



JOSH DAVIS/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

PARK AND RIDE

Groups of sledders take to Berlin Falls park, Sunday, to take advantage of reportedly more than a foot of snow that fell last week. See story page 9.

OPA signs point toward celebration

By Josh Davis

Associate Editor

(Jan. 11, 2018) With many of the surrounding streets and sidewalks still covered in snow and ice, Ocean Pines officials on Tuesday unveiled a new entrance sign on Cathell Road commemorating the 50th anniversary of the association.

The ceremony was rescheduled from its original date of last Saturday.

The sign featured a new logo created by resident Lisa Perez, who won an association-wide design contest in June.

Jennifer Cropper-Rines, chairwoman of the 50th Anniversary Committee, opened the ceremony by thanking event chairpersons for planning, public works staff for installing signs at all three community entranceways, and

the board of directors and staff for their support.

She said Boise Cascade created the community in 1968.

"From what I understand, they were boating people over here from Ocean City, driving people over here from Ocean City, and they really had a vision," Cropper-Rines said. "They dug the canals, they built the amenities, and it's really turned into a wonderful place that houses 12,000 year-round residents and 8,000 summer people."

"I don't know if they ever anticipated we could be that big," she added.

Association President Doug Parks said it was a wonderful experience to be part of such a seminal event.

"Thanks to all those who are putting this together," he said, adding a "series of wonderful events" were planned throughout the year.

Parks credited volunteers with helping realize plans for the anniversary.

"That's what it takes to get events like this to happen ... people taking their time who care about the community, who want to contribute," he said. "Hopefully, throughout the year we'll have successes in running all these events."

Mediacom Director of Area Operations Pat Hynes was also introduced during the ceremony. The internet and cable company is the first platinum sponsor of the 50th anniversary.

Hynes said Mediacom aggressively invests in the communities it serves, including a three-year, \$1 billion capital investment made in 2016. The company serves about three million homes across 22 states, he said.

"We appreciate the opportunity to serve you here," he

See ANNIVERSARY Page 6

Berlin Council starts 2018 with values statement

Reeling from controversy, town stresses perspective

By Brian Gilliland

Associate Editor

(Jan. 11, 2018) Without being aware of the events of the final Berlin council meeting of 2017, where a video set to promote the town's downtown area was criticized for a lack of racial diversity, it's difficult to contextualize the first meeting of 2018.

Without mentioning the video specifically, Mayor Gee Williams, Councilman Dean Burrell and National Association for the Advancement of Colored People member Ivory Smith engaged in an amicable debate about what Berlin is, where it had come from and what it should be.

On Dec. 11, the council reviewed the video, which had been viewed more than 25,000 times and shared 435 times on social media. However, Burrell, based on a citizen complaint, brought it to the council's attention something was missing — only one African-American person was featured in the video.

"When there are two African-American councilmen [including Burrell] and a chief of police who are not truly represented, that tells a tale of an ugly undercurrent in beautiful Berlin," Greg Purnell, Berlin resident, said at the time.

Williams delivered lengthy remarks on his perception of Berlin and how the community can best work together.

"Recently, here in Berlin, there has been some observations that the way we present ourselves as a town may influence or negatively impact self-esteem among some of our fellow citizens. This is understandable, as life so often reminds us, that perception all too often becomes its own reality," he said. "Personally, I strongly believe there has not been, or will be in the future, any intent by the Town of Berlin to ignore or recognize any of our citizens — regardless of the diversity that we not only encourage — but for most Berliners today, we celebrate."

See OFFICIALS Page 6



JOSH DAVIS/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Ocean Pines officials, on Tuesday, unveil a sign on Cathell Road celebrating the 50th anniversary of the association, this year.

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Snow Hill mourns pair of policemen

By Josh Davis

Associate Editor

(Jan. 11, 2018) Snow Police this week mourned the passing of PFC. Harold (Buddy) Taylor, 52.

Police Chief Tom Davis said Taylor was at home on Dec. 26 enjoying a family gathering when he collapsed and was taken to Peninsula Regional Hospital in Salisbury.

"He wound up having surgery a few days later and everything was going very well," Davis said. "He was up and recovering nicely, but apparently the heart-related item that he had caused damage over a period of years to his organs, and they basically shut down and resulted in him passing away."

Taylor, a Salisbury native, was a six-year veteran of the Snow Hill Police force. He also had served in Salisbury for a decade and in Fruitland



Harold (Buddy) Taylor

for six years. He graduated from Parkside High School in Salisbury in 1984 and served in the Marine Corps for four years.

"He was a good family man," Davis said. "He'd been married for 18 years and had two children, 13 and 18. He

was a great dad and a great husband, and loved his family. As far as police work, he was a very talented investigator."

Davis said funeral services would be held on Saturday at Bounds Funeral Home in Salisbury. A family visitation is planned for 10 a.m. and a service is scheduled for noon to 12:30 p.m.

A GoFundMe page to help Taylor's family is expected to go live this week. Links will be posted on the Snow Hill Facebook page, www.facebook.com/SnowHillMD.

"The family had just moved into a new home and I know they need help," Davis said.

Snow Hill Police and others also mourned the loss of retired Chief M. Kirk Daugherty this week. Daugherty passed away on Dec. 26. Memorial services were held on Tuesday.

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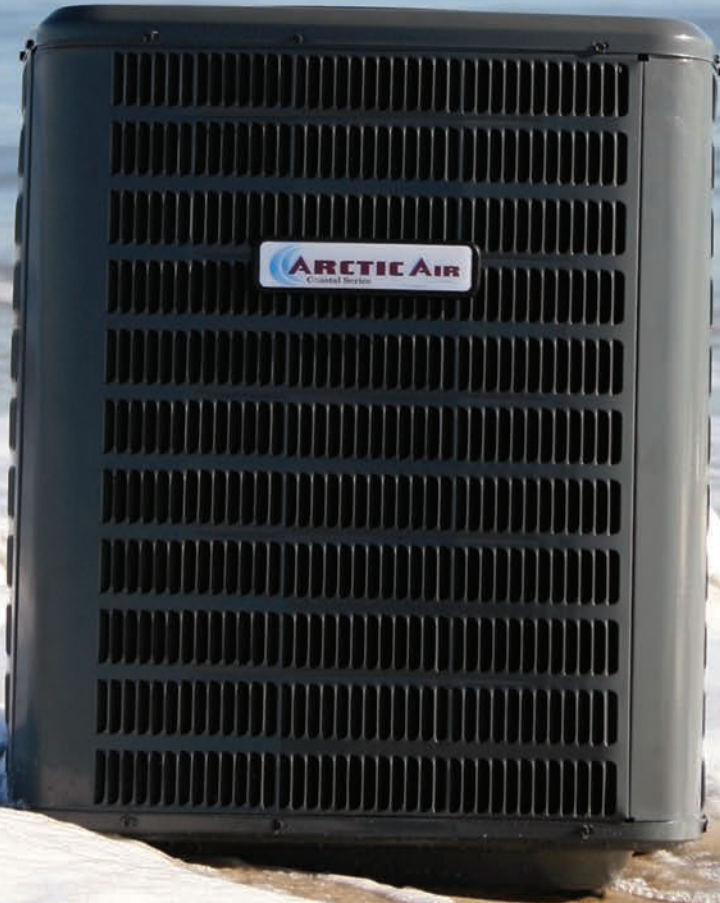
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BRIAN GILLILAND/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

POSTCARD SNOW

Chanceford Hall, on West Federal Street, is one of three beds and breakfasts within Snow Hill, along with The Cedars and River House Inn. It was captured during the blizzard Thursday night during a lull in the storm. It is owned and operated by Fran and Doug Wight, and is currently for sale.

Morrison transported to Pa. rehab

By Josh Davis
Associate Editor

(Jan. 11, 2018) Pocomoke Mayor Bruce Morrison was moved to a rehabilitation facility last week and friends of the family said signs for his recovery are encouraging.

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.



JOSH DAVIS/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Pocomoke residents, for over a month now, have left well wishes for Mayor Bruce Morrison on a whiteboard in City Hall. Morrison is recovering from a subdural hematoma at a rehab hospital in Pennsylvania.

On Jan. 2, he was taken to Bryn Mawr Rehab Hospital in Pennsylvania.

According to reports, Morrison was visited by family and shown pictures of the recent snow storm in Pocomoke City. He was also shown cards sent by well-wishers.

With the help of a physical therapist, Morrison late last week could stand for the first time since his injury, sources said.

Pocomoke Councilwoman Esther Troast, who is filling in as interim mayor, said signs are encouraging.

“Definitely let everyone know he is making progress. That’s our Bruce! He’s a Warrior!” she said.

The family continues to ask for prayers in what is being described as “a long journey ahead.” Social media posts are using the hashtags #TEAMBRUCE and #Miracle-ForOurMayor to reference Morrison.

Additionally, Hardwire LLC in Pocomoke started a GoFundMe page to help pay for medical expenses. Morrison has worked for the company for more than 10 years.

As of Monday, the campaign has raised more than \$36,000, including \$20,000 in donations by Hardwire.

To donate, visit www.gofundme.com/healmayormorrison.

Cards for Morrison may be sent to Bryn Mawr Rehab Hospital, Room M220, Main Line Health, 414 Paoli Pike, Malvern, PA 19355.

Pocomoke Council votes 3-1 to close Winter Quarters

By Josh Davis
Associate Editor

(Jan. 11, 2018) The Winter Quarters Golf Course, a fixture in Pocomoke City for more than 70 years, is closing because of financial losses and declining membership, following 3-1 City Council vote Monday.

The course was built during the early 1940s and deeded to the town in 1949.

Councilwoman Esther Troast, filling in for ailing Mayor Bruce Morrison, could not vote, but favored the closure.

Councilmen George Tasker, Dale Trotter and Brian Hirshman voted to close the course, while Councilwoman Diane Downing wanted it to remain open.

The council members did not appear to take the decision lightly, but the numbers just weren’t positive. The course lost more than \$186,000 during fiscal year 2013, \$211,000 in 2014, \$149,000 in 2015, \$155,000 in 2016 and \$166,000 in 2017.

In six months of this fiscal year, the course lost \$55,000 and was expected to lose roughly twice that amount by year’s end.

City Manager Bobby Cowger said course membership had declined from 40 members in 2013, to just 17 this year.

“It is in my district and I know my reelection in two years will be hanging in the balance, but I’ve had so many comments about do you guys run the city as a business or do you run it personally?” Tasker said. “My personal opinion is I don’t want to close the golf course ... but then again on the other hand, you gotta look at the business.”

Tasker said more than \$500,000 in losses over the five years he has been in office is inexcusable.

“Any business that’s losing money can’t stay in business,” he said. “When you’re thinking \$500,000, we could take \$500,000 and have done the Heights water [improvements] five years ago and not had people that’s complaining all the time of

See MONEY Page 8

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Esther Troast files for reelection in District 5

Incumbent councilwoman highlights positive attitude and facility for learning

By Josh Davis
Associate Editor

(Jan. 11, 2018) Pocomoke City Councilwoman Esther Troast on Monday filed to run for re-election in District 5.

Troast, 64, is a Pocomoke native and is seeking a third term in office. She's retired, but remains an avid photographer and prolific volunteer.

Serving in office, Troast said, is an extension of that volunteer spirit.

"I've always been involved in the community and always been a volunteer," she said. "I volunteer for everything and I thought that if I'm a councilperson, I'd have a better say. And I find that's true."

"I try to attend things, so I can learn. I'm constantly trying to educate myself on city government and I'm a team player," she added. "I treat people with respect and in turn I feel like I get respect."

Troast described herself as a peacemaker, hard worker and a positive person.

"I don't let negativity become an issue in my life," she said. "I live every day like it's my last one and I think those vibes [rub off on others]."

She said working towards downtown revitalization and improving water quality were two of her proudest accomplishments in office.

"I love what we've done so far and I want to see through what we've started to do," she said. "I think the council that we have now, even if you

exclude me from the picture, is one of the best that we've ever had and I hope to be able to continue serving with them."

Troast, as first vice president of the council, has filled in for Mayor Bruce Morrison since he was hospitalized in late November. She's quick to say she has no plans to take over the position permanently.

"Never in my wildest dreams did I ever think that I would ever have to fill in for him on anything," she said. "I'm only keeping his seat warm and he's going to be back. I know that in my mind — he's our mayor and I have no aspirations to take his seat."

"I hope I'm making him proud," she added. "I think that he'd be happy. We've been friends since we were teenagers."

Troast announced her reelection bid at the end of the City Council meeting Monday night and said, regarding the mayor's post, "I have no aspirations to continue sitting in this seat — I'm only keeping it warm until Bruce gets back. I'm all about running for my district and I hope I get the support of my constituents."

District 4 Councilman Brian Hirschman on Monday announced he would not seek a second term, for personal reasons.

The filing deadline for Pocomoke City Council is Feb. 2 at 4:30 p.m. and the election is set for April 3.



JOSH DAVIS/BAYSIDE GAZETTE
Pocomoke City Councilwoman Esther Troast files for reelection in District 5 at City Hall on Monday. Troast is seeking a third term in office.



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Officials underscore diversity as particular Berlin strength

■ BERLIN continued

brate.”

Burrell said the mayor’s sentiments were well put and appreciated. “What makes us great is diversity and our ability to work together,” he said.

Williams observed that 2018 marks Berlin’s 150th year as a Maryland municipality.

Burrell said the town was starting a new 150 years and the previous 150 were good, overall, and “showed us some things.” He said he was looking forward to what the future would teach him and the residents of the town, moving forward.

Smith said he wanted the town to start showcasing its diversity sooner rather than later, and to more visibly provide support for certain sections of town.

borhood and pride in where we exist.”

Burrell said he would be annoyed by the presence of downtown’s lights in his neighborhood, as an example.

It was all a matter of perspective, he said.

“Our origins as a community are not what we would have wished, but our flawed beginnings did not limit the desire and determination of the generations who preceded us for our

‘It is a wonderful thing to have these discussions on these topics in public!’

Berlin Councilman
Dean Burrell

“On the one side it’s all beautiful with lights, and the other is all doom and gloom,” he said.

Burrell took exception to that observation.

“Gee also talked about perspectives. Our perspectives are individual,” he said. “You talked about doom and gloom — I don’t see that in my community, my neighborhood. I see pride in property, pride in the neigh-

Berlin to become a better place,” Williams said. “I do not apologize for where we’ve come from, but I recognize we still have a ways to go.”

Seemingly coming to an understanding, if not an outright agreement on the issues, the parties let the issue rest.

“It is a wonderful thing to have these discussions on these topics in public,” Burrell said.

Anniversary kick-off event included State House citation

■ OPA continued

said. “On behalf of Mediacom, I would like to extend our congratulations on your 50th anniversary and thank you for letting us be part of this momentous occasion.”

General Manager John Bailey closed the ceremony with a prepared speech.

“Congratulations, Ocean Pines,” he said. “Fiftieth anniversaries are celebratory times that provide the opportunity to do three things: one, to give thanks and to remember; two, to celebrate, congratulate and to party; and three, to encourage and instill hope.”

Bailey thanked staff, founding residents, board and committee members and volunteers who served “during our first 50 years.”

“Congratulations to those who make Ocean Pines what it is — a great place to live, a great place to work, a great place to work in and around, and a great place to play,” he said. “And congratulations as well to the county and the state, for Ocean Pines is indeed an asset to the larger community around us.

“And here’s to the future. May it be said 50 years from now that we here today were responsible for recommitting ourselves to a vision of being the best place to live on the Eastern Shore,” he added.

Also during the ceremony, Worcester County Commissioner Chip Bertino, on behalf of Sen. Jim Mathias, presented a citation from the Maryland Senate.

Additional plans for the semicentennial celebration include an 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.

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-the-date 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.



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Pocomoke building ordinance change would add 'teeth'

By Josh Davis

Associate Editor

(Jan. 11, 2018) Proposed building code changes could give Pocomoke City officials more authority to enforce standards on blighted and abandoned properties.

"The city manager and staff have initiated an effort to try and contact and reach out to many of our downtown property owners," Planning Director Dan Brandewie said at the Monday City Council meeting. "What we have here is a draft ordinance to further that effort, to reach out to property owners to talk about the problem I think we have in the community with abandoned and vacant properties."

He said some properties in the downtown had been vacant for several months, or even years.

"This ordinance is a new chapter of the code that would essentially identify those properties that have sat vacant and/or possibly blighted for a period of 90 days. We would send out a notice to those properties owners, ask them to register the property [and] we would then ask them to supply a property maintenance plan ... and stick with it," Brandewie said. "We're trying to reverse the trend that we're seeing with some of these housing conditions."

A public workshop on the proposed ordinance was held Wednesday and a public hearing to adopt the new code could occur later this month, he said.

Brandewie added more code changes would likely be presented during the coming months.

City Manager Bobby Cowger said the ordinance would give city officials "a little bit of teeth to go after some of these properties that have been sitting 10-15 years."

"We're all committed to cleaning and trying to [revitalize] this town," he said. "This is just another step."



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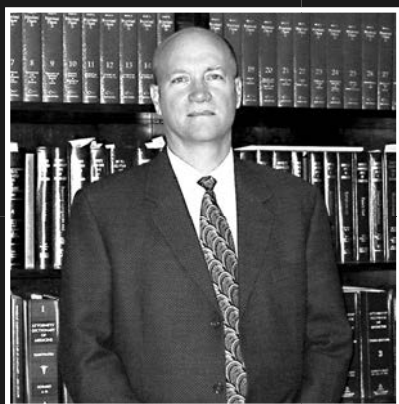
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Money just was not there; losses force course closure

■ POCOMOKE continued
dirty water.

"I don't see the future for 17 golfers," he added. "If there was 200 golfers, then that would be a different story ... you can sugarcoat it, you can do whatever you want, we're losing money."

"If people don't want to vote me in next time, I don't care," Tasker said. "You can get mad and don't talk to me and you can throw eggs at my house."

Tasker later added, "we may be down, but we're not out ... maybe we can address it again down the road."

Troast said the decision heavily weighed on her.

"When I ran for this office, I made a promise to myself and to the people of Pocomoke ... that I would make sound, educated decisions, some that I might not like to make, but I had to make," she said. "I'm looking at this as a business venture. I've been told that, if I make a decision to close this golf course that I'll no longer be so and so's friend. To me, that was a slap in the face and I have to say you weren't my friend to start with."

She said the decision was not just based on representing District 5, but the good of the entire city.

"We have pressing issues. We have water that part of our town cannot drink, that we're working on to rectify," she said. "We have streets that we can't drive down without feeling like we're on a roller coaster."

"We have inherited some problems that have been going on for too many years ... and we're committed into getting these things straightened out," Troast added. "It breaks my heart to have to make the decision that I'm about to make. I hope that I don't lose friendships over it, but if I do, so be it. I'm doing it because I think it's the right decision. I've already lost enough sleep over it and I'm not going to lose any more."

Several residents, during the meeting, spoke in favor of keeping the course open.

Jim Covington said the course was an amenity that had value far beyond the bottom line. He said community groups and high school athletics used the course to leverage money and create "aid ... for many of our kids in the form of scholarships and other assistance."

"If we close the golf course, is this a trend that we close everything in the town that doesn't make a profit," he said. "Cypress Park - does that produce a profit? The tennis courts - do we close them?"

He also mentioned city docks, nature trails and community gardens.

"Think about all those amenities ... that place a value far beyond what they make," he said.

Carol Stroh said an application to designate the course as a historic site was still in the works and near completion. She said placement on Na-

tional Register of Historic Places could make the town eligible for grant money.

"We can save this ... I still believe it," she said. "This stuff will not happen quickly, because the research needed to be done."

She said a team of researchers, led by UMES historian Eric Jodlbauer, was close to finishing the application.

"I believe that once the documents are delivered to us for all of you to see, for the entire community to see, that the golf course and the clubhouse will really come into what we know it is and what it can be," she said. "I implore, please have vision."

Will Stevenson went as far as offering to cover \$25,000 in losses at the course, if the town followed his plan for revitalization.

When the City Council agreed to reevaluate the course after the first six months of fiscal 2018, he said, "there was nothing said about expecting that six months could turn consistent losses into a profit - it was expected to make progress."

"We have made substantial progress," he said. "In the last six months, the performance of the golf course improved 71 percent over the 2016-2017 fiscal year - that's substantial improvement."

He said income was 80 percent higher than budget and expenses were about 3 percent below budget.

"If we had another six months to work on, and if we could get the annual passes up to a level of 40 passes, we would have \$20,000 more in income," he said. "If you will agree to give us the extra six months to make as much improvements as I've suggested ... I will personally guarantee you that I will cover the first \$25,000 of losses in excess of what my proposal will result."

"I believe that the golf course and the community deserve the opportunity to finish the application for the historical designation and to see whether they can get grants, or not get grants," he added. "If we fail to do any of these things successfully within the next six months, I'll join the parade to tear the place down."

Cowger, on Tuesday, said the course was closed immediately. Three full-time employees were notified and given compensation for back wages and unused vacation days, he said.

Exactly what will become of the course is still to be determined.

"There's no decision being made for the future of it, they just had to decide ... to stop those losses," he said. "The \$150,000 a year that golf course was losing had to stop."

"We need that \$150,000 for equipment in public works, or street work, or revitalization - something other than just losing it in losses for the golf course," he added. "It was a tough decision."

He added that about 40 dump-truck loads of the white stuff were



Dorman said a water main broke Sunday night at Heather Manor, an assisted-living facility on Washington

See SNOW Page 10

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Snow storm called worst in several decades

Continued from Page 9
Street.

“Pretty sure they had to evacuate those people because it took out their sprinkler system,” he said. “Other than that, around town, no [other major incidents occurred].”

Pocomoke City Manager Bobby Cowger said about nine inches of snow fell there.

“But, in about half a dozen different areas around town ... we had two to three feet of snow drifts that blocked about four or five of our streets,” he said. “That took a tremendous amount of clearing to get those

cleared out and get the snow moved out of the way.”

Cowger said a water main broke at the Butler Village apartment complex Sunday.

“They had some overhead sprinklers in one of the back units, and the sprinklers froze and busted and saturated about two or three units there,” he said. “The people had to go stay with other people, but I did hear some of them had to go stay at the Holiday Inn.”

As was the case in Snow Hill, a small public works staff handled most of the snow removal, with

Cowger pitching in to help clear roadways.

“They certainly weren’t equipped to handle this amount of snow very fast,” he said. “We worked Thursday for about 14 hours before I sent the boys home to get some sleep. Friday we worked about 14 hours. Saturday we came back and finished up and worked about 12 hours.

“I stayed out there with them boys the whole time – I didn’t leave them,” he added. “But, I’ve done this work for 30 years. It wasn’t a big deal to me, but they needed the help because they were definitely understaffed for this much snow.”

He said the city was “fairly passable” by Saturday night, but crews had to come back to address another broken water main on Sunday.

“I thought the guys would be able to relax and enjoy Sunday, but I had to get them back out for about six hours because of the busted, six-inch water main on Princess Anne Lane, between 14th and 15th streets,” he said.

Other than water mains, Cowger said battling large snow drifts of several feet was the biggest obstacle. He said it was the worst winter storm since at least the 1990s.

“We don’t remember anything [as severe] prior back to about the ’90s. We’ve had little snows, but nothing as much as this at one time,” he said.

Berlin Mayor Gee Williams said Monday that between eight and 11 inches of snow fell in Berlin.

“It’s hard to know because the drifting was so severe,” he said. “Literally, on some streets you go and the front of the house has 18, 24 inches and the back might only have six. How much was wind and how much was actual snowfall, I’m not sure.

“It is, so far, I think the longest snow to stick around since I think the mid-1970s,” he continued. “We’ve had some big snow since then, but I don’t think it was this cold and this persistent – that has been the challenge with this particular storm – the length and the intense low temperatures.”

Williams said major water mains broke on Jefferson Street and Franklin Avenue over the weekend.

He said public works staff were plowing roads and addressing the breakages beginning Wednesday night and worked well into Monday.

“This is the beginning of the sixth [straight] day,” he said. “Never, at least in my experience, have we had that many multiple days of intense snow removal and related work.


“In terms of personnel, I think their dedication has been truly inspiring,” Williams added. “I think they’ve done everything that could be asked and more than should be expected,

See SEVERAL Page 11

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Several cars found stuck inside snow drifts

Continued from Page 10

and they have done it with a positive attitude and, I think, a shared feeling of pride. That's something you can't purchase — it's something people carry with them."

Berlin Police Lt. J.D. Lawson, based on a National Weather Service report, said 16 inches of snowfall was accompanied by 30-50 mile-per-hour winds and sub-zero wind-chill temperatures.

"Throughout the storm, our personnel worked in the severe weather conditions and experienced near zero visibility in the blinding snowfall," Lawson said in a statement on Monday.

He said police fielded numerous calls from people in need, including six people found stuck after driving into snowdrifts. He said police assisted one vehicle with two elderly people on Route 818 north of Route 50, two vehicles south of Route 50 on Route 818 and three vehicles near the middle school on Flower Street.

"After becoming stranded, the wind continued to blow snow, which became deeper around their vehicles, making their situation ... an emer-

gency," he said.

When the State Highway Administration told police no equipment was available and Worcester County Roads crews also could not help, Lawson said Berlin Police used a five-ton truck to "drive into the deep snow drifts and [remove] the stranded motorists."

"All of these persons who were in dire need of assistance could not have been helped without the military surplus equipment that the Berlin Police Department maintains," Lawson said. "Every one of our vehicles on the road during the storm became stuck at one point or another."

Lawson said Berlin Police also assisted two wedged Worcester County Sheriff vehicles and "numerous Maryland State Police Vehicles that became stuck in the snow."

"Additionally, during this event, our personnel worked very closely with public works to accomplish our missions," Lawson said. "I would like to especially thank [Wastewater Superintendent] Jamie Latchum, who continuously worked with our personnel and was of great assistance.

"During this event, our agency assisted 26 citizens and motorists, 12 calls to assist other agencies and handled numerous non-storm related calls for service."

He also thanked Lt. Robert Fisher, Cpl. Merle Bragg and S/O [special officers] Brian Hirshman, Joe Kerr and Aaron Titerence.

Ocean Pines Police reported 35 disabled vehicles, four car accidents and eight calls to assist other agencies during the storm and its aftermath.

According to Ocean Pines Public Works Director Eddie Wells, the association saw 11 inches of snow.

"Colder temps made it difficult for the salt to do its magic," Wells said. "This week's projected milder temperatures should help to melt the existing snow along roadways in Ocean Pines."

Wells said public works plowed all roads in the community and will go over some streets again. If elderly or sick residents need assistance, he encouraged them to contact public works.

Temperatures this week were expected to be much warmer, with highs topping 50 degrees, according to National Weather Service projections.

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Pocomoke City taps into water-quality pilot program

By Josh Davis
Associate Editor

(Jan. 11, 2018) Pocomoke City will take part in a pilot program with Korean-based company IOREX to improve water quality. If successful, the venture could save the town more than \$1 million and greatly speed up enhancements to town water.

The program, detailed during a City Council meeting on Monday, alters the positive and negative charges of certain elements found in water to prevent iron from oxidizing, which can result in smelly, rust-colored water that stains sinks, washtubs and clothing.

"What they've done is they've taken carbon and put it in [piping] ... to make static electricity," Water and Wastewater Director Frank Daniels said. "You don't have any electric bills or anything like that – you put this in your pipe and the water going through creates static electricity. It changes the structure of your water."

The infrastructure will be installed in several areas in Pocomoke Heights as a test. The company requires a \$30,000 deposit, but offers a written guarantee that if improved levels are not met the money will be refunded within six months.

The City Council unanimously supported the pilot program.

Also during the meeting, Daniels said a nearly \$300,000 renovation of the city water plant recently finished. Improved water quality, a direct result of the renovation, led the town to qualify for \$30,000 in grant funding for water and sewer projects from the Department of Natural Resources.

City Manager Bobby Cowger said Monday that grant would pay for most of the new equipment.

Pocomoke City public works staff started replacing pipelines in The Heights in December in what is expected to be a phased, townwide project estimated to cost about \$2 million over 12-18 months. Cowger said the pilot program, if successful, could be expanded and allow pipe-replacement to occur at a less-aggressive clip.

He said the two test units would be installed by the end of January and take about a day.

"If they're doing what we're told they definitely should do, then in next year's budget we're going to plan on another three or four more and figure out strategically where we need to put them," he said. "These people are adamant these things are going to take care of our iron, rust and color and smell problem."

"If it does, we still will have to replace the lines, but it won't be an immediate expense. About \$1.5 million is what it will save us," Cowger added. "These guys could hit a homerun with this – if they can clean our water up, they'll have the testing and results to take it anywhere in the country they want."

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Pines yacht club closed as more mold found

By Josh Davis
Associate Editor

(Jan. 11, 2018) The discovery of mold at the Ocean Pines Yacht Club apparently has led to the club's closing for up to three months and numerous staff layoffs.

A press release issued last Friday said the club, its restaurant and banquet facility were closed "after a recent inspection revealed a substantial amount of cladosporium, a common mold that can be found in areas with humidity, moisture and/or water damage."

"The association's top concern is the safety of its customers and employees," the release said. "Consequently, Ocean Pines is working swiftly to ensure that proper measures are taken to remove the mold and to prevent any further problems."

The facility will remain closed for 60-90 days "as the association undergoes a proposal selection and remediation process," the release said. "The current estimated cost of the remediation effort will likely exceed \$50,000, thus requiring the general manager to seek other proposals for competitive bid."

"The closure of the facility for such

an extended period has also forced the layoff of most of the remaining food and beverage employees. Efforts are being made to contact those customers that have special events at The Cove scheduled during the period of closure to provide any assistance possible with options for relocating."

A separate release issued Monday added, "It should be stated that General Manager John Bailey had been considering the possibility of closing the facility in an effort at reducing operating losses in the current fiscal year."

"The closure of The Cove at Mumford's restaurant and banquet hall ... coincides with Mr. Bailey's evaluation of the overall food and beverage (F&B) operational approach. This comes at the Ocean Pines Board of Directors' direction and includes the possibility of outsourcing the management of F&B operations."

"Mr. Bailey is preparing a report and recommendation on the F&B operations, to include a recommenda-

tion for the Board to consider at the Jan. 27 Regular Board Meeting."

The Gazette reported in December that a small amount of mold had been found, but it was not believed to be hazardous to the air quality. At the time, Bailey said remediation costs were believed to be negligible and weren't likely to disrupt normal winter hours.

Association Vice President Cheryl Jacobs on Monday, however, said, "It turns out that we're going to need some more remediation than we originally

thought."

"Apparently, it has to do with a leak last year that wasn't addressed properly. That created some problems in the attic," she said. "Unfortunately, when you don't take care of things, these things happen."

Jacobs said the severity of the problem "came as a surprise."

"What we were told was, and this was absolutely the case, there wasn't anything injurious to anyone's health, so we had no concerns from that regard," she said. "But, to take

care of the problem properly, we need to take this extra step and get inside the walls and fix this properly."

She said remediation on the second floor, the primary area of concern, could have occurred while business continued on the first floor.

"That's not terribly conducive to having people downstairs," she said. "At the same time, [Bailey] is reevaluating the whole food and beverage operation, so that's tied in with this closure."

Jacobs said one local company has replied and another is expected to reply to requests for qualifications regarding consulting at the yacht club.

She confirmed some "staff were laid off" and said it was unclear whether high level workers, including the head chef, would return.

"Let's say we do lease it out to a management company, then they would be making decisions on who to hire, because they would be in charge or doing it the way they think is best for it to be successful," she said.

"The bright side is we have an experienced, competent general manager who will address matters appropriately," Jacobs added.

'The bright side is we have an experienced, competent general manager who will address matters appropriately.'

Cheryl Jacobs,
Association Vice President



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Buyers and Sellers

Insurance increases cause budget adjustment

City Manager Cowger vows to shop around before next fiscal year document inked

By Josh Davis
Associate Editor

(Jan. 11, 2018) The skyrocketing health insurance costs in Pocomoke that drove a budget overage of \$162,000 in the first six months of fiscal year 2018 led to a budget amendment Monday that cut funding across the board in all other departments.

Finance Director Janet Wilson said several members of town staff suffered extended hospital stays in recent months and the town, self-insured up to a \$50,000 deductible, paid the price.

That apparently includes Mayor Bruce Morrison, who was hospitalized in November with a subdural hematoma, and several retired employees who suffered heart attacks.

“We’ve had numerous individuals, retirees and current staff members that are in the hospital, which has increased the first six months health insurance by \$162,000, unbudgeted,” Wilson said. “We are self-insured, so it’s cost us quite a bit of money.”

Additionally, legal fees are up because the prior city manager also served as city attorney, three unexpected retirees cost about \$42,000 and

the closure of Riverside Grill required the town to buy about \$30,000 worth of equipment left in the building, Wilson said.

She and City Manager Bobby Cowger went “line item by line item” through the budget to try and balance it for the fiscal year, Wilson added.

“We did have to go into each individual department’s budget and cut a little bit out ... to cover the over-expenditures,” Cowger said. “When you have over \$200,000 in unexpected overruns ... you have to cut and pull where you can.”

A vote to accept the revised budget

was unanimous.

Cowger, who began as city manager in August, months after the 2018 budget was approved, said Tuesday he planned to consider alternate health insurance plans for the next fiscal year.

“Most everybody goes in and looks at their budget after six months, but what happened to us is we have gotten hit for \$162,000 of over expenditure for our health care and hospitalization ... that’s what caused us to have to really tighten up things and draw money in from different areas,” he said. “I can’t be at the end of this year and owe \$200,000 of unbudgeted money – I’d

look like a fool.

“Next year, I assure you, I will not get in this position,” he added. “A small town like Pocomoke’s got no business being self-insured – it’s a dice roll.”

He said the city generally pays about \$800,000 in insurance. This year, that number will top \$1 million.

“They have been like this for 10 or 15 years,” he said. “The last eight years, three times they’ve been under what the insurance has estimated, but the last five years they’ve been over each year.”

“I’m definitely going to shop our insurance cost next year,” Cowger added.



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Guests try out equipment and get class info

(Jan. 11, 2018) Area residents had the chance to test the waters as well as a variety of aquatic fitness equipment and classes during a free open house at the Sports Core Pool, Jan. 7 from 2-4 p.m.

Despite the snow-covered roads, dozens of people came out for the event, which included instructor-led mini classes and the opportunity to try the facility's aquatic exercise equipment.

According to Ocean Pines Aquatics Director Colby Phillips, the goal of the open house was to introduce people to the availability and accessibility of aquatic exercise as a fitness option.

"Most [of the open house attendees] were new to learning about what our aquatics department has to offer in regard to fitness programs, which is very

exciting for my team," Phillips said.

Over the past few years, Ocean Pines Aquatics has steadily increased the number of water exercise programs it offers as well as the variety

aquatics training, which will be introduced soon at the Sports Core Pool. The training will enable them to work with patients undergoing treatment for cancer, Parkinson's disease and

moderate everyone as well as people who have physical ailments such as bad backs and knees. Most are surprised they can actually work out in the water despite these issues," she said.

Phillips said that because of the success of the event, another open house is planned for May.

Ocean Pines Aquatics hosts a variety of aquatic fitness classes, swim lessons and special events year-round, including a Dive-In Movie showing of "The Emoji Movie" on Saturday, Jan. 20 at 6 p.m. and a Valentine's Family Night Out on Friday, Feb. 9 from 6-8 p.m., both at the Sports Core Pool.

For more information, contact Ocean Pines Aquatics at 410-641-5255.

'The water is so good for all fitness levels and we have classes to accommodate everyone as well as people who have physical ailments such as bad backs and knees.'

Colby Phillips, Ocean Pines Aquatics Director

and types of aquatic fitness equipment. The Sports Core Pool now houses water trampolines, bikes, balance boards, treadmills and an elliptical machine in addition to several different types of water weights.

Ocean Pines Aquatics staff members are also in the process of obtaining certification for medically-based

more as well as pre- and post-rehabilitative therapy.

The accessibility of water exercise makes it perfect for all ages and abilities, Phillips said. It also explains why these programs have found such a receptive audience in Ocean Pines.

"The water is so good for all fitness levels and we have classes to accom-



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Berlin recognizes Pop Warner Super Bowl champions

Football team presented with \$500 check for celebration

By **Brian Gilliland**
Associate Editor

(Jan. 11, 2018) The Berlin Town Council lauded its national champion junior varsity Pop Warner football team during its first 2018 meeting Monday night, presenting the squad with a \$500 check to fund a barbecue celebration once warmer weather comes.

Each member of the team and coaching staff was presented with a commendation from the council.

"At your early age you're already leading by example," Mayor Gee Williams said. "It shows you don't have to be old to be a leader."

Williams said he hoped the team enjoyed what he called the "athletic components" of being on a winning team, but took the lessons of being on a winning squad to heart.

"No one did this alone, and I want you to carry that forward. It's very easy for one person to cause havoc and what I call evil, while doing good takes working together," Williams said.

Williams then presented the check to fund a town-wide celebration of the team to be held at Stephen Decatur Park this spring. No date has been set.

The Berlin team won the national crown on Dec. 7, beating California's Southern Marin Broncos 39-14 at the Wide World of Sports competition held at Walt Disney World.

Berlin Pop Warner cheerleaders also attended the event in Orlando and finished sixth overall, achieving their highest score of the year.

Maryland Senior Citizen Hall seeks 50 nominations

(Jan. 11, 2018) The Maryland Senior Citizen Hall of Fame, Inc. is seeking nominations of Maryland residents, 65 years of age or older, who as active volunteers (since age 65) have made outstanding contributions to improve the lives of others in the community.

Nominations will be accepted until April 10. A selection committee will review nominations and choose up to 50 qualified nominees to be presented to the Maryland Senior Citizen Hall of Fame Board for approval.

Approved nominees will be inducted into the Maryland Senior Citizens Hall of Fame during the annual awards luncheon held in October.

The nomination form and specific details for eligibility are available at mschf.org, by emailing mschf.mail@verizon.net or calling 410-828-5852.



BRIAN GILLILAND/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Berlin Mayor Gee Williams, left, presented all members and coaching staff of Berlin's National Champion junior varsity Pop Warner football team with commendations from the mayor and council, along with a \$500 check to fund a town-wide celebration barbecue to be held at Stephen Decatur Park this spring. The team won the championship on Dec. 7 at Walt Disney World, beating California's Southern Marin Broncos 39-14.

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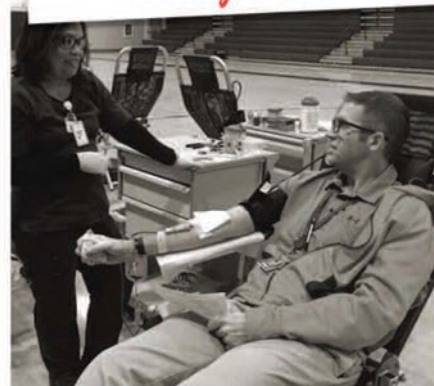
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Opinion

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

P.W. are unsung heroes

Most people have no idea who the public works and utility crews are in their towns and communities, or what they do beyond provide services they take for granted — until a pipe bursts or a street is impassible because of repairs, maintenance or construction.

They don't realize, except every other year or so, the other duties they must undertake regardless of the long hours and terrible conditions.

Such was the case from Pocomoke City to Ocean Pines last week and through the weekend, when Worcester County residents everywhere found themselves wallowing in feet of snow after being walloped by an usually strong storm for this area.

Although snow is no rarity in these parts, last week's storm dumped more of it at one time on the county that it usually receives in three or four years combined.

That, plus a near-record string of days when the temperature rose no higher than the 20s, made the idea of going anywhere implausible or impossible, depending on individual circumstances.

That, however, did not include law enforcement and other government and community association personnel, whose duty it is to see that the rest of us get to resume our normal lives as quickly and safely as possible.

From the end of last week into this Monday and Tuesday, these people pulled long, miserable shifts — some going around the clock — to do what had to be done so residents could get back to work, make their medical appointments, buy groceries, take the kids somewhere, anywhere, and just get out of the house.

From north to south, officials recognized these efforts with deserved praise and other laudatory remarks.

For the personnel who did the work, however, it just comes with the territory. Nevertheless, they should know that besides their employers, we all appreciate what they did for the rest of us.



Letters

Thanks for support

Editor,

As many of you know, our home on Main Street burned on Dec. 12. By the grace of God, none of us were home at the time and we are all safe.

What was lost can be rebuilt, the adversity can be overcome. We as a family could never have anticipated the astounding community support we have received in our time of crisis.

We are indebted to the incredibly courageous fire fighters from Berlin and four surrounding communities. Had it not been for their

heroic efforts and expertise, our home would have been lost entirely.

Though the blaze was severe, it is a testament to their skill that they were able to keep the fire from destroying the entire structure or spreading to neighboring homes. Our community is indeed fortunate to have such dedicated individuals at the ready.

The "silver lining" of this experience has been the overwhelming outpouring of support from our community. We are so grateful to friends, neighbors, and even strangers who graciously offered food, clothing, sup-

plies, and financial assistance as well as heartwarming expressions of concern, encouragement, and prayers. To be a part of such a wonderful, caring community is a blessing beyond measure.

Therefore, we would like to say "thank you" to all who have touched our lives with their caring and kindness. So many have told us "you are in our prayers." Please know that you are forever in our prayers and in our hearts. Bless you all and again, thank you.

With deep appreciation,
The Koenig Family
Berlin

Father-daughter swim event

This Friday at Sports Core Pool in Pines; tickets start at \$10

(Jan. 11, 2018) Dads and their daughters are invited to a special swim event created just for them on Friday, Jan. 12 from 6-8 p.m. at the indoor Sports Core Pool, located at 11144 Cathell Rd. in Ocean Pines.

A new offering by Ocean Pines Aquatics, the Father-Daughter Swim will include crafts, a keepsake photo and frame, pizza, cookies and the opportunity to splash and play in the pool.

"The team is always looking to bring fun, new events to our Aquatics Department," said Ocean Pines Aquatics Director Colby Phillips. "After the popular father-daughter dances at the schools, we thought a father-daughter swim would be fun. As someone who cherishes time with her father, this is just another opportunity for dads to get that time in away from the busyness of life and enjoy a few hours with their daughters."

The entry fee for the event, which is open to the public, includes a father and

any daughters he brings. The price is \$10 for Ocean Pines swim members, \$12 for Ocean Pines residents and \$15 for non-residents.

Ocean Pines Aquatics hosts a variety of aquatic fitness classes, swim lessons and special events year-round, including a Dive-In Movie showing of "The Emoji Movie" on Saturday, Jan. 20 at 6 p.m. and a Valentine's Family Night Out on Friday, Feb. 9 from 6-8 p.m., both at the Sports Core Pool.

For more information, contact Ocean Pines Aquatics at 410-641-5255.

BAYSIDE

GAZETTE

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JOSH DAVIS/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Grilled bone-in lamb chop with chimichurri sauce, mashed potatoes and asparagus is part of the three-course, \$30 dinner special at Fins Alehouse and Raw Berlin during Berlin Restaurant Week, through Jan. 14.

Berlin Restaurant Week continues through Sunday

By Kara Hallissey
Staff Writer

(Jan. 11, 2018) Berlin's third annual Restaurant Week is in full swing, with more than a dozen establishments offering discounted prices on popular and unique menu items.

"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."

There are many Berlin favorites that will be serving breakfast, lunch and/or dinner at a lower cost until Sunday.

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

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

Main Street Deli offers homemade spaghetti and meatballs for \$5, a meatball sub for \$7 (add chips and a soda to this and any sandwich for \$1) and 12-ounces of homemade shrimp and potato soup for \$4 during Restaurant Week.

"It is a great way to support and promote your local businesses. Come check us out," said owner Ruth Koontz.

During dinnertime, Fins Ale House and Raw Bar on Main Street will offer three courses for \$30 beginning at 4 p.m., which includes a choice of seafood chowder with shrimp, scallops and fish, risotto crab balls or fried avocado as appetizers.

"The fried avocado (hand-battered avocado halves, lightly fried and topped with a shrimp salad and balsamic glaze) are very different and popular," Fins manager Mallory Brown said. "It was originally on our special sheet and we put it on the regular menu."

For the main course, diners can choose the stuffed chicken baked with mushrooms, tomatoes, spinach, pesto,

mozzarella, saffron rice and broccoli or a grilled bone-in lamb chop served with a chimichurri sauce, mashed potatoes and asparagus.

In addition, a chef specialty, seafood pasta with sea scallops, shrimp and crab meat served over linguini with a Rosa sauce and sprinkled with Romano-pecorino cheese, is the final option. A selection of desserts completes the three courses.

"It is nice to get out and try different parts of the menu and this is the opportunity to also try several different restaurants," Brown said. "There are several new restaurants. We have been here about a year. When you try three different restaurants, you have the chance to win \$300 in gift cards and \$100 in cash."

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

"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 new faces trying out our restaurants."

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 is a great opportunity to sample the offerings of the different restaurants," Bunting said. "It will be less crowded than usual and the lower prices make it more affordable."

For more information and a list of all menus, visit the Berlin Restaurant Week Facebook page at www.facebook.com/events/385049735253355, or www.BerlinMainStreet.com.

Live jazz and blues concert coming soon to Germantown

Tickets on sale for second annual event held Saturday, Jan. 20 from 7-11 p.m.

By Josh Davis

Associate Editor

(Jan. 11, 2018) Tickets are on sale for the second annual jazz and blues concert at the Germantown School Community Heritage Center in Berlin, Saturday, Jan. 20.

The success of last year's inaugural event far exceeded expectations, organizer Barbara Purnell said.

"We're going to try to keep it going, if we can. Last year, it was really overwhelming and tickets went so fast that we had a waiting list," she said.

Purnell said the crowd jumped, as a live band brought jazz, blues and rock 'n roll to the center, a former schoolhouse.

"The music was just great," she said. "Even though we don't have dancing space, some of them ducked into little corners and cut a little step. They really enjoyed themselves and

wanted to know when we were going to have it again."

This year's headliner will be Salisbury vocalist Suzette Pritchett, who will draw from her jazz and blues repertoire.

Deejay music and refreshments will also be provided. The event is scheduled from 7-11 p.m.

'Last year, it was really overwhelming and tickets went so fast that we had a waiting list.'

Barbara Purnell

"It's just going to be an evening of fun and enjoyment," Purnell said.

Space is limited and tickets at \$25 per person must be purchased in advance. To buy tickets, contact Purnell at 410-641-0638.

Proceeds will help pay for operational costs for the center, on 10223 Trappe Road in Berlin.

Purnell said she has another event in mind for February, but plans have not been finalized.

For more information on the Germantown School Community Heritage Center, visit www.thegermantownschoolorg or search "Germantown School Community Heritage Center, Berlin, MD" on Facebook.

Foltz shines bright during 'Light Up the Pines' contest

(Jan. 11, 2018) The home of Pamela Foltz, located at 10 Quarter Staff Place in Ocean Pines, shines bright as the first-place winner in the annual "Light Up the Pines" house decorating contest.

Foltz decorated her home with festive holiday lights, ribbons and wreaths. Doors, windows and trees were all brightly lit.

Second place goes to the home of Jamie Greenwood, who a voter dubbed as "the decoration master." Greenwood's winter wonderland is located at 233 Windjammer Road in Ocean Pines.

The home of Kenny and Brenda Pilarski, located at 114 Pineforest Drive, received the third most votes.

The holiday contest, which is sponsored by Choptank Electric, is a bright seasonal show of lights. Entries were judged by residents and non-residents on social media. Voting took place from Monday, Dec. 11 to Friday, Dec. 22 on Facebook.

Winning entries will be published in the spring edition of the Ocean Pines Report, the community's quarterly newsletter and given a gift bag with goodies, including a gift certificate good at The Cove at Mumford's in Ocean Pines along with a gift certificate for a Choptank Electric Cooperative bill credit.



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Snapshots



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GRANT WINNER

Cato Inc. representative Kathleen Abercrombie and her daughter, Delaney, a junior at Worcester Prep, present Upper School math teacher Cyndee Hudson with a \$500 Exxon Mobil Educational Alliance Program grant. Exxon Mobil believes in investing in educational programs for the next generation to pursue studies and careers in fields involving math and science. Pictured, from left, are Headmaster Dr. Barry Tull, Delaney Abercrombie, Hudson and Kathleen Abercrombie.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

LIBRARY DONATION

Ireland RnR Tours, a local veteran-owned travel business, presents a \$1,000 donation to the Worcester County Library Foundation. Pictured, from left, are Victoria and Mike Healy of Ireland RnR Tours, and Lisa Outten Harrison and Howard Sribnick of the Worcester County Library Foundation. Ireland RnR Tours is doing another Ireland tour fundraiser supporting the Foundation in May 2018.



PHOTO COURTESY D.J. LANDIS, SR.

TOYS FOR G.O.L.D.

The Kiwanis Club of Greater Ocean Pines – Ocean City's 2017 Toy Drive wrapped up on Dec. 6 to benefit Worcester G.O.L.D. (Giving Other Lives Dignity) in Snow Hill. The club purchased some toys and the rest came from member donations. Pictured, from left, are Toy Drive Chair Dave Landis, his wife, Rita, and Worcester G.O.L.D. Executive Director Sandy Snipes.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

Becker Morgan Group supports the capital campaign for the Richard A. Henson Cancer Institute at Ocean Pines with a donation of \$25,000. Pictured, from left, are Herb Geary, PRMC Foundation Board chairman; W. Ronald Morgan, AIA, Becker Morgan Group president; Denise Billing, PRMC Foundation president; and Steven Leonard, PRMC president/CEO Designate. Becker Morgan Group provides comprehensive architectural and engineering services in the Mid-Atlantic region, with offices in Delaware, Maryland and North Carolina.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

GOOD ATTITUDE

"It's All About Attitude" at Berlin Intermediate School. Students are recognized each day for being Respectful, Responsible and Ready to Learn as part of the school's PBIS initiative. Sixth grader Addison McDaniel earned her "It's All About Attitude" slip for being respectful to others, herself, and the learning environment. She is always doing things to help her teachers and her peers. McDaniel is pictured with BIS School Principal Tom Sites.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

WPS SINGS

Worcester Prep Middle and Upper School Music Director Christopher Buzby and his Select Vocal Ensemble treated residents of three local retirement homes in Berlin, Snow Hill and Salisbury to singing performances on Dec. 1. Following their annual tradition, the ensemble pulled off another flash mob in The Centre At Salisbury during their lunch at the food court. After their performance, members of the ensemble mingled with residents of Lakeside at Mallard Landing.

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Cuisine

When life gives you snow, make snow cream

There's just something about a Cumberland girl; I'm not sure if that's a song yet, but it should be. I have a



By Paul Suplee,
MBA, CEC, PC-3

personal connection to the city, as my great grandfather George Truog was a well-renowned glass artisan at the turn-of-the-century. His factory was massive and right in the middle of the city (the building has since been razed) and he was at the forefront of the industry until he got into his own way, but that's for another day.

The stories about Truog were legendary, and from what I can ascertain, he was somewhat insane. A Swiss-Italian artist, he was also a violin virtuoso who would open the windows of the office in the turret of his mansion and play for people walking down Baltimore Avenue. The townsfolk would stop and listen to his Sunday concerts and it was yet another story (tale or not) that added to his eccentric persona.

In the 27 rooms of the mansion, Truog had heavy crystal door handles installed with his monogram, marking his presence in every room. Our friends who purchased the home years ago gave my mother one of the door handles, which I now have in my personal collection.

Recently I learned that a friend of mine, Ashley, hales from Cumberland as did my Great grand-pappy. Ashley and Brad (I wrote about them recently) have helped me decorate my house, and it wasn't until last month that I learned that her great grandmother owned Queen City Glass in Cumberland and was a direct competitor to my great grandfather. It was truly a small-world moment.

About a month ago, Ashley introduced me to Hayley, another Cumberland girl, and I came to find out that both of them have been to The Truog House, which now sits on the National Register of Historic Places, as it was Adam's Funeral Home back in the day; a decades-long thriving business after the house was turned into a psychiatric hospital after George lost it. Believe me when I tell you that the place is creepy. I've spent the night there with my wife and kids and you hear lots of creaks and groans of settling wood, or other entities, throughout the dark hours.

And this is where this story ties into the recipe.

In case you didn't notice, we had a

personal connection to the city, as my great grandfather George Truog was a well-renowned glass artisan at the turn-of-the-century. His factory was massive and right in the middle of the



magnificent snowstorm last week and it was not about to go to waste. After a bit of a melt, there were perfect snowballs to be had. But in one conversation, Hayley asked if I had made snow cream (a Cumberland mainstay) for the kids yet. I had no flipping idea what she was talking about, so she enlightened me.

With just a smidgeon of ingredients, a standard bowl of flaky, non-yellow snow can be transformed into a creamy bowl of snow cream, and after just a little bit longer a creamy concoction that will rival the best generic ice cream in the market. The novelty of this recipe makes it, and we had fun creating our bowl of icy goodness. And it was one of those things that you would dig into, try it, finish a mug and then go right back to it. It gets better over the period of an hour and damned if it doesn't melt away quickly at all.

This will definitely be an addition to our snowy-day repertoire, and now I have another reason to pray to the snow gods. But beyond that, I have to thank the motherly-comfort-food gods who came up with recipes such

as this. I still would love to know how it doesn't melt too quickly, but that's just fine regardless. I'll just enjoy the snow cream and the company of a new friend, and relish in the beauty that is Western Maryland, part of my roots.

Cumberland Snow Cream

makes about 2 gallons
3 gallons (ish) fresh, clean snow
2 cans sweetened condensed milk
1 cup Whole milk
1 cup Granulated sugar
2 Tbsp. Vanilla extract
Chocolate chips & sprinkles, optional

1. Before you bring the snow inside, combine the sweetened condensed milk, milk, sugar and vanilla in a bowl and combine until the sugar is dissolved

2. Once that is done, send your minions out for a big bowl of snow. For this recipe, young Ethan was sent out to fill a three-gallon bowl

3. After verifying that your bowl is full – with no traces of yellow snow – simply pour the ingredients in the

other bowl on top of the snow and start folding vigorously with a rubber spatula

4. The cream will be grainy at first, but will start to come together as you mix and it begins to melt. Now here's the crazy part for me! This stayed creamy for almost an hour, as the melting ice inside the bowl created a film of ice on the outside of the stainless bowl, facilitating an environment conducive to very slow-melting snow cream. Who knew?

5. At this point, it is ready to serve, or you can fold in chocolate chips, marshmallows or whatever your heart desires

6. As a final note, you can add cocoa powder and/or coffee extract or espresso to the cream mix, making a totally different snow cream flavor. Just remember that any flavor that you can make in ice cream; you can emulate in this magnificent format

— 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 – 69

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.

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

Answers to last week's puzzles

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

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			SUDANESE			BLAMEON	
ALF	MISSY					SOLER	ROY
GOL	IATH		OBSESSED				
AT	ODDS		IN			EDAHUGO	FAN
TUP	AC		GOSTAG				ESPANA
ESP	ASAN		SLAKED				AHINT
	YIPPIES		URANIUM				OREO
OLD	BOY		LOP			PENNANT	
BA	IO		SADAT			ELMER	ERLE
EP	SON		SEVEN			DAYS	SINMAYO
YUCKY			HAIRPIN			OPTED	IN
SPOSE			ENCORE			NEH	ENS

VOWEL PLAY

BY DAVID STEINBERG / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

ACROSS	46 Pretended to be	104 Lessens the distance between, in a race	13 Flare-ups in the hood?
1 Start of the third qtr.	50 Inventor Howe	106 Straight or curly hair, e.g.	14 OxyContin or Demerol
4 Treatment centers?	51 Discombobulated	110 "He's so lame!" / Deer variety	15 Fixes the décor of completely
8 Sycophant's quality	52 Slimming surgeries, in brief	112 Golden-apple goddess	16 Canceled
13 Mr. Dithers's wife in "Blondie"	54 ____ Ste. Marie, Mich.	114 App developer's milestone	19 Sort of
17 ____-ball pens	55 Strategic position	115 Prefix with port	20 Thin layers
18 Ristorante dessert	57 Like the data in big data	116 Photographer's light	23 Moscow landmark
20 Construction-site vehicle	59 Warriors' org.	118 Thin neckwear / Assam or Earl Grey	28 Writer Jong
21 Top	60 Really bothered	120 Complete	30 "Hoo boy!"
22 Richard Simmons diet regimen / London tabloid	62 Used, as a chair	121 Lightly touched	33 Solidify
24 Records	65 Chow mein relative	122 Afghan, e.g.	36 18, say
25 One may have a height restriction	67 Self-reflective question	123 Cursive capital that looks like a flipped "&"	37 Is litigious
26 Gauge	69 Fooler / Summer Olympics standout	124 Mustang feature	39 Baby in a basket
27 Carpe ____	72 Sound signal booster	125 Mount	40 Actor Patel
29 What a red pepper on a menu may signal / Made clear	73 Kind of medicine	126 Little sibling, often	41 Resembling
31 Caninelike animal more closely related to a cat than a dog	75 Lady friend, in Livorno	127 Major race sponsor	42 Cookies filled with green creme / Flattish sea creatures
32 Three-engine planes	76 SoCal-based sneaker brand		44 Best at a hot-dog contest
34 Babies grow into them	78 Zeno of ____	DOWN	45 Cap
35 O.J. Simpson trial judge	79 Colonial Indian title	1 Jerusalem's onetime kingdom	47 Risky / Denim attire
37 "Goosebumps" author	81 When big bands thrived	2 Nervous	48 See 49-Down
38 So-called "cradle of civilization"	84 Bridges of old film	3 Act the middleman	49 With 48-Down, philatelist's collection
40 Curse	86 "Shush!"	4 Visits for a time	53 ____ gland (melatonin producer)
43 Preceder of free throws / Juice container?	88 Writer Shaw	5 Yappy lap dogs, informally	56 Five things in "La Bohème"
	91 Scheduled to arrive	6 Plane calculation	58 Pulled a fast one on
	92 Hypothesized	7 Unadventurous	61 Part of a wedding that drags
	94 Harry Potter's ex-girlfriend / Register sound	8 Word after "&" in many a company name	62 Comp ____ (college major, informally)
	96 National Spelling Bee airer	9 Minister's home	63 Dog-show initials
	97 Some prized Prado pieces	10 Makes into a movie, say	64 Grp. with wands
	99 One of the Kennedys	11 Trusts	66 Often-oval floor décor
	100 Disappointing	12 Richie's mom on "Happy Days"	67 Puppy
	102 Sin subject?		

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
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110					111			112		113		114				
115					116			117		118		119				
120					121					122				123		
124					125					126				127		

68 "Are you listening?!"

70 Stressed at the end, in a way

71 ____ to go

74 Crime-fighting mom of 1980s TV

77 Jets and others

80 Tried something

82 Lambaste

83 Massachusetts' Cape

85 Scan, in a way

87 Storyteller's transition

88 Olympian blood

89 Like some German wines

90 Howl

93 Garments worn in old Rome

95 Future cereal grain

98 Actress Ronan of "Lady Bird"

101 Sprint competitor

102 Second letter in the Greek for "Athens"

103 Vehemently criticize

105 Words of resignation

107 Potful

108 Least warm

109 Daddy Warbucks's bodyguard

110 Hard smack

111 Judgmental sounds

113 Word with "f" or full

114 First N.F.L. team to go 0-16 for a season (2008)

117 Spring locale

119 ____ the day

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. 11

GENEALOGY WORKSHOP: ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION
Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, Ocean Pines, MD, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. The group will discuss scanning techniques and how to store precious family photos. Attendees are encouraged to bring a laptop or a tablet. Pre-registration is required: 410-208-4014.

PLAY DOUGH CREATIONS
Snow Hill library, 307 N. Washington St., Snow Hill, MD, 10:30 a.m. For 3 to 7 year old children. 410-632-3495

STORY TIME ‘SNOW DAY!’
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

SCREEN PRINTING
Pocomoke library, 301 Market St., Pocomoke City, MD 21851, 1 p.m. Leave with your own piece of original art after this one-day workshop. Register at the Pocomoke branch or call 410-957-0878. 410-957-0878

WRITING WITH RUTH
Ocean City library, 10003 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, MD, 1 to 3 p.m. Monthly gathering of local writers share independent work and receive encouraging feedback. All writers welcome. 410-524-1818

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>

CELIAC SUPPORT GROUP
Atlantic General Hospital, conference room 1, 9733 Healthway Drive, Berlin, MD, 7 to 8 p.m. Held second Thursday of each month. Support and information for those affected by celiac disease. Betty Bellarin, 410-603-0210

FRI, JAN. 12

MAYOR’S PRAYER BREAKFAST
Clarion Resort Fontainebleau Hotel, Crystal Ballroom, 10100 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, MD, 8 to 10 a.m. Check-in is from 7-7:45 a.m., speaker and breakfast will begin at 8 a.m. Key note speaker is Victor Mooney of The Goree Challenge. Mooney is the first African-American to row across any ocean. Cost is \$20 per person, \$300

sponsor table (includes 10 tickets and event sponsor recognition on table and in program and \$100 open seating sponsor (includes signage on open seating table as events sponsor and in program). Register: https://oceancitychamber.chambermaster.com/directory/jsp/events/dlg/Public_AddReg.jsp?pid=096j329or3Z4vwhP4g358nfc6641Z22136BT3u948eFhKG253351pd780xew451q. Lisa Layfield, lisa@oceancity.org

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

EAST COAST COMMERCIAL FISHERMAN’S & AQUACULTURE TRADE EXPO
Ocean City convention center, 4001 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, MD, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Seminars, fishermen gear, equipment and more. Admission costs is \$15. 410-289-2800 or 800-626-2326, <http://www.marylandwatermen.com>

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

BOREDOM BUSTERS: CONSTRUCTING
Pocomoke library, 301 Market St., Pocomoke City, MD, 3:30 p.m. Beat the dullness of cold winter days with fun off-screen activities. For ages 8 years and older. 410-957-0878, <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

ANNUAL BEEF AND BEER
Ocean Pines Community Center, Asateague Room, 235 Ocean Parkway, Ocean Pines, MD 21811, 5 to 9 p.m. Music and live auction by DJ Rupe, food catered by Monty Jones and entertainment including a comedy skit by Paul Maze. Cost is \$30. Tickets: Mary Evans, 410-596-5498, Barbara Peletier, 443-896-4914 or Anna Foutz, 410-641-7667. To benefit our Wounded Soldiers.

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>

OCEAN PINES BOOK OF THE MONTH
Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, Ocean Pines, MD, 2 to 4 p.m. This month’s selection is “The Nightingale” by Kristin Hannah. Copies of books are available in advance at the library. 410-208-4014, <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

FATHER-DAUGHTER SWIM
Sports Core Pool, 11144 Cathell Road, Ocean Pines, MD, 6 to 8 p.m. A new offering by Ocean Pines Aquatics, the Father-Daughter Swim will include crafts, a keepsake photo and frame, pizza, cookies and the swimming in the indoor pool. The entry fee includes a father and any daughters he brings. Cost is \$10 for Ocean Pines swim members, \$12 for Ocean Pines residents and \$15 for non-residents. Ocean Pines Aquatics, 410-641-5255

RELAY FOR LIFE KICKOFF
Game World, 107 146th St. A, Ocean City, MD, 6 to 8 p.m. Cancer survivors, caregivers, volunteers and community members gather to kick off the American Cancer Society Relay For Life of North Worcester County fundraising season. Visuals and interviews by committee members, team captains, survivors, caregivers and sponsors. Open to the public.

OCEAN PINES CHILDREN’S THEATRE PRESENTS: INTO THE WOODS JR.
OC Performing Arts Center, Ocean City convention center, 4001 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, MD, 7 p.m. Tickets cost \$15. 410-289-2800 or 800-626-2326

SAT, JAN. 13

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

OCEAN PINES ANGLERS CLUB MEETING
Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, Ocean Pines, MD, 9:30 a.m. The speaker will be Captain Dan Harrison owner of Salty Fly Guide Service in Crisfield. He will share stories and tips of fly fishing the shallow waters of the Tangier Sound, the Chesapeake Bay and the Islands in them. All are welcome. Jack Barnes, 410-641-7662

EAST COAST COMMERCIAL FISHERMAN’S & AQUACULTURE TRADE EXPO
Ocean City convention center, 4001 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, MD, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Seminars, fishermen gear, equipment and more. Admission costs is \$15. 410-289-2800 or 800-626-2326,

<http://www.marylandwatermen.com>

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP - LIFE AFTER LOSS
Atlantic General Hospital, Conference Room 1, 9733 Healthway Drive, Berlin, MD, 10 to 11:30 a.m. A supportive and safe place to allow people to share their stories with those who have lost loved ones to addiction or overdose. No reservation is needed and no sign-in will be done at the door. Refreshments provided. Gail Mansell, gmansell@atlantic-general.org

STEM ‘AMAZING MAZES’
Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, Ocean Pines, MD, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Learn about mazes and build a LEGO marble maze. For children 6 years and older. 410-208-4014, <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

SCRAPBOOKING DAY
Berlin library, 220 N. Main St., Berlin, MD, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Bring your scrapbooking supplies and share the library’s materials to organize and plan your scrapbooks. 410-641-0650, <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

OCULUS RIFT OPEN HOUSE
Ocean City library, 10003 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, MD, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Get a one-on-one session with a librarian who can help you through the process of exploring virtual reality systems. Everyone will be given a short how-to (if needed), then 15 minutes to explore on your own. First come, first serve. Refreshments provided. 410-524-1818, <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

OCEAN PINES CHILDREN’S THEATRE PRESENTS: INTO THE WOODS JR.
OC Performing Arts Center, Ocean City convention center, 4001 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, MD, 3 p.m. Tickets cost \$15. 410-289-2800 or 800-626-2326

‘ORIGINALS ONLY’
Ocean City Center for the Arts, 502 94th St., Ocean City, MD, 6 p.m. An evening of live music for the next generation of local artist. 410-524-9433, <http://www.artleagueofoceancity.org>

OCEAN PINES CHILDREN’S THEATRE PRESENTS: INTO THE WOODS JR.
OC Performing Arts Center, Ocean City convention center, 4001 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, MD, 7 p.m. Tickets cost \$15. 410-289-2800 or 800-626-2326

DRAG QUEEN SHOW/FUNDRAISER
28th St. Pit & Pub, 2706 Philadelphia Ave., Ocean City, MD, 7 to 11 p.m. Featuring a comedy Drag Queen show, an auction, raffles and an ‘80s theme. Dress in ‘80s attire for a chance to win a prize. Tickets cost \$25 and include happy hour prices, discounted menu items and light hor d’oeuvres. Limited to 100 people. Advance ticket purchases are encouraged by calling 410-390-3937 or 443-

Calendar

944-4763 or stopping by the 28th St. Pit & Pub or Sandals Bridal in West Ocean City. Any remaining tickets will be available at the door. Proceeds benefit Believe in Tomorrow.

SUN, JAN. 14

EAST COAST COMMERCIAL FISHERMAN’S & AQUACULTURE TRADE EXPO
Ocean City convention center, 4001 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, MD, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Seminars, fishermen gear, equipment and more. Admission costs is \$15. 410-289-2800 or 800-626-2326, <http://www.marylandwatermen.com>

MON, JAN. 15

FREE NATIONAL PARKS DAY
Assateague Island National Seashore, 7206 National Seashore Lane, Berlin, MD, All Day In celebration of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Assateague Island National Seashore will offer free admission. <http://www.nps.gov>

DEMOCRATIC WOMEN’S CLUB MEETING
Ocean Pines Community Center, 235 Ocean Parkway, Ocean Pines, MD 21811, 10 a.m. Coffee at 9:30 a.m. Speaker is Liyana Kadushin who helps those with memory issues and their caregivers to connect. 410-973-1021

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, JAN. 16

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, <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

STORY TIME ‘MITTENS’
Berlin library, 220 N. Main St., Berlin, MD, 10:30 a.m. For 2 to 5 year old children. 410-641-0650, <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

ALZHEIMER’S SUPPORT GROUP
Berlin Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, 9715 Healthway Drive, Berlin, MD, 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. Support group for caregivers of Alzheimer’s patients. It meets the third Tuesday of each month. Open to the community. Info: Heather Cormack, 410-641-4400, Ext. 6123 or

Kenneth Lewis, 410-208-1701 or 410-430-4818

HEALTHY LIVING WITH HYPERTENSION
Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, Ocean Pines, MD 410-208-4014, 1 to 3:30 p.m. A free, one-time workshop to learn how to better manage blood pressure/hypertension. Register: Jill Kenney, jak@macinc.org, 410-742-0505, Ext. 159

COLORING FOR CALMNESS AND CONVERSATION
Berlin library, 220 N. Main St., Berlin, MD, 2 p.m. Monthly adult coloring sessions. Explore different patterns such as mandalas, entangles, paisleys and more. Bring your own coloring papers or use the library’s. Colored pencils, gel pens and felt tips available, along with coffee and cookies. 410-641-0650, <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

TOUR OF IRELAND: TRIP SEMINAR
Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, Ocean Pines, MD, 2 p.m. The Worcester County Library Foundation is partnering with Ireland RNR for a trip to Ireland on May 27. Tour promoters will be on site to answer questions. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

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, <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

TAI CHI
Ocean City library, 10003 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, MD, 3 p.m. Tai Chi is an ancient for of relaxation, exercise and meditation combined. Limit of 15 participants. Register: 410-524-1818, <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

CODING FOR GIRLS
Berlin library, 220 N. Main St., Berlin, MD, 4 p.m. This is an informal Q and A-based meeting for girls interested in weekly coding programs to start March 2. For girls in 6th through 12th grade. 410-641-0650, <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

SOOTHING STORIES ‘THE STORM WHALE’
Ocean City library, 10003 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, MD, 4:30 p.m. All children of all abilities are welcome every other Tuesday night. Providing a calming story along with playtime using sensory toys and activities. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

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

‘SHARED VISIONS’ PRESENTATION
OC Center for the Arts, 502 94th St., Ocean City, MD, 6 to 8 p.m. The Ocean City Writers Group will read their work and several of the visual artist will dis-

cuss what inspired them for the “Shared Visions” show. Free and open to the public. 410-524-9433, <http://www.artleagueofoceancity.org>

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. 17

BLOOD DRIVE
Ocean City convention center, 4001 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, MD, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Donors participating in this blood drive will receive a free T-shirt, food and a chance to win a 43-inch smart TV. To book an appointment, call 1-888-8-BLOOD-8 or visit www.delmarvablood.org. Use code OCCC to register. All hospitals on the Delmarva benefit from this drive, including Atlantic General Hospital and Peninsula Regional Medical Center. City and county employees are encouraged to donate and are allowed to donate on work time. <http://www.DelmarvaBlood.org>

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 on the third Wednesday of each month. No appointment necessary. 410-713-3482, <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

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, <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

BREAST CANCER SUPPORT GROUP
Atlantic Health Center Conference Room, 9714 Healthway Drive, Berlin, MD, 1 to 2 p.m. Women Supporting Women/AGH Support group for women and men who are battling breast cancer (current patients and survivors). Lunch is provided. RSVP: Women Supporting Women, 410-548-7880

AFTERNOON GENRE CLUB @ OCEAN CITY
Ocean City library, 10003 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, MD, 2 p.m. New genre book club. We choose the genre/topic, you choose the title. Discussions are on the third Wednesday of each month. Light refreshments served. This month’s

genre is memoirs. 410-524-1818, <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

SNOWFLAKE MAKING
Snow Hill library, 307 N. Washington St., Snow Hill, MD, 3:45 p.m. Learn how to create a unique, decorative paper snowflake. All materials provided. Suitable for all ages. 410-632-3495

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>

EVENING GENRE CLUB @ OCEAN CITY
Ocean City library, 10003 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, MD, 6 p.m. New genre book club. We choose the genre/topic, you choose the title. This month’s genre is memoirs. Stop by the library for suggested titles. 410-524-1818, <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

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

NOMINATIONS SOUGHT
The Maryland Senior Citizens Hall of Fame, Inc. (MSCHF) is seeking nominations of Maryland residents, 65 years of age or older, who as active volunteers (since age 65) have made outstanding contributions to improve the lives of others in the community. Nominations are accepted until April 10. Approved nominees are inducted into The Maryland Senior Citizens Hall of Fame at our annual Awards Luncheon held in October. The nomination form and specific details for eligibility are available on our website at mschf.org, by emailing mschf.mail@verizon.net or calling 410-828-5852.

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>

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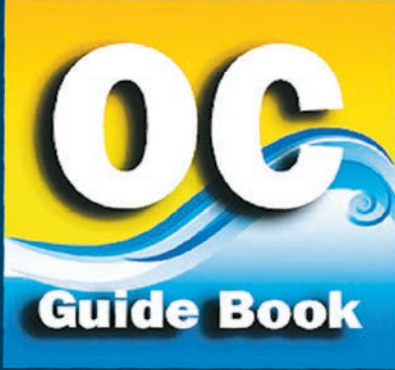
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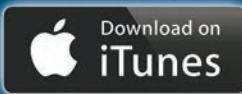
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See You Soon for Your Next New or Used Car



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