggling families find needed financial support and resources to prevent homelessness; supporting at-risk adolescent girls and boys experiencing difficulty or conflict in their lives; offering cultural, educational and wellness experiences to children during out of school time; providing comprehensive counseling and therapy services to those coping with life's stressors; and advocating for neglected and abused children so they may have a brighter future.

For more information about Worcester Youth and Family's programs, call 410-641-4598 or visit www.gowoyo.org.



Hall faces meaty charges for theft

By Josh Davis and **Brian Gilliland**

Associate Editors

(Jan. 4, 2018) Former Berlin Councilwoman Lisa Hall, who is already scheduled to go to trial in Worcester County Circuit Court on February for writing bad checks, now faces a second set of charges related to her former business, the Berlin Butcher Shop.

The new charges, filed in Ocean City District Court on Dec. 20, accuse Hall of four counts of misdemeanor theft and one charge of felony theft scheme.

Court documents signed by Assistant State's Attorney Heather Clarke allege Hall stole \$700 worth of meat on Aug. 14, \$600 worth of meat on Aug. 15, \$600 worth of meat on Aug. 18, and \$500 worth of meat on Aug. 19, all from the Ocean City Acme.

Each count carries a penalty of \$500 or six months in jail.

The fifth count alleges Hall stole meat valued at \$2,400 between Aug. 14-19 last year. That charge carries a penalty of up to \$10,000 or five years

A preliminary hearing has been set for Jan. 19 in Worcester District Court in Ocean City.

Ocean City Police filed an incident report on the alleged theft in August. According to police department spokeswoman Lindsay Richard, police were sent to the 94th Street Acme in Ocean City on Aug. 19 after employees said a woman had ordered meat but had not paid for it.

Police said the same suspect placed a large order for meat the day before and didn't pay and that an order been placed a different store without pay-

Hall appeared in District Court in Snow Hill in November on two counts of theft and four counts of passing bad checks to an Upper Marlboro, Maryland meat supplier, ostensibly to stock the now defunct butcher shop.

During that hearing, Judge Melvin Jews granted a delay until a jury trial could be held, this month. That has since been postponed again, until Feb.

According to the complaint signed on Sept. 9, C & C Meat Sales Inc. made two deliveries on April 27 and May 27 last year valued at \$2,836.91 and \$2,415.46 and were both paid for with bad checks, apparently signed by Hall.

"She has not made either one of the checks good," Kimberly Duncan, of C & C Meat Sales, wrote in the com-

Hall opened the Berlin Butcher Shop in 2016.





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Pocomoke community has coalesced around Morrison

■ HARDWIRE continued

nearby when they come visit you from out of town [it's not ideal]," Tunis said. "For us, it's just been great to see Pocomoke prosper and slowly rebuild their waterfront.'

Tunis said the GoFundMe page was started shortly after he received news of the injury. The company donated the maximum it could under IRS regulations before paying gift-tax penalties, and he said Hardwire would make another donation in

"GoFundMe is a pretty good vehicle and we've seen it work for some folks before," he said. "The beauty is, it's not just how much they gave - it's that a lot of people are giving. It's helped even our company be more cohesive. I'm pretty sure every single person in the company gave and a lot of people around town have given."

Even his daughter and her classmates at Virginia Tech got into the act, Tunis said.

"They're working two jobs to get themselves through school and they gave \$5 - that's the beauty of Go-FundMe," he said. "I just think the more we get the word out, it's a show of support and it means the world to

Tunis said he last visited Morrison in the hospital on Christmas Eve.

"It was probably one of the most meaningful experiences of my life," he said. "To see him and to see him react - it was incredible. He's had a rough injury and it's like I could hear him - I did hear him ... He's been in there for 29 days and all of the sudden we were laughing and crying together."

Morrison, he said, is keenly aware of the public support he's received, including donations, mailed letters and cards, and hundreds of posts on social media sending thoughts and

"He knows what's going on and it's making a difference in his state," Tunis said.

donate, www.gofundme.com/healmayormor-

CAR contest commemorates **50** years of Fair Housing Act

(Jan. 4, 2018) The Coastal Association of Realtors is encouraging local teachers and students to participate in the annual Fair Housing Art Contest, which sends winning students to Annapolis for a meeting with the governor or other state official.

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

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

The format of the Fair Housing contest has changed, in that winning submissions will be displayed in an informational fair housing brochure that will be distributed statewide to public libraries, housing counseling agencies and local Realtor associa-

The winning submissions were traditionally displayed in a calendar. Also, the contest is now open to students in Kindergarten through 12th grade, and older students are permitted, and encouraged, to utilize computer graphic design programs such as Photoshop or Publisher.

Artwork submitted by students must illustrate this year's contest theme, "Celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the Fair Housing Act."

Coastal Association of Realtors will choose three local winners. These winners will receive Visa gift cards, courtesy of Coastal Association of Re-

Their entries will be forwarded to Maryland Realtors, who will choose nine submissions from across the state for inclusion in the Fair Housing brochure. The state winners will travel to Annapolis, where they will be honored.

Contest packets have been mailed to the principals and art departments of public and private schools in Somerset, Wicomico and Worcester counties. Home schools, programs, churches and other children's centers are encouraged to participate.

For a contest packet, contact Sarah Rayne, Government and Public Affairs director for CAR, at 410-641-4409 or sarah@coastalrealtors.org. Deadline for submissions is Friday, Feb. 16.

Last year's top local winner, whose entry is featured in the 2017 Fair Housing Calendar, was Lindsay Birkhead-Morton. She traveled to Annapolis in April for a recognition ceremony at the Maryland State House where she received a certificate and gift card from Lt. Gov. Boyd Rutherford.

www.baysideoc.com

City manager says efforts have helped reinvigorate public

■ REVITALIZATION continued

they're not going to spend that money on the building," he added. "I'm at the point where, if you're not going to spend money on your buildings then the city is not going to continue, as they have for the last 10 or 15 years, to just let these buildings be an eyesore and be vacant and dilapidated – we're not going to put up with that anymore.

"I'm not trying to run anybody out of business by any means, but we are taking a very hard stance and we're going to do everything within the law ... to get these buildings fixed up or torn down, one or the other," Cowger said.

The City Council agreed in September to slash tap fees in half for new water and sewer connections, from \$4,500 each to \$4,500 for both. Cowger said several developers and builders have already expressed interest.

"That's just unheard of in cities," he said. "We're probably one of the first cities that have done that, to show we're encouraging business and development and we're trying to partner with people ... that's been overwhelming."

As for the quality of town tap water, a decades-long issue in Pocomoke, Cowger said a \$290,000 project to rehabilitate the town well recently wrapped.

"We put in all new sand filters and valves and controls, to be able to run it 10 times more efficient than it was," he said. "We know good water is coming out of there and now we're addressing the pipes."

The next step, likely to last well over a year, is replacing water pipes throughout the town. Cowger said the first section, affecting 25 homes in Pocomoke Heights, is about halfway done.

"Within a couple more weeks, we should have that street pretty much done," he said. "That one street is going to help, but it's going to take getting a lot of those streets done before people are going to notice a big, big change in their water. But it's definitely coming.

"It may be a year or 18 months, but that and the revitalization are the two major commitments that when I took the job I said I was going to see through," Cowger added.

Cowger took over as city manager in April. He was born and raised up in Pocomoke and previously served two terms as a county commissioner.

"I know how Pocomoke was at one time and it makes me sick to see it go down as far as it has. Not that I can do it all, but I'm going to try and stir the pot a little bit," he said. "It's amazing that new committees and boards ... people that before had no interest in the city because of the way it was handled and ran, now they feel excited and want to get in there and help turn our town back around."



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Removal of old light poles in downtown Pocomoke, last week, is just part of town-wide revitalization efforts occurring there. Also underway are efforts to address dilapidated and delinquent properties, improve water quality and attract new construction.

8 Auctions by A&M Auctions

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Museum resurrects manuscript from 1932

book turned up in this building

and it turned out to be written

by one of our first volunteers.'

Dr. Cindy Byrd,

museum executive director

By Josh Davis

Associate Editor

(Jan. 4, 2018) What arrived at the Julia A. Purnell Museum in Snow Hill last year as a stapled stack of yellowed pages is now the published children's book, "In Make-Believe

Land."



Dr. Cindy Byrd

Julia Hartmann-Shockley wrote the text of the book, essentially a long poem, for her daughter, Rebecca Mae, in 1932. Also included in the pages, donated to the museum by

anonymous Snow Hill resident, were several colorful illustrations. HOME & GARDEN 302.732.6159 t's Pot Pie Weather! \$1 OFF (with this ad) Large Amish Pot Pies Jewelry • Teas **Handbags** IN STORE SPECIALS Fresh Amish **Baked Goods** from Lancaster, PA Only 8 miles west of Bethany Beach 31854 James Lowe Lane 3 Miles West of St. George's Church, off Omar Road, Frankford Thursday-Saturday 10-5 Sunday 11-4

little book. Only one copy of it was

every made and it was a mix of typed handwritten. and with all of these illustrabeautiful tions," museum executive director Dr. Cindy Byrd said. "I was just thrilled over

Byrd later discovered the author worked at the Purnell Museum as a volunteer registrar during the 1950s.

"She was one of our very first, founding volunteers," Byrd said. "It's such a coincidence that this book turned up in this building and it turned out to be written by one of our first volunteers."

Museum officials were unable to find any Hartmann-Shockley family members. The daughter, Byrd said, would have been "well into her 8os."

'As I looked at it, I thought the illustrations and the poem were just delightful," Byrd said. "I thought maybe we could print this and sales could benefit our children's programs and we could debut it at our holiday exhibit and reception that we have each year.

Assistant Museum Director Linda Duyer scanned each page to preserve the artwork and then retyped and reinserted the text "in an appropriate font," Byrd said.

The Berlin-Ocean City Optimist Club provided a grant to help pay for initial printing costs.

"We're really proud of how it turned out and it did make its debut at our holiday/Christmas open house on Dec. 3. We were really stressing about it arriving on time, but it did

"[The donor] found this original make it on time and it all worked out well," Byrd said. "The project is in its

infancy, but the response at the re-'It's such a coincidence that this ception was good ... I'm pleased at how well it's begun to sell."

The 32-page soft-cover book is available at the museum for \$15, which includes a

complimentary museum membership, or online for \$17.95. All of the proceeds benefit children's education programs at the nonprofit museum.

Regular hours at the museum, on 208 West Market Street, are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday and Sunday from 1-4 p.m.

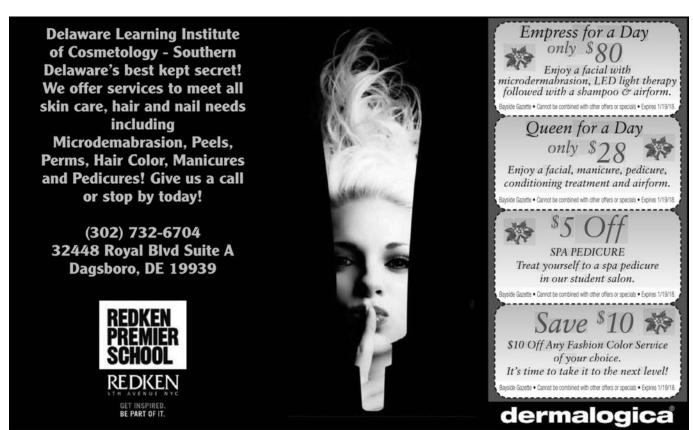
To purchase the In Make-Believe online, www.lulu.com/shop/purnell-museum/in-make-believe-land/paperback/product-23416693.html.

For more information on the Julia A Purnell Museum, call 410-632or www.purnellmuseum.org.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Staff at the Julia A Purnell Museum in Snow Hill recently helped resurrect a children's book manuscript from 1932, "In Make-Believe Land," originally written by Julia Hartman-Shockley. The book is available for sale at the museum and online.



Annual Beef and Beer event to raise money for soldiers

Tickets \$30, still available for Jan. 12 fundraiser held at Pines community center

By Josh Davis

Associate Editor

(Jan. 4, 2018) For two decades, Ocean Pines resident Anna Foultz and nonprofit group Star Charities have held an annual Beef and Beer fundraiser, raising on average several thousand dollars each year for wounded soldiers.

She said the 20th annual fundraiser, slated for Friday, Jan. 12, has by far been the most difficult to pull off.

Last-minute illnesses and cancelations have plagued the event, but Foultz said she would persevere.

"I had a lot of problems this week with our event," she said on Tuesday. "Our emcee, who was our entertainment too, had two bypasses today. So I had to rush around and get more people.

"It's our anniversary and I've been doing it for 20 [years], and this has been the hardest of all because everybody is getting sick on me," Foultz added.

Susan Walters will now emcee the event, according to Foultz. Musicians Bob and Ruth Jones will headline the entertainment lineup and comedian

Paul Mazzei will also perform.

Additionally, DJ Rupe will play music and preside over a live auction. A 50/50 raffle is also planned.

"I want to sincerely thank Beverly and Marvin Steen for donating our flyers, tickets and the programs," Foultz said.

Tickets cost \$30 and must be purchased in advance. Proceeds will benefit Operation We Care, a Salisbury-based volunteer nonprofit collecting funds to create care packages for military personnel deployed overseas. For more information, visit www.operationwecare.com.

"And then any other soldier that needs help that we know of, we're going to give some to that," Foultz said. "It's all going to go for our soldiers, every penny that we raise."

To purchase tickets, call Foultz at 410-641-7667, Mary Evans at 410-596-5498 or Barbara Peletier at 443-896-4914.

"I trust the Lord – he comes through for me, even if I don't know it until the last minute," Foultz said. "We will probably sell out, like we always do, but you never know!"

The annual Beef and Beer dinner to benefit wounded soldiers will be held on Friday, Jan. 12 at 5 p.m. at the community center on 235 Ocean Parkway, in Ocean Pines.



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Cement no match for freezing temperatures

Several Berlin construction projects on pause as cold weather trend continues

By Josh Davis

Associate Editor

(Jan. 4, 2018) Several construction projects in Berlin suffered from weather-related snags last month and should resume shortly, if Mother Nature cooperates.

Town Administrator Laura Allen said last Thursday the Baker Street repaving, the culvert installation on William Street and the installation of prefabricated bathrooms at Dr. William Henry Park were on hold.

'The weather is causing pauses," she said. "With the sub-freezing temperatures, it makes it challenging."

Allen does not believe the delays will drive up costs for the town.

The effort to put bathrooms in Henry Park has met with multiple delays over the course of several months, and Town Attorney David Gaskill in December said arbitration with the vendor, Green Flush Technologies, is likely.

"We're in regular contact with the vendor. It was our hope to get the restrooms in by Jan. 3, but I think with [freezing] temperatures that's unlikely at this point," Allen said. "Mediation would be an option. It really depends on to what extent the contractor is unable to deliver the restrooms. Are we talking about a couple of days past the deadline, or are we talking about a couple of weeks?

Right now, cement is not going to form and there's nothing we can do about the weather," she added. "We are sort of limited and so is he, in terms of being able to get the restrooms installed until the weather adjusts itself."

Barring "an incredible cold snap," Allen anticipates all three projects will wrap soon. Delays until spring are unlikely, she said.

Allen said some details need to be settled before police personnel can move into the new Berlin Police station near Flower Street and Route 376, but she expects that to occur during the first quarter of 2018.

She said small contract and scheduling issues remain with stormwater improvements on Cedar Avenue, Maple Avenue and Pine Streets, but work should begin during the early part of the year.

The improvements will finish the nearly \$2 million in stormwater grants the town received two years ago. Allen said the town would pursue additional grants to make further enhancements.



Several Town of Berlin construction projects were put on hold because of sub-freezing temperatures, including repaying of Baker Street.

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Berlin Restaurant Week starts this Sunday

By Kara Hallissey

Staff Writer

(Jan. 4, 2018) The third annual Berlin Restaurant week kicks off Monday and runs until Sunday, Jan. 14, with more than a dozen restaurants offering discounted prices on select menu items.

"It is a great opportunity to sample the offerings of the different restaurants," said local realtor Cam Bunting, creator and promoter of the event. "It will be less crowded then usual and since it is after the holidays and pockets are stretched, the lower prices make it more affordable."

Diners can take advantage of a number of Berlin favorites who will be serving breakfast, lunch and dinner options at a reduced price.

Participating restaurants include: Baked Dessert Café, Main Street Deli, Rayne's Reef, On What Grounds, Drummer's Café inside the Atlantic Hotel, Blacksmith, Crush N Crab, Fins Ale House and Raw Bar, the Globe, Burley Inn Tavern and Gilbert Provisions.

DiFebo's, Island Creamery, Burn Wood Fired Pizza, and J & M Meat Market will be participating in the event for the first time.

During dinnertime, DiFebo's on Main Street will have four options to choose, which all include a glass of house wine, a small garden salad and a cannoli for dessert. For \$17, participants have the choice of pasta, red sauce and a meatball, or they can try out the risotto of the day for \$21. In addition, veal parmesan is available for \$25 and osso bucco for \$32.

"It is fun to go out and get out of the house to be with friends or family members when there is nothing to do because its freezing in Berlin," DiFebo's manager Cassie Stuart said. "We are so excited and grateful to be involved in Berlin's Restaurant week for the first time."

Baked Dessert Café on Bay Street has four \$6.99 lunch specials during Restaurant Week, including vegan grilled zucchini and hummus wraps, vegetarian smashed Brussel sprouts roasted with Italian cheese, a gluten-free crab macaroni and cheese served with a small side salad, and ham, and potato corn

chowder served with a homemade sweet potato biscuit.

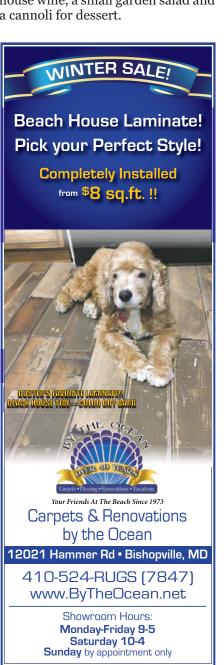
"There are four different selections and we are covering people with dietary concerns," owner Robin Tomaselli said. "From a business perspective, you have to give it up to Cam Bunting for thinking and organizing it during a generally slow time

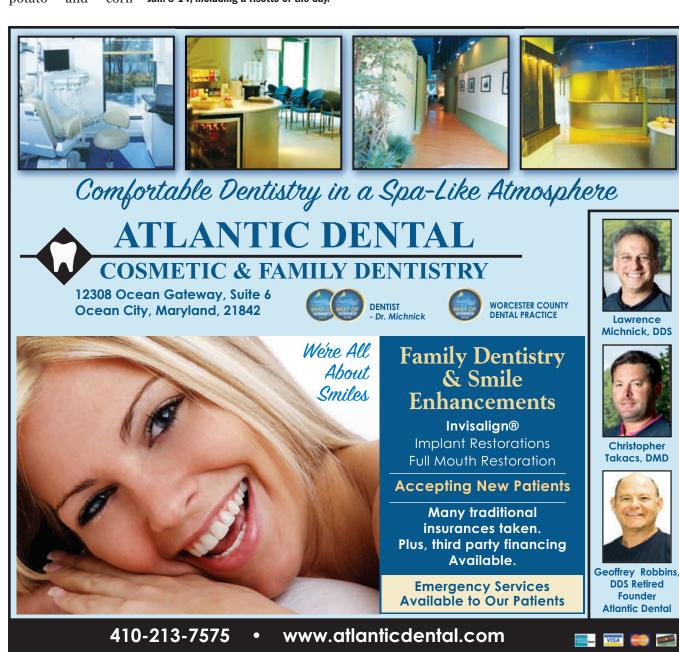
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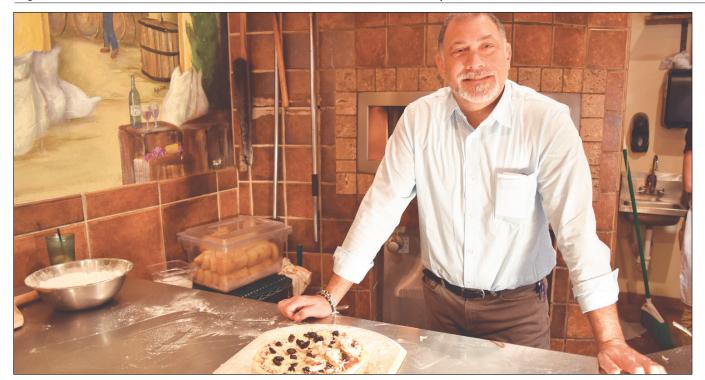


INSH DAVIS/RAYSIDE GAZETTE

Lobster and shrimp risotto with fresh garden peas, finished with a white-truffle essence, is frequently featured as a special at DiFebo's in downtown Berlin. The restaurant will offer additional specials during Berlin Restaurant Week, Jan. 8-14, including a risotto of the day.







JOSH DAVIS/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

DiFebo's chef/co-owner Jeff Osias cooks up a wood-fired pizza in Berlin. The restaurant is one of 15 taking part in Berlin Restaurant Week, Jan. 8-

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Fifteen eateries to participate in **Restaurant Week**

Continued from Page 13

of year. It really does bring people through the door, which is helpful to us and exposes people to the quality of food and encourages them to come back.

In addition, Baked Dessert Café has a \$4.99 dessert sampler-platter, including their signature and most popular desserts such as a peach dumpling, cupcake bread pudding, croclairs and a cake bomb.

"It is special because there are great bargains for great food," Bunting said. "These prices are only for Restaurant Week. It is nice to see

'It's nice to see everyone out and about during what is normally a slow dining week.'

Ivy Wells,

Economic and community development director for Town of Berlin

new faces trying out our restaurants."

Bunting came up with the idea in 2016 to show the variety of restaurants in Berlin and the last two years have been a huge success, she said.

Organizers are also having a contest where the winner will receive a \$20 gift card from all participating restaurants, in addition to \$100 in cash - a \$400 value.

To enter the contest, diners must first pick up a Berlin Restaurant Week card at a participating restaurant or the Berlin Welcome Center. Then, patrons should make sure to get a stamp at each restaurant visited. After three stamps, drop the card into the ballot box located at the welcome center for a chance to win. The winner will be announced on the Town of Berlin Facebook page and notified by phone on Tuesday, Jan. 16.

"It's nice to see everyone out and about during what is normally a slow dining week," said Ivy Wells, economic and community development director for the Town of Berlin. "It gives us a chance to showcase Berlin as a culinary destination and gives locals the opportunity to try new menu items.'

For more information and a list of all menus, visit the Berlin Restaurant Facebook www.facebook.com/events/3850497 35253355, or visit www.BerlinMain-Street.com.



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On his fourth try, sharks damaged his boat, he lost 8olbs., and had no food for nearly sixty days, but he persevered against all odds. Mr. Mooney departed from Maspalomas,

Gran Canaria on February 19, 2014 and landed at New York's Brooklyn Bridge on November 28, 2015. He became the first African-American to row across any ocean.

Join us as he takes you along on his magnificent journey and how his faith, strength & determination brought him to complete this unbelievable feat this is something you won't want to miss!





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Opinion

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

Pocomoke's progress

Pocomoke City Manager Bobby Cowger isn't just managing the community's government affairs, he's doing things, things that could have been done long before this hometown boy got his hand on the tiller.

Going back to his days in business, as a Worcester County Commissioner, and later as the head of the county's Department of Liquor Control, no one ever even suggested that Cowger was a go along to get along kind of person.

Quite the contrary, as he was and is one of those people who will tell you what he thinks, whether you like it or not.

Fortunately for Pocomoke, Cowger has an appreciative audience in the City Council, as he aggressively addresses some of the lingering issues that have sapped the town of much of the vigor over the past couple of decades: a decline in commercial activity, frustrating water woes, and a rise in unsightly properties brought on owners' lack of money or lack of interest.

To be fair, Cowger has one distinct advantage over some of his predecessors: he is not from somewhere else. Because he requires no tutoring or handholding while he acclimates to the local circumstance, he is more of a partner in government than he is an employee. The council, obviously, is listening to him and vice-versa.

It's exciting to watch — the sharply reduced water and sewer tap fees for new businesses, the property cleanups, the water system revamping, and the little things such as getting Delmarva Power to yank out the old utility poles that should have been removed the minute the new ones were erected.

Right now, Pocomoke residents have a good council/manager combination working for them. We can't wait to see what they do next.

BAYSIDE W GAZETTE

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AGH receives 'Best in Benefits' award

(Jan. 4, 2018) This year, Atlantic General Hospital has been recognized with a Best in Benefits Award for providing its associates with superior benefits packages among employers in the mid-Atlantic region.

Milliman, one of the world's largest providers of actuarial products and services and the company that bestows the award, calculates the benefit value and cost to the employee of each company plan, and then ranks the companies by lowest cost-highest benefit.

Only 10 employers in the mid-Atlantic region received the award for 2017.

This isn't the first time Atlantic General Hospital has been recognized for the benefits it provides to its associates. The hospital received the 2016 and 2017 Wellness at Work gold tier award from Maryland's Healthiest Businesses for the quality of its employee wellness program and the employee assistance benefits offered to associates.

"Because we're a hospital, we care deeply about wellness and the health of our associates," AGH employee health and wellness nurse, Tracey Mullineaux, said. "We recognized that if we had a healthy, productive workforce, we could give the care and support that our patients need. The healthier we are, the more pro-

ductive we are, and the less absenteeism there is."

With this in mind, Atlantic General Hospital created the Associates Getting Healthy wellness program in 2013. This program was implemented with the goals of providing opportunities for the associates to improve their health and wellbeing and control the high cost of providing health benefits.

Those goals were achieved and results in creating a culture at Atlantic General Hospital that helped associates begin or enhance a healthier lifestyle.

A case study was performed by Business Health Services, Atlantic General's wellness program partner that delved into how the hospital prioritizes wellness for its employees.

Since beginning the wellness program, there has been a marked improvement in employee health at the Berlin hospital.

Overall, 82 percent of associates participating in the wellness program are in a low to moderate blood pressure risk. For body mass index (BMI), a standard measurement used to determine overweight and obesity, 52 percent of participants are in a low to moderate risk category, with 16 having moved out of the high risk category.

Additionally, medical claims were 20 percent lower

than expected in 2016 and thus far in 2017.

"We're not only providing competitive benefits to our employees, we're promoting a healthier lifestyle," said Jim Brannon, director of human resources at Atlantic General Hospital. "Our associates' wellness successes are testament to that."

Atlantic General Hospital has been providing quality health care to the residents of Worcester, Wicomico and Somerset counties in Maryland and Sussex County, Delaware, since May 1993.

Built by the commitment and generosity of a dedicated community, the hospital's state-of-the-art facility in Berlin combines old-fashioned personal attention with the latest in technology and services.

It provides quality specialty care such as general ophthalmic and retina surgery, weight loss surgery, orthopedics, outpatient infusion for individuals with cancer or blood/autoimmune disorders, and a comprehensive women's diagnostic center.

Atlantic General Health System, its network of more than 40 primary care providers and specialists, care for residents and visitors throughout the region. For more information about Atlantic General Hospital, visit www.atlanticgeneral.org.

Dodgeball this winter in Pines

(Jan. 4, 2018) A Coed Adult Dodgeball League will be offered in Ocean Pines this winter.

The league, for women and men ages 18 and older, is now accepting groups of at least six people for its foam-ball throw-downs that will happen every Wednesday night at the Ocean Pines Community Center starting Wednesday, Jan. 17 at 6:30 p.m.

"The best part about it is we don't use the big red ball anymore. Come check us out; it's a blast," said Ocean Pines Recreation and Parks Manager Debbie Donahue.

Sign up as an individual or 'free agent' for teams in need of additional players or assemble a team. League rules require teams to have a minimum of six players, including two females, on the court at all times and up to 15 players on the team's roster.

Donahue said those who do not have a team but wish to play should attend the Wednesday, Jan. 10 pre-season meeting at 7 p.m. the Community Center, where they will be partnered with a team or other individuals who are looking to compete.

The season consists of eight weeks of play at the Community Center, located at 235 Ocean Parkway in Ocean Pines. Championship games will be played on the eighth week.

Registration, which is open now through Jan. 10, costs \$300 per team. To register, contact the OPA Recreation and Parks Department at 410-641-7052.



SUBMITTED PHOTO D.J. LANDIS, SR.

NEW INDUCTEE

Kiwanis Club of Greater Ocean Pines – Ocean City inducted Diane Sparzak on Nov. 15. She is a retired teacher who moved to the area four years ago and has loved volunteering ever since she first was a hospital candy-striper as a teenager in Virginia. Pictured, from left, are Membership Chair Pat Winkelmayer, Sparzak, her sponsor, Stella Hartington, and President Ralph Chinn.



DECATUR VIP

Stephen Decatur High School senior Laila Mirza was named the VIP of the Game during the Dec. 7 girls' basketball match. In its ongoing efforts to recognize outstanding students who demonstrate pride, achievement, respect and responsibility, also known as the principles of the Decatur Way, the SDHS PBIS program (Positive Behavior Interventions & Supports) honors VIPs of the Game. Mirza, who is a member of the National Honor Society, the Math Honor Society, and a national officer for Skills USA, is pictured with Principal Tom Zimmer.

SUBMITTED PHOTO/ BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Series of diabetes self-management classes in Berlin

(Jan. 4, 2018) The Atlantic General Diabetes Center at Atlantic General Hospital will be offering diabetes selfmanagement education classes in January.

The series of four, two-hour sessions will address blood glucose monitoring, foot care, nutrition, exercise and other self-management skills to help individuals better manage their diabetes. A family member is invited to attend.

The program is recognized by the American Diabetes Association for quality education, and program staff includes a registered nurse who has diabetes and a registered dietitian, both of whom are Certified Diabetes Educators

Advance registration and a referral from primary care provider (which the program can obtain) are required.

Diabetes Self-Management is a Medicare benefit and the cost of the classes is covered by most insurances. Classes will be held on Tuesday, Jan. 9, 16, 23 and 30 from 12:30-2:30 p.m. at Atlantic Health Center, 9714 Healthway Drive in Berlin. Call 410-208-9761 for more information and to register.

Local News • Cuisine • Entertainment Classifieds • Business • Opinion Calendar

BAYSIDE W GAZETTE www



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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
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NOW PLAYING

BJ'S ON THE WATER

75th Street and the bay Ocean City 410-524-7575 www.bjsonthewater.com Jan. 5: Thin Ice, 9 p.m. Jan. 6: Dust N Bones, 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.

THE COVE AT MUMFORD'S LANDING OCEAN PINES

1 Mumford's Landing Road Ocean Pines 410-641-7501 www.oceanpines.org Jan. 6: Trivia Night, 4 p.m.

DUFFY'S TAVERN

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



DUST N BONES

BJ'S ON THE WATER Saturday, January 6, 9 p.m.

Every Friday and Saturday: DJ Dusty, 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Jan. 5-6: New Censation

SEACRETS

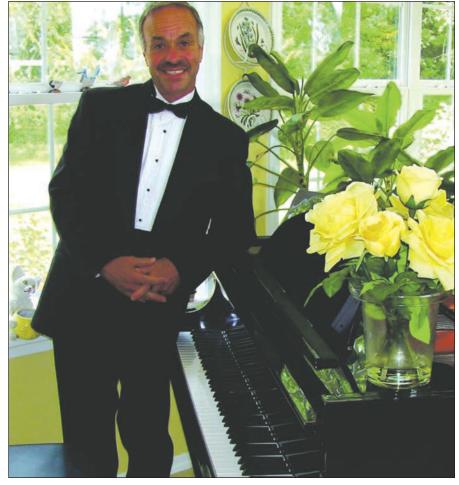
49th Street and the bay

Ocean City 410-524-4900 www.seacrets.com Jan. 5-6: DJ Cruz, 10 p.m. to 2 a.m.

WHISKER'S BAR & GRILL

11070 Cathell Road, Suite 17 Pines Plaza, Ocean Pines 410-208-3922 www.whiskersbar.com Jan. 5: Karaoke w/Donnie Berkey





NEW CENSATION OCEAN CLUB NIGHTCLUB Friday & Saturday, January 5 & 6

PHIL PERDUE
CAPTAIN'S TABLE
Every Friday & Saturday, 5:30 p.m.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

BELIEVE IN TOMORROW DONATION

ASC&D Gives, a committee within ASC&D Serves, donates to employee-nominated charities or causes throughout the year. ASC&D donated \$1,000 to the Believe in Tomorrow organization to sponsor its upcoming fundraiser. Believe in Tomorrow provides respite housing for families with children who are fighting life-threatening illnesses. Wayne Littleton from Believe in Tomorrow is pictured with Kasi Queen, Laura Bren and Rachel Thompson.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

CONGRESSIONAL VISIT

Congressman Andy Harris installed the 2018 officers for the Republican Women of Worcester County on Nov. 15 at the Dunes Manor in Ocean City. Pictured, from left, are Jean Delcher, Mary Adair, Loretta Spinuzza, Sandy Zitzer, Congressman Harris, President-elect Beth Rodier, Vanessa Alban and Kaby Vornlocker.



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Cuisine

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Another year is officially in the books, and the memories will be long for this world as we rekindle lost friendships and nurture new ones. The lasting



By Paul Suplee, MBA, CEC, PC-3

impression that the year will have on our lives is just another piece that forms us as humans and allows us to be a part of the bigger experience. As we sit around the New Year's table eating a simple, but time-intensive, homemade smoked fish dip, we talk about the good, the bad and the ugly, laughing and sometimes getting a touch sentimental. As I welcome the new year,

I realize that there are so many things that I want to do for and with my friends and family. Finally getting our passports shored up, I now need to find someone who is good at cheap fare alerts through the various sites, so that we can set up my phone and just up-and-run at a moment's notice. I'm learning that a flight to the UK or other lovely places on our planet can cost as little as a trip to Des Moines, if you are willing to pack your bags in

The last time that I was in California may have been the last time that I wrote about wanderlust. I'm not sure. Either way, the new year always rekindles my love for travel, and luckily my kids take after me and their mother, and often my "itch" starts with the west coast.

Having lived in Southern California for 3 1/2 years, I learned that the seasons don't exist. There are no snowy months in San Diego, or the deep auburn autumn leaves of the Northeast. No, the seasons were pretty much hot, chilly and warm.

I came back to the east coast to seasons and I love them. And I notice as I write that this time of year spawns a gut-wrenching wanderlust in me; a deep desire to just get out of here and go on to other locales. The cold isn't the issue, as I would love nothing more than to be in the Swiss Alps. Skiing down the slopes (I don't know how to ski, so I'm hoping that there are bunny slopes in Switzerland) right into the lodge with burning legs and a stiff back, I would be greeted by a Wassel or other local hot beverage to reinvigorate my aching, aging

No, I just want to travel and give that experience to my children. And as we go from continent to continent, I will compare my food to that of chefs around the globe. And my fish dip will always come out on top; of that I have no doubt.

Smoked Bluefish Crustini

Makes about 2 pounds

- 1 Smoked bluefish filet (recipe follows)
- 1 cup (or as needed), mayonnaise
- 2 Tbsp. Gherkins, minced
- 1 Shallot, finely minced

Kosher salt, as needed

Ground black pepper, as needed

Crustini or crackers, as needed

Herb oil or herbs for garnish

- 1. Remove skin and blood line. If it's not white flesh, remove it. This will greatly reduce any lingering fishy taste
 - 2. Remove pin bones and mash the fish with



your hands, and make it as you would a simple tuna salad

3. When the salad is at a consistency that you like, season and keep chilled until ready to use

4. You can serve the dip/salad in a bowl with bread, crustini and crackers on the side, or you can plate them up like I have in the picture above. Either way is a win-win

Smoked Bluefish Filet

per gallon of brine

1 gallon cold water

1/2 cup Kosher salt

1/2 cup Brown sugar

3 Lemons, halved 4 sprigs fresh thyme

4 2-inch pieces rosemary

stems from 1 bunch of parsley

12 cloves garlic, smashed

3 Tbsp. Black peppercorns

3 Tbsp. Paprika

3 Tbsp. Dried oregano

2 Tbsp. Fennel seed

3 Bay leaves, fresh if possible

- 1. Combine all ingredients, making enough to
- 2. Allow to sit under refrigeration for at least four hours. This will pull blood out of the filets, as

well as tame down the fishy taste of this typically shunned fish

- 3. Remove from the brine, discarding the latter
- 4. Lay the filets flat on drain racks if you have them and pat dry
- 5. Allow to sit uncovered in the icebox for as long as 48 hours. This drying process will create the pellicle, a tacky surface which will allow the chemicals in the smoke to adhere to the product
- 6. This fish does best with a hot smoke, so set up your smoker with the blend of your choosing. Personally, since bluefish has such a bold taste, it will stand up to my standard blend, which is cherry, hickory, apple and alder.
- 7. Smoke the fish per your smoker's manufacturer's instructions until the fish is cooked through. Typically, I'll turn the smoker off and allow the fish to rest in there for about 30 minutes
- 8. Remove from the smoker and once again allow it to air out in the refrigerator. This will get rid of any acrid nuances that build up in the fish
- 9. Keep the fish chilled, and if you have a food saver or vacuum, bag the fish and freeze. This will last for a very long time if vacuum packed and frozen.
- Paul G. Suplee is an Associate Professor of Culinary Arts at Wor-Wic Community College. Find his ePortfolio at www.heartofakitchen.com.

Puzzles

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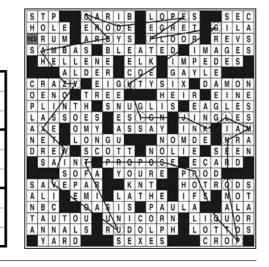
HARD - 70

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

	8				2			5
4						1		
	5		8	9				6
8			7		5	2		12
		3	1		8			4
2				8	7		4	
		1						3
9			4				5	

Answers to last week's puzzles

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



RING OUT THE OLD, RING IN THE NEW BY JOHN LAMPKIN / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

ACROSS

- 1 Have
- 4 New Deal org.
- 7 Motley
- 13 "Dukes"
- 18 V.I.P. list
- 20 Lamborghini rival 21 Arctic people
- 22 Result of a
- French powdered drink shortage?
- 24 1959 Ritchie Valens hit, with "La"
- 25 Hook's right hand
- 26 Hägar the Horrible's hound
- 27 Short rows
- 29 Nincompoop
- 30 Secures at sea
- 32 Fig. checked during re-tire-ment?
- 33 Legends in the automotive world
- 35 List of things said by Siri?
- 38 1920s-'30s Yankees nickname
- 41 Deceive
- 42 Sights at charging stations
- 44 Thingamaiig
- 45 Softhead
- 48 What an infielder might field a ball on
- 50 "Reckon so"
- 52 "Savvy?"
- Conference
- Online subscriptions: Today's online subsection puzzle and more than 4,000 past puzzles, nytimes.com/crossv (\$39.95 a year).

- 55 Washington, D.C.?
- 59 Was beaten by
- 60 Neighbors of Egyptians
- 61 Attribute to, in a way
- 62 Three-foot 1980s sitcom character
- 65 Grammy winner Elliott
- 66 Cobbler, at times
- 68 Cowboy Rogers
- 69 Giant
- 71 Not just focused
- 75 Butting heads 76 Struggling sci-fi writer's plea for
- recognition? 78 Blade runner?
- 81 Hip-hop's Shakur
- 82 Attend without a date
- 83 Country that Menorca 5 Pure is part of
- 85 If you have it, you might know what this answer is without
- reading the clue 86 Middle of a simile
- 88 Quenched
- 92 "Give me
- 93 Some 1960s radicals
- 96 Treat that gives a glowing complexion?
- 98 Chap
- 100 Work as a branch manager? 102 Flag
- 103 Scott of
 - "Happy Days"
- 104 Nasser's successor as Egypt's leader

107 "What's Opera,

Doc?" antagonist

- 108 Film director _ Kenton
- 111 Canon competitor
- 113 Weeklong Irish vacation?
- 116 Gross
- 117 Like some turns
- 118 Chose to take part
- 119 What if, informally
- ___ performance
- 121 Book before Esther: Abbr.
- 122 Neuron's ends?

DOWN

- 1 "Wise" sorts
- 2 "Pow!"
- 3 Result of a haymaker, maybe
- 4 1/20 of a ton: Abbr.
- 6 Couple
- 7 Torn
- 8 Dadaist Jean 9 Wimbledon surface
- 10 Archaeological treasure trove
- 11 "Nessun dorma," for one
- 12 Drift
- 13 Statement made while crossing the fingers, maybe
- 14 Like the three men of the "Rub-a-dub-dub" nursery rhyme
- 15 One having trouble with basic arithmetic?
- 16 Neighbor of the talus

- 17 Much of a sports recap
- C.
 - 20 Some Guinness Book
 - surprise?

 - 31 Batch of Brownies?
- - cream
 - Der Spiegel

 - in like
 - warning
 - 40 Targets in "Men in Black," informally
 - 43 Stars

 - 47 Indiana's state flower

 - 51 Historic
 - 53 Wand material in the Harry Potter books
 - 56 Thick and green
 - 70 Panhandle
 - 59 Grow feathers
 - 61 Like the French sky
 - 63 ____ position
 - after being double-crossed?

- 19 Good hunting skill

22

25

- records

- 34 Photog's bagful?

- 39 Cottonmouth's

- Mesopotamian city
- 57 Merchandise: Abbr.
- 58 Artificial silks
- 62 Colorful quartz
- 64 Some loose dancing? 65 Godfather

- 23 Lamp polisher's
- 28 "Quién ____?"
- 32 Harass incessantly
- 35 Feature of Devonshire
- 36 Article in
- 37 "March comes

- 46 Childish retort
- 49 Puts forth
- 67 Kyrgyz city

103

111

116

119

state: Abbr. 72 Action in FanDuel and DraftKings

73 Close tightly

74 "King Lear" role "The Last Days of

Pompeii" heroine

- bin Laden
- 78 Legitimate business practices

104

113

117

120

- 79 Last Stuart queen
- 80 Kind of alphabet 82 Moo goo ____ pan 84 "Sh," "th" or "ou"
- 87 1974 C.I.A. spoof 89 Big name in
- test prep 90 Opposite side 91 Makes a meal of
- 94 Apple app for viewing reading material

118

121

- 95 Polish, e.g.
- 97 Green 98 Heeds
- 99 Eagerly accept 101 County in
- New Mexico or Colorado
- 106 Eldest member of an organization 107 Falco of
- "The Sopranos" 109 The Eagles'
- Eyes' 110 Forever and ever
- 112 December 31: Abbr.

- 114 D.C.-based media giant
- 105 Court legend Arthur 115 1st, 2nd, 3rd ...

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, JAN. 4

PLAY TIME

Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, Ocean Pines, MD, 10:30 a.m. Learn new skills while playing with educational toys. For infant to 5 year old children. 410-208-4014

STORY TIME 'WINTER'

Snow Hill library, 307 N. Washington St., Snow Hill, MD, 10:30 a.m. For 2 to 5 year old children. 410-632-3495

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

POCOMOKE BOOK OF THE MONTH

Pocomoke library, 301 Market St., Pocomoke City, MD, 2 p.m. Selection is "Me Before You" by Jojo Moyes. 410-957-0878

WE LOVE A MYSTERY BOOK CLUB

Berlin library, 220 N. Main St., Berlin, MD, 2 p.m. Share your favorite mystery genres and compare plots, protagonists and settings. 410-641-0650

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

FRI, JAN. 5

FIBER FRIENDS

Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, Ocean Pines, MD, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Knitters, crocheters, embroiderers, etc. are welcomed. Victoria Christie-Healy, moonlightknitting@gmail.com, 703-507-0708

STAR CHARITIES MONTHLY MEETING

Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, Ocean Pines, MD 21811, 10 a.m. Info: Anna Foultz, 410-641-7667.

FEEL GOOD FRIDAY 'WRITING FOR WELLNESS'

Ocean City library, 10003 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, MD, 4 p.m. Learn the importance of writing for your health. Journals will be provided. 410-524-1818

THE ETIOLOGY AND IMPACT OF FAKE NEWS

Berlin library, 220 N. Main St., Berlin, MD, 1 p.m. Two-part program presented by Dr. Samuel B. Hoff, George Washington Distinguished Professor and Law Studies Director, DSU. The Jan. 5 session will trace the history of mass media in the United States and the idea of news as deception is explored. The Jan. 12



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETI

DONATION

Don Robertson, owner of Sea Floor, right, presents a check to support the Wounded Warrior Project. Pictured with Robertson, from left, are Tabby Berkeridge, Steve Olney and John Rego of Wounded Warrior Project.

session will introduce the term "fake news" and the impact of criticism against journalists, newspapers and TV stations is evaluated. 410-641-0650

FIRST FRIDAY OPENING RECEPTION

OC Center for the Arts, 502 94th St., Ocean City, MD, 5 to 7 p.m. In all, 23 visual artists working in painting, photography, wood, mixed media and fiber art drew inspiration from the poetry and prose of 15 writers for the "Shared Visions" show. Meet the artists, enjoy hors d'oeuvres and see the new exhibits. Admission is free and open to the public. 410-524-9433, http://artleagueofoceancity.org

ANNUAL CASH BINGO

Bishopville Volunteer Fire Department, 10709 Bishopville Road, Bishopville, MD, 6 p.m. Cost is \$25 in advance or \$30 at the door. Twenty regular games with payout of \$125 for single winner and jackpot included. Four early birds that begin at 6 p.m. Two specials and a 50/50 raffle available. Home cooked food and beverages available for purchase. Tickets: 443-880-6966.

SAT, JAN. 6

FARMERS MARKET

White Horse Park, 239 Ocean Parkway, Ocean Pines, MD, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Held every Saturday. Locally grown vegetables and fruits, eggs, honey, kettle korn, flowers, artisan breads, seafood, meats

and more. New vendors welcome. 410-641-7717, Ext. 3006

FAMILY LIBRARY DAY

Pocomoke library, 301 Market St., Pocomoke City, MD, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Decorate your own library bag, play some games and participate in other various activities. Fun for the whole family. 410-957-0878

FIRST SATURDAY WRITERS

Berlin library, 220 N. Main St., Berlin, MD, 10 a.m. Novice and established writers gather to share there works. Structure includes critiques and appreciation, market leads and writing exercises. Drop-ins welcome. Jean Marx, 443-880-0045

MON, JAN. 8

CPAP MASK FITTING

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

HYPERTENSION CLINIC

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

IPAD CHICKS - BEGINNERS

Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, Ocean Pines, MD, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Explore the world of iPads while learning from each other. Register: Norma Kessler, 410-641-7017. Men welcome.

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

WRITING FOR WELLNESS

Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, Ocean Pines, MD, 1:30 to 3 p.m. Research has shown that writing about stressful experiences, like illness, may boost health & psychological well-being. No prior writing experience needed. 410-208-4014

THE DIGITAL LIBRARY AND YOU

Berlin library, 220 N. Main St., Berlin, MD, 2 p.m. Free downloads including books, magazines, audiobooks, music, movies, TV from the comfort of your own home. Bring your library card and device to get started. 410-641-0650

STEAM PM 'AUTHOR/ILLUSTRATOR TIMOTHY YOUNG'

Snow Hill library, 307 N. Washington St., Snow Hill, MD, 3:45 p.m. An interactive drawing lesson and illustrating experience for children 6 years old and

January 4, 2018 Bayside Gazette Page 23

Calendar

older. 410-632-3495

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

MEDICAL MONDAY

Worcester Youth and Family Ray Room, 124 N. Main St., Berlin, MD, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Free educational session that occurs the second Monday of each month. Rachel Pomycala, Doctor of Audiology with Chesapeake Hearing Centers, will be discussing the causes of hearing loss, how hearing affects the brain and memory related symptoms and the technology of hearing loss. Registration is encouraged but not required: www.atlanticgeneral.org/MedicalMonday or Michelle, 410-641-9268.

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, JAN. 9

PLAY TIME

Berlin library, 220 N. Main St., Berlin, MD, 10:30 a.m. Learn new skills while playing with educational toys. For infant to 5 year old c children. 410-641-0650

STORY TIME 'ALL THINGS WINTER'

Pocomoke library, 301 Market St., Pocomoke City, MD, 10:30 a.m. For 2-5 year old children. 410-957-0878

COFFEE HOUR

Snow Hill library, 307 N. Washington St., Snow Hill, MD, 2 p.m. The group meets the second Tuesday of each month for coffee, refreshments and casual conversation on favorite books and authors. 410-632-3495

IRELAND: UP CLOSE AND PERSONAL

Ocean City library, 10003 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, MD, 2 p.m. Learn about the history, culture and traditions of Ireland. Featuring photography and videos. 410-524-1818

PARKINSON'S SUPPORT GROUP

Gull Creek Senior Living, 1 Meadow St., Berlin, MD, 3:15 to 4:30 p.m. For individuals suffering from Parkinson's. Group provides education on exercise, nutrition, coping techniques, medications and developments in treatment. Kay Rentschler, 410-641-4765, http://www.delmarvaparkinsonsalliance.org

STEM FAMILY NIGHT 'WINTER IS HERE!'

Ocean City library, 10003 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, MD, 4:30 p.m. Enjoy books, crafts and games for the whole family. 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

NAMI FAMILY SUPPORT GROUP

Atlantic General Hospital, Conference Room 2, 9733 Healthway Drive, Berlin, MD, 6:30 to 8 p.m. Offers shared wisdom and problem solving for family members of persons with mental illness. The group is free. Info: Carole Spurrier, 410-208-4003,

carolespurrier@msn.com or Gail S. Mansell, gmansell@atlanticgeneral.org, 410-641-9725

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, JAN. 10

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

LAP TIME

Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, Ocean Pines, MD, 10:30 a.m. For children under 2 and their caregivers. 410-208-4014

STORY TIME 'SHAPES'

Ocean City library, 10003 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, MD, 10:30 a.m. Best for 2 to 5 year old children but all are welcome. 410-524-1818

COFFEE & COLORING

Ocean City library, 10003 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, MD, 3 p.m. The group meet the second Wednesday of each month. Enjoy a cup of coffee, refreshments and unwind. No registration is required. Adults only please. 410-524-1818

CONVERSATIONAL SPANISH

Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, Ocean Pines, MD, 4 p.m. Learn the basic language patterns and phrases to effectively communicate with a Spanish speaking person. Classes are held Jan. 10, 17 and 24. Register at the Ocean Pines branch or by calling 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 Vet-



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

TWINS

Riley Nagler and Ella Gaddis dress up as twins to celebrate Red Ribbon Week at Berlin Intermediate School. The students were encouraged to dress as twins to "pair up against drugs." Red Ribbon Week is a nationwide campaign to educate students about the harmful effects of tobacco/alcohol and drug abuse.



PHOTO COURTESY D.J. LANDIS, SE

GUEST SPEAKER

Anna Foultz was the guest speaker for the Nov. 29 weekly meeting of the Kiwanis Club of Greater Ocean Pines – Ocean City, a club where she is an honorary member. With the help of her daughter, Shirley Isbell, Foultz compiled and published the book, "Two Steps Forward – A Memoir." It is a story that recalls her life, complete with all the trials and tribulations. The purpose of the book is to raise money for her Star Charities organization, which she co-founded with her late husband, Carl, in 2007. She is pictured with Kiwanis Club President Ralph Chinn.

erans 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

ONGOING EVENTS

BERLIN RESTAURANT WEEK

Participating restaurants will feature food and drink specials for breakfast, lunch and/or dinner and dessert, from Jan. 8-14. Customers can also participate in a raffle to win a basket of gift cards and \$100 cash. Participants will be given a card to be stamped at three different locations and turned into the Berlin Welcome Center. http://www.berlinmd.gov





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

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Contact Carole at carole@mnelso.com.

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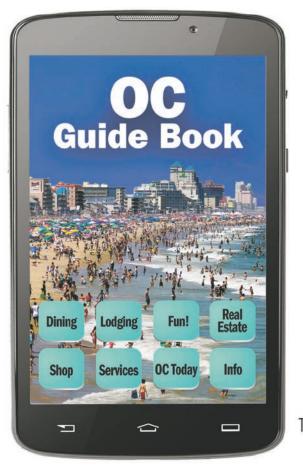






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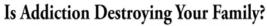
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