



JOSH DAVIS/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Berlin Mayor Gee Williams discusses his vision for the remainder of 2018, which could include a parking study, community meetings and finding new ways to capture revenue from growth.

## Fiscal '18 OPA budget hearing set for Saturday

Current draft would see assessments increase \$30

By Josh Davis  
Associate Editor

(Jan. 18, 2018) Although original budget projections for Ocean Pines in fiscal year 2019 were that basic annual assessments could increase \$60, that number was cut in half during deliberations between General Manager John Bailey and the budget and finance committee on Tuesday.

A public hearing for the updated proposal is scheduled for Saturday at 10 a.m. at the Tern Grille.

Changes from the original proposal, as outlined by Bailey during the conclusion of the meeting, were:

- Payroll costs at the finance department would be cut by \$17,853, saving about \$2 in assessments. That amount would have paid for a part-time staffer.

- Payroll in public works was reduced \$75,594, equivalent to two full-time employees, saving about \$9 in assessments. Public works and general maintenance, collectively, added five positions last year. The agreement was made that justifications only remained for three of the five.

- An additional \$47,000 was added to the fire department budget, based on a presentation by fire personnel during committee deliberations last week. That added about \$5 to assessments.

- Golf revenue projections were increased by \$25,000, saving about \$3 in assessments.

- Payroll at the yacht club was reduced to 44 percent of expenses, cutting \$238,000 from the budget and trimming assessments by about \$28.

Additionally, cutting bulkhead collections reduced assessments by \$19 and funding road depreciation added \$26.

"It's basically \$30 off of the \$60 that's currently proposed, which leaves us with \$30 instead of \$33 for deficit recovery," Bailey said.

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## What will 2018 look like in Berlin?

Mayor Gee Williams lays out his vision for projects town could tackle this year

By Josh Davis  
Associate Editor

*This is part one of a two-part interview. The second part will be released in the Jan. 25 edition of the Bayside Gazette.*

(Jan. 18, 2018) In the next 11 months, according to Berlin Mayor Gee Williams, the town will examine its parking problems, develop a growth strategy and a way to capture revenue from recent growth, forge a new partnership with fire and EMS services, begin development and lay groundwork for the future of Berlin Falls park, and implement a new street and sidewalk plan.

"I think 2018 offers the town the opportunity to either initiate or build upon some of the major areas of improvement that we have worked on the past, and some will be truly a beginning," he said.

At Berlin Falls, for instance,

Williams expects "more visible impacts" as a result of a newly established advisory committee.

"Other things that will be truly a new initiative, is I think we need to take a comprehensive look at increasing parking capacity for downtown Berlin," he said. "That's something we've discussed informally, but I think the timing is just right."

He said a formal parking study could be ordered by the early part of this year.

"This study should be initiated by the town and completed as early as possible in 2018," he said. "It may be a foundational study, but I don't think it will be the only study. We need to identify basic needs and figure out what our options are."

Williams said there are some underutilized areas in town that could easily be adapted for additional public parking spaces, "assuming we have the support of the property owners."

Other solutions to parking shortages could range from less expensive, short-term options to long-term fixes

"to be implemented in the next 10-15 years." Williams said other transportation options, such as trams, trolleys, bicycle taxis and bike rentals, should be considered.

He said a parking garage is not out of the question, so long as it is complimentary to the downtown.

"We're not talking about putting up some modern building or something that's totally incompatible with our historic charm," he said, adding, "The people you serve will not allow you to spend \$1 to prevent pain, but they will allow you to spend what is responsible and necessary to make pain go away – that describes Berlin's situation."

Williams recalled looking at parking concerns when he became mayor in 2008, and found "there were plenty of parking spaces." That has changed over the past decade.

"From my observation, there has been a significant increase in day-to-day motor vehicle traffic, and there's been significantly more in the last 10 years than anything we ever experi-

See WILLIAMS Page 6

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Ocean Pines officials this week indicated they are close to bringing in outside management to oversee operations at the yacht club. General Manager John Bailey will make a presentation during the next regular board meeting, Jan. 27.

# Outside group likely to manage YC

By Josh Davis  
Associate Editor

(Jan. 18, 2018) Call it the yacht club, the Cove at Mumford's Landing, or any other name – indications are Ocean Pines will not manage the building on 1 Mumford Landing Road much longer.

The topic came up often during budget deliberations on Tuesday between the Ocean Pines Association Budget and Finance Committee and General Manager John Bailey.

Committee members wanted to lower payroll estimates for the fiscal year 2019 budget and talked about closing the facility during the winter months, when losses mount.

Bailey indicated new, outside management would be coming and would not want to close the club down for several months.

Following the meeting, he addressed rumors the association is heading that way and likely is looking for someone to manage all food and beverage operations in the community, with the possible exception of the Tern Grille.

"That's the direction I'm thinking of right now," he said. "I'm waiting to get another proposal or two in – that will make the difference in which one I propose or recommend to the board – but I anticipate that being done at the Jan. 27 board meeting."

"Whether or not we come to finalization that day – it may be another couple of weeks before we finalize something," Bailey continued. "But, no matter what we do or which managing partner we work to get a contract with ... that's certainly where I believe that we're heading towards."

Bailey said at least one proposal had already been received and he expected two more before the board meeting. He declined to name any of the companies.

He also confirmed the most recent food and beverage director, Brian Townsend, had been let go.

"The ability to hire the right food and beverage director and get that individual in place to train people and all of that stuff – we have that capability, collectively and with my past skill sets, I think we can do that – however, I don't have time to focus

on that," Bailey said. "A management partner would do all of that. We know that they have the skillset to do all those things and think beyond our 'well, we've always done it this way approach.'"

"There've been a lot of good things that we've done at the past at the beach club and yacht club, but we don't want to limit ourselves to the past successes – we want to go beyond that. And I think a managing partner, in this particular situation, would be the best way to achieve that," Bailey added.

He went on to say the options were limited, because the decision to lease food and beverage outright "needed to be done last September or October."

The goal is to get everything up and running again in time for Memorial Day.

"Process-wise, it's too late in the game to ... go that process, get presentations and pick one, and then have them get up and running," Bailey said. "But a consulting group, to come in and hire and train and create menus and all of that, that's going to be pushing it as well, but that's going to be more doable."

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Although ice floats ran down the Pocomoke River this week and colder temperatures continued, a few living things remain at Sturgis Park in Snow Hill.

JOSH DAVIS/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

# Survey says: no shortage of ideas

By Josh Davis  
Associate Editor

(Jan. 18, 2018) Results of a survey on development options at Snow Hill's Sturgis Park appeared to show public interest in improving access to downtown, turning the former PNC Bank into a restaurant, and extending the boardwalk, while not so much interest in adding grills at the pavilion. Other suggestions, including building an ice-skating rink, visitor's



JOSH DAVIS/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

The Town of Snow Hill is discussing phased improvements for Sturgis Park, potentially to include improved access to downtown and an extended boardwalk.

center and/or kayak launch, received mixed reviews.

Although there is no shortage of ideas, town officials said not to expect a flurry of activity at Sturgis any time soon.

The town reported receiving a \$30,000 park development grant from the Maryland Department of Community and Housing Development last January.

Snow Hill used the money to hire Annapolis-based landscape architects Campion Hruby, who drafted several ambitious park renovation concepts and presented them during a well-attended public meeting in December.

At the conclusion, presenters polled the roughly 40 people on their preferences.

Snow Hill Grant Administrator Ann Gibb said the survey results were contradictory in some instances.

"They want a floating dock, but they don't care about a kayak launch," she said. "To me, if you're going to put a floating dock in, you put in a kayak launch so you can paddle up onto the floating dock."

Gibb said the results should be taken lightly.

"Its just preferences. The scientific

significance of it is not very good," she said. "I don't think it's a great test of what the whole population thinks – this is just a sample of what 43 people think.

"People are very interested in seeing something happen with the bank building and with the park," she added.

Copies of the results were given to the Snow Hill Mayor and Council and others in Town Hall last week for further action, if any, Gibb said.

"I don't make those decisions," she said. "They're going to meet with the landscape architects later this month and talk about it some more. We need to have some meeting of the minds about where this is going to go and what people want to do, so we can get this plan drawn up."

She expected that to be finished by the end of March.

Mayor Charlie Dorman said the logical next step in the process is simple: find the money.

"We don't have any money to do any of it," he said. "Once it's decided, firmly, exactly what we want to do, then we'll have to apply for grants to do it little by little. It might be a 20-year project."

## Pocomoke's Shore Spirits case decided

### Appeal fails and license awarded to high bidder

By Brian Gilliland  
Associate Editor

(Jan. 18, 2018) A three-part appeal to the Board of License Commissioners' decision to allow the sale of the Pocomoke Shore Spirits to Kalpesh Patel failed in circuit court, allowing the county to complete its exit from wholesale and retail alcohol sales.

Worcester County originally intended to be out of the liquor business by July 1, 2017, but the dispute over the license for the store forced the county to develop a budget of about \$1 million to continue operations until the case was settled.

Attorney Hugh Cropper brought three challenges to the decision to award a Class A beer, wine and liquor license to a store owned by Patel, which was a condition of the sale. Patel bid \$1.175 million for the store and its contents last year.

Cropper contended the application to appear before the Board of License Commissioners filed by Kalpesh Patel was completed in bad faith, the need for a store selling beer at that location was exaggerated, and also questioned the semantics of the Class-A license itself.

Cropper explained the application was for a beer, wine and liquor license, though sales data provided by Worcester County showed wine was not in high demand for that store, and beer demand was being served by two other stores in the same strip mall. Without proving the demand for all three would be served, the application should be denied, Cropper argued.

The application, he argued first, was required to be filled out by resident property owners who are registered voters within the municipality of Pocomoke City. The application required 10 signatures of people certifying Kalpesh Patel is an appropriate person for a liquor license. One of the required fields in the application is a

See WITH Page 8

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# Already an eventful year for Berlin Police

Town, department has seen major fire, deadly collision and accident on Main St.

**By Josh Davis**  
Associate Editor

(Jan. 18, 2018) Berlin Police Chief Arnold Downing said recent weeks have been eventful – and taxing – for police.

“We’ve had a busy and stressful winter season so far, in so many ways,” he said during a Town Council meeting last Monday. “We’ve actually had a tragic fire, we’ve had a fatal accident [and] we’ve had a personal injury accident. We also had the big event of the ball drop and the winter event itself,” he said.

The 100-year-old home on Main Street of Hank and Julie Koenig caught fire on Dec. 13. Four days later, on Dec. 17, Newark resident June Gravenor, 73, died as a result of a car crash at the intersection of Route 113

and Bay Street. Then, on Christmas Eve, a car downtown struck Keith Raffensberger, shattering his femur and breaking four ribs and his shoulder, among other injuries. He was sent to Shock Trauma in Baltimore and later transferred to Health South Rehabilitation. A GoFundMe page remains active for Raffensberger, at [www.gofundme.com/support-for-the-raffensbergers](http://www.gofundme.com/support-for-the-raffensbergers).

The first week of January brought more than a foot of snow, along with an extended streak of sub-freezing temperatures. As a result, several pipes burst and police, for about a week, were digging cars out from snowdrifts and patches of ice.

Downing said staff cooperation, during the difficult stretch, has been exceptional.

“We’ve seen all of the departments come together [working] tirelessly ...

and effectively,” he said. During the fire, for example, Downing said the quick response from the Berlin Fire Company helped cut the electricity, while Berlin Water Resources made sure there was enough water pressure to allow firefighters to tame the blaze. “After the event, we had the community come together and support a family,” Downing said. “We will go through storms, I definitely know that ... but to see people come together during those times was so special.”

Donations of clothing, supplies and money came in to help the Koenigs rebuild their home. A GoFundMe page remains active, at [www.gofundme.com/helping-the-koenigs-rebuild](http://www.gofundme.com/helping-the-koenigs-rebuild).

Downing said multiple police, emergency services and fire agencies responded to the fatal car crash. The Worcester County Bureau of Investigations helped during the aftermath

and during an investigation of the pedestrian accident, he said. He said officers worked 14-hour shifts throughout the snowstorm and provided more than 30 rescue assists. A five-ton Humvee operated by police department also helped county and state police during rescues, Downing said. “I’m very proud of my guys ... getting it done,” he said. “We commend everybody for their hard work.”

Police continue to look for a witness who spoke to officers on the night of the fatal accident, but did not leave his information. Anyone with information is asked to contact the Berlin Police Department at 410-641-1333.

Downing said police are also waiting for medical records for that case to come back.

The driver in the pedestrian accident was reportedly a 20-year-year-old female resident of Berlin. Downing said no charges were filed and he does not foresee charges pending.

“We had an opportunity to interview Mr. Raffensberger on Monday. He is in good spirits and will be coming home this week,” Downing said last Wednesday.

## Low-to-moderate income taxpayers can get free help

(Jan. 18, 2018) The AARP Foundation will be offering free tax preparation for low- to moderate-income tax payers, Feb. 2 through April 16 at several locations around Worcester County.

The locations and days are: Ocean Pines Library on Monday, Ocean City Senior Center on 41st Street on Saturday, Pocomoke City Library on Friday and Salisbury/Mac Center on Tuesday. Volunteers will assist in e-filing returns but cannot prepare rental/business income.

Appointments for Ocean Pines and Ocean City locations may be made by calling 410-641-5036. Appointments for Pocomoke may be made by calling 410-957-0878. Appointments for Salisbury/Mac Center may be made by calling 410-376-3662. Tax assistance will be available from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. by appointment only.

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# Williams says manageable growth necessary for vitality

■ WHAT continued  
enced before – and even more so in the last four,” Williams said. “I am convinced that we now need more parking, not just for the peak parking times ... I think that now there is a need for additional parking during our season, which is the first of April through New Year’s Eve,” he said.

“For roughly 80 years, this town had a parking problem – we had lots of parking and not that many cars,” Williams added. “Now, we have a more traditional parking problem. In a way, it’s a consequence of the economic vitality and growth of this community.”

He does not see the problem going away, nor does he foresee economic growth in the town stalling any time soon.

“I think the worst-case scenario is, during an economic downturn nationally, it may be leveled for a short time,” he said. “But, given all the potential that we can identify today, I think it is incumbent upon the mayor and council and this community to work together to provide additional parking to meet the needs that currently exist, and to be prepared and have plans for growing demand, as it develops.”

As for managing growth, Williams said the town would “begin the development of a growth strategy for not only downtown, but all neighborhoods in Berlin, including the two major highway corridors of U.S. 50 and U.S. 113 in the Town of Berlin.”

The is expected to include a series of public meetings using “the experience and the template” of the series of stormwater meetings the town held in recent years, Williams said.

He said meetings would be held “in every residential neighborhood [and] the downtown historic and business district, to consider growth issues, ideas and concerns in not only their respective back yards, but also what we expect to be primarily commercial opportunities” along the highways.

“The discussions and consultant studies for future Berlin growth should evolve into a plan for both immediate and long-term annexation priorities that will also define a permanent ‘green no-growth zone’ that would be adopted in town growth policy, but would also serve as an important contribution to the updating of the Town of Berlin and Worcester County Comprehensive Growth Plan for the next decade and beyond,” Williams said.

“I think all of us, the mayor and council and everyone involved, are going to be welcoming people who come in and want to learn as much about this, ask any question they want, and give their true and thoughtful – and informed – opinions about what they’d like to see,” he added. “I think anybody who’s in public office who truly cares about

the job tries to listen to everyone, but people who have informed opinions tend to carry more weight than people who just have an opinion based on their emotions.”

The stormwater meetings lasted about 18 months and William expects the next set of assemblies to run about the same duration.

“The one assumption that I’m making as a lifelong resident of Berlin [is], I don’t want unmanaged, uncontrollable, go-for-the-fences growth,” Williams said. “But I do think, as a community, we recognize that manageable and incremental growth is necessary to the vitality of the community – not just economically, but in every other way. That is what’s gotten us here.

“When we were, not consciously, a no-growth community, we suffered,” he added. “But, it took time for people to realize that. I want us to take the lessons we’ve learned so far and apply term to the future.”

Williams went on to say the town’s current revenue structure “was never designed [for] or ever anticipated the economic growth our community has experienced in the first couple decades of the 21st century.”

“To continue along a path of sustainable prosperity, Berlin must begin to look at revenue options that are mutually beneficial to the business community and the town,” he said.

He said to maintain economic vitality requires ongoing investment in both infrastructure and economic development “to make the gains in the town’s recent economic resurgence sustainable and not just a short-lived flash in the pan.”

The lack of parking spaces, Williams said, is a perfect example of an issue town planners didn’t foresee, decades ago.

“You can’t have more people coming to town more often, doing more shopping, going to restaurants and enjoying events, without having the obvious impact of where are they going to park,” he said. “We want to address that – we’re not reluctant – but our traditional property tax revenues are inadequate for the town to continue to make the investments ... to enable our economic progress to be permanent.”

That does not mean raising taxes, he said.

“That’s the interesting thing,” Williams said. “We can’t just do the basics and approach revenue generation for the town to invest in the town, and apply the same basic strategy that we applied in the 20th century ... Other communities who have addressed this and successfully done it are way ahead of us. We need to look ahead and start considering what works in other places.

“Are we going to raise property taxes and expect the residents to pro-  
See BERLIN Page 7

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# Berlin will look to capture revenue, but not raise taxes

Continued from Page 6

vide additional revenues so that we can invest in the economic, business sector of our community? No. That's not right. Property taxes, the way they're structured, is to provide services to everyone," Williams continued. "The idea is that we all come together and share responsibilities so we can have shared benefit, regardless of where you live in town. And I think we're doing a better job of that than ever."

As value is added for a commercial enterprise, Williams said, there needs to be "reasonable and responsible ways that the town benefits."

"Most people don't realize it, but all this economic activity that I'm truly grateful for and I think we all as members of the Town of Berlin are grateful for doesn't add one dollar to town," he said. "But we've had to invest, literally, millions of dollars of our own money – not just grant money – but money that we've had to either borrow or spend outright to make this all possible."

"There's greater demand on all those services and we are committed to making sure they meet the current standards that are environmentally responsible, that they're engineered for reliability, and as we expanded we are also preparing the for the future," Williams continued. "I think we have a responsibility to take that approach with every aspect of the community that we are responsible for."

What exactly that means, Williams said, has not been determined.

"We just know that other places are doing it in a variety of ways where we would get a reasonable benefit of getting some return to replenish the resources that we not only have invested, but will continued to need to invest to allow this economic growth to continue," he said. "It doesn't happen by magic."

"One of my basic beliefs is that the residential community should not underwrite investments in our commercial community – but it takes more than just wishing about it," Williams added.



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# OPA looks to address \$1.4M deficit

■ FISCAL continued

"The hearing that's taking place this coming Saturday ... is based upon the numbers we just went through," he added. "The PowerPoint presentation that we're creating will be based upon what we did today."

Bailey had proposed a separate, stand-alone assessment of \$33, per property, per year, for five years, but that number decreased to \$30 based on the budget alterations.

Assistant Treasurer Gene Ringsdorf cautioned against labeling the assessment a "five-year plan."

The association ran into issues a few years back, when a capital-purchase collection labeled the "five-year funding solution" lasted seven years.

"That is just going to get us into a PR nightmare," Ringsdorf said. "Say we're going to attempt to reduce it

through operational gains for this year, and maybe next year ... but don't say we're going to do it for five years, because we might turn this ship around and not have to do it."

"We've already seen some of the reaction by labeling it a five-year plan and I think we can't do that again," he added.

Committee member John Trumpower also wondered if deficits from the previous two years, about \$1.4 million, needed to be made up at all.

"This is not money we owe," he said. "As a property owner I've already paid it, in my last year's and the year previous assessments. There's no legal obligation to pay this."

"I would like to see that money used for something positive going forward," Trumpower continued.

"We've got a new ballgame going here – let's get some new uniforms. Let's not look to the past as a failure ... let's move forward."

Association Treasurer Pat Supik disagreed, saying the deficit was not merely "a balance-sheet animal."

"It is real – it is cash that we don't have. We have no operating reserve at all, because we budget zero and we aim for zero every year," she said. "If we lose \$1 million a year we have to fund that from the reserves, which we can't do without a supermajority of the board."

"It means that our checkbook is a minus \$1 million," Supik added. "We do need to replace that \$1 million and it needs to go into the operating account. It's not something that we're going to buy anything new with – we're basically going to pay the bills we already incurred with it."



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# Planners postpone annual Blues Jam; could reorganize

By Josh Davis  
Associate Editor

(Jan. 18, 2018) After a decade of putting music in the air, the annual Snow Hill Blues Jam has been shelved, at least temporarily.

Organizer Margot Resto, who helped form the Snow Hill All Stars band for the inaugural Blues Jam in 2008, said the festival could be re-launched at a later date, perhaps in a new venue or during another time of year.

“We came to our 10th year and felt we had a good, strong 10 years and the members of the committee discussed it and felt like it was time to either take a break or reimagine it ... to breathe new life into it,” she said.

“We’re not putting it away forever – we’re just kind of rethinking it. The people who started it 10 years ago, we’re all in different places in our lives,” Resto added. “We all put our love into it for 10 years and we felt like it was time to move forward and maybe just try something new.”

Several event founders passed away in recent years, including Bill Rolig, who succumbed to prostate cancer in 2012 at the age of 55, and Mike Armstrong, who in 2016 lost his own battle with cancer at age 61.

Additionally, Snow Hill All Stars’ guitarist Burley Strand passed away on stage in November 2014.

“We felt that we wanted to get [the festival] through to that 10th year and keep the music going and kind of go out with a bang,” Resto said of the final concert last March. “It was a great show and we thought maybe now is a time to change course and

try something different.”

She said between 200 and 250 people attended the performance at the old fire hall downtown.

“It was something people looked forward to, and after winter and coming out of the cold, it was a celebration of music,” she said. “[Also], a large amount of people who came were from out of town, so it was a nice way to connect with people from outside of Snow Hill and let people know how great of a town it is.”

**‘We came to our 10th year and felt we had a good, strong 10 years and the members of the committee discussed it and felt like it was time to either take a break or reimagine it ... to breathe new life into it.’**

Organizer Margot Resto

Resto said event planners probably would meet in spring to “re-gather and talk a little bit, and maybe add some new people to the committee.”

“There’s no real, defined thing at this point, but we’ve been talking about a few ideas,” she said. “But I think we all needed to say, ‘it was a great run, it was an act of love every year, and we feel good about how it went.’ We’re looking forward to working with the Town of Snow Hill for a reimagined music event.”

# With Shore Spirits decision, county can exit booze biz

■ POCOMOKE continued

notation of the length of time the signatory is acquainted with Kalpesh Patel.

Patel submitted 16 signatures, all from people who indicated they had “just met” Patel. Cropper argued the standard for a certification could not be met by people who meet the applicant for the first time when collecting signatures.

Judge Broughton Earnest disagreed, and said in his opinion that the legislative intent was not to establish a required time limit of acquaintance between the parties, but to provide some kind of reference point. Further, Earnest noted, a resident can know a person by reputation without ever having physically met.

Next, Cropper argued the protests of area residents and adjacent business owners, including Pocomoke City Mayor Bruce Morrison, should be enough to disqualify the application. Not so, Earnest said, and noted

the past sales records of the store while still under county control demonstrates there is a need in the community for a store at that location.

Finally, Cropper parsed the terms beer, wine and liquor in the Class A license, and argued the need demonstrated was for liquor only, as beer and wine sales were relatively weak. Earnest noted the only available licenses in Worcester are for beer only, wine only, beer and wine, and beer, wine and liquor.

“Considering the Board [of License Commissioners] looks at the factors in the statute in deciding whether to issue the license and the only license available to sell liquor includes the sales of beer and wine, it would be illogical to think anything but the Board should consider the factors for the license as a whole,” Earnest wrote.

For those reasons, the appeal was denied.

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# First-draft budget originally saw \$60 assessment hike

This story was updated on page 1

By Josh Davis  
Associate Editor

(Jan. 18, 2018) The first draft of a fiscal year 2019 budget for Ocean Pines shows a course to correct \$1.4 million in deficits from the previous two fiscal years.

The proposal from General Manager John Bailey, dated Jan. 4, would require a \$27 increase in the general assessment, along with a separate, standalone assessment of \$33 per property, per year, for five years to cover recent losses.

The total increase of \$60 represents a 6.5 increase in assessments.

“Revenue numbers for the current fiscal year were completely inappropriate, especially with regard to the yacht club and beach club,” Bailey wrote in an executive summary.

Net revenues at the yacht club decreased from \$1.3 million in fiscal 2015, to \$1.2 million in 2016 and \$1.1 million in 2017. Budget projections for the previous fiscal year were \$1.5 million.

“We had no business plan or marketing research to substantiate such a figure, much less anything slightly more than the \$1.1 [million] figure from the preceding year. So, the \$1.5 million represents almost \$400,000 of our current year deficit to budget,” Bailey wrote.

Bailey said another \$200,000 increase in budget projections for the beach club brought “the total inaccurate number for revenue to budget to \$600,000” last fiscal year.

“Now, add to that additional expenses based off a ‘non-business plan’ for the [yacht club] and [beach club], and one can see that such figures contributed significantly to the sizable deficit we have,” Bailey wrote.

He said a 20-percent unbudgeted discount offered to members at association restaurants also factored into deficits. The employment of an information technology contractor was also not budgeted, nor was the hiring of a full-time staffer in the finance department.

“The point in general is that we do not need to go digging for additional, specific reasons as to our deficit problem – they are obvious. We just need to correct these things in this budget,” Bailey wrote.

“The proposed budget is likely to be viewed by many for what it does not include [as much as] what it does include,” he continued. “It is crafted with austerity in mind, as we work to ‘right our ship’ this next fiscal year.”

“If one keeps this premise in mind, and a desire to move forward with forthrightness and balance, one may be able to better understand the conservative approach that has been taken,” Bailey wrote.

Under the proposal, operating ex-

penses would increase by \$298,251, or 2.5 percent, to a total of about \$12 million. Non-assessment revenue was projected at \$6.2 million, down \$654,472, or 9.6 percent.

The total number of full-time employees would remain at 86. Full-time equivalent seasonal employees would decrease by 4.67 persons, dropping total full-time equivalent employees from 163.62 to 158.95.

Medical benefits would increase 10 percent and personnel costs would increase 3 percent “with any individual increases to be based on merit considerations,” Bailey wrote.

The association also had to account for new minimum wage requirements of \$10.10 per hour, which affected several departments. “This has significantly impacted the payment of many of our seasonal employees,” Bailey wrote. “Even so, total payroll costs increase only \$89,774, or 1.01 [percent].”

Associate membership fees of \$250, introduced last year to allow non-homeowners access to discounted member rates would be discontinued. Each amenity would again offer separate fees for residents and nonresidents.

“Some amenity fees have been raised slightly, while the majority are proposed to remain as they are currently,” Bailey wrote.

Notable additions in the budget include a \$14,834 increase in the general manager’s office budget, the \$13,000 of which is earmarked for contract services for human resources.

Under general maintenance, one position was transferred there from public works and an additional \$30,000 was added for building repairs and maintenance “so that we can address many more of our building maintenance needs.” The overall subsidy proposed to increase by \$70,355, or 9.2 percent.

Public works expenses would increase \$26,770, with more money for landscaping (\$8,250 increase) gas and oil (\$12,500 increase) and road and bridge repairs (\$61,000 increase). Some of the increases were offset by the transfer of a full-time staffer to general maintenance.


The fire/EMS budget would increase \$82,672, bringing the total support of that department to \$559,101. Most of the department’s funding, about \$1.2 million, comes from “non-OPA resources.” Police funding would increase \$52,065.

Payroll at the recreation department would increase about 10 percent, largely driven by the minimum wage hike. Other expenses there largely “holds the line,” Bailey wrote.

One full-time employee was added to support Ocean Pines racquet sports. The total subsidy for the department is about \$12,000.

Minimum wage increases also ef-

See MORE Page 10



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## More conservative budget introduced in Ocean Pines

Continued from Page 9

fected payroll at the aquatics department, up \$70,118.

Decreased revenue projections were set for the yacht club (\$653,800 lower), the beach club (\$276,500 lower) and golf (\$130,000 lower).

Total revenues for the yacht club were budgeted at \$1.6 million, down from more than \$2.2 million during the last fiscal year. Expenses were also budgeted lower, by \$72,932, bringing the total anticipated subsidy to \$338,010.

"It is difficult to justify a 'rosier' picture [at the yacht club]," Bailey wrote. "This coming year will be one of rebuilding, no matter what the outcome of the decision on how we manage our food and beverage operations, and this budget is a start in the right direction."

Only two new capital projects were included: \$8,500 for a drainage at-

tachment for public works and \$6,000 for a controlled access gate to the dog park.

About \$2 million was earmarked for the replacement capital reserve fund. Major expenses attached to replacement reserves would include \$400,000 for new management software, \$135,000 for replacement of the sanctuary crabbing pier, \$225,000 for an expansion at the sports core pool and \$500,000 for renovations at the country club.

Additional replacement items would include two mowers and tractors for public works, and two vehicles and a new mobile radar display board for police.

The annual contribution for bulkhead reserves would not increase, but Bailey wrote "it is planned to institute a new bulkhead replacement effort beginning in 2018 with a target expense of nearly \$1 million."

## GM Bailey weighs in on his approach to fiscal year 2019

**By Josh Davis**

Associate Editor

(Jan. 18, 2018) Ocean Pines Association General Manager John Bailey joked that this was "not his first rodeo" as he talked last Friday about developing a budget for a large-scale homeowner's association.

He previously managed several large associations in Virginia and recently turned in his first Ocean Pines budget proposal. His draft of the fiscal year 2019 financial package included a \$60 assessment increase to cover \$1.4 million in losses in the last two fiscal years. The increase broke down to \$27 more in the general assessment and a separate \$33 fee each year, spread out over five years.

"It was my first time here and I wanted to take a really pragmatic approach to it," he said. "I think people would love to not have any assessment increase. I know that people would love to have revenue get back to what it was overnight. But, I just didn't think that was real practical."

"This is sort of a righting of the ship year," he continued. "It's a restructuring year and then nothing but rosy futures, I think, going forward."

Bailey expects the budgetary blossoming to begin becoming apparent in 2020.

"Then, I think, we'll be moving in the right direction," he said. "It's a gradual fixing of things and resetting of the expectations that everybody should have. Certainly, I think in the last year the expectations were just not achievable, the way we had it structured."

He said public feedback on the proposal, so far, has been light. That's not because of a shortage of open meetings.

Review sessions were held with the budget and finance committee last

Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, and a final budget recommendation meeting was held with the committee on Tuesday. All of the meetings were open to the public, streamed live online, and continue to be available on the official association YouTube channel.

Bailey will present an amended draft to association members on Jan. 20 and then meet again with the budget and finance committee on Jan. 22. His formal budget presentation to the board will be on Jan. 27.

Directors' work sessions are scheduled for Feb. 5-7, a public hearing for membership is set for Feb. 10 and a board vote is scheduled for Feb. 25.

"I think everybody knows that this is a process that we're going through," Bailey said. "It's a very different approach from prior years of just saying, 'here are the recommendations' and leaving it up to the board to make all those changes."

He said specific line items would be changed from the original draft, based on recommendations from the budget and finance committee, before the board members weigh in.

"That leaves policy decisions – the big picture stuff – for the board," Bailey said. "That's not to say they can't dig in the weeds as much as they want to and change other things the finance committee didn't discuss, but it will eliminate some of those smaller issues and allow the board to focus on the things that most impact members of the association."

Bailey admitted selling an assessment increase is never easy, but said this one is necessary.

He said last year's deficit was about \$369,000. Deficits from the current fiscal totaled more than \$1 million.

See BALANCE Page 11

# Berlin tattoo committee gets extension to draft new regs

Group will meet again on Jan. 25 at 6 p.m. at town hall; health dept. to attend

By Josh Davis  
Associate Editor

(Jan. 18, 2018) A moratorium on new tattoo business was extended for 120 days by the Berlin Town Council last Monday to allow the Tattoo Ordinance Committee more time to draft regulations.

Committee Chairman Matthew Amey said at the first committee meeting, in December, the group discussed several possibilities, but “determined that we don’t have enough time ... and we would request another moratorium for 120 days.”

“Our goal is to be able to have something to present to the town before the next 120 days,” he said.

Amey, a Berlin resident and tattoo artist who works in Delaware, said the first meeting went well overall.

“We’re excited,” he said. “I felt as though everyone that came to the table had a lot of insight into what I think all of us agree we would like to see in terms of, not only public health and safety, but also sort of the aesthetic that we hope to allow the town to embrace.

“I’m positive we’re going to come to an amicable outcome,” Amey added.

Mayor Gee Williams endorsed the postponement.

“It’s better to do a good job than to do a fast job,” he said. “This is a collaborative effort.”

Williams said consideration must be given to “the values and image of the community.” He praised Councilman Zack Tyndall for suggesting the moratorium and committee at a council meeting last year.

He said the ordinance is important so “somebody who doesn’t share our values and our pride doesn’t come in and mess it up for everybody.”

Tyndall, who serves on the committee, added, “Thus far ... I think we’ve done a great job of discussing a lot of possibilities and we have a lot of expertise sitting at the table here. I think [in] 120 days we can definitely bring something that’s worthy of the council’s approval.”

Councilman Dean Burrell, also a committee member, promised there were “fantastic things coming ... that will put Berlin on the right track and again be an example in the county.”

The Town Council unanimously approved the extension.

Officials from the Worcester County Health Department are expected to attend the next committee meeting on Jan. 25 at 6 p.m. in Town Hall. Town Attorney David Gaskill will also attend.

# Balance sought between cuts and large fee increases

Continued from Page 10

“That’s separate from any of the operations corrections,” he said. “Then, you’re dealing with a budget that was \$1 million off, both revenue and expense wise – how do you fix that?”

“You’re really looking at cutting a ton of stuff out, but I thought that would be too draconian,” he said. “So it was a balance of trying to be pragmatic, rather than cutting everything under the blue moon [or] raising the assessment over \$100. Neither one of those, I thought, was really practical or should have been expected.”

Not that he’d like to make a habit out of it, but Bailey said association members have seen assessment increases resulting from deficits before.

“I knew it wasn’t an unusual thing – people may not have liked it, but at least they were familiar with the concept of the deficit-recovery program,” he said. “And then, we’ve got to correct a broken budget. And we did that for less than 3 percent.

“Is it perfect? No. I’d like to waive the magic wand and say, ‘ta da!’ but I didn’t think that was realistic either,” Bailey added. “I hope people will look at it as, we may not like it, but we understand it and at least it’s a viable discussion topic that we can massage. That’s what it is – a process.”

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# Snapshots



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

## MENTOR RECOGNIZED

Jonathan Spencer of Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Eastern Shore, third from left, receives a proclamation on Jan. 2 from the Worcester County Commissioners recognizing January as National Mentoring Month. The Commissioners stand with BBBS of the Eastern Shore to tout the benefits that a mentor can have on a “Little” – a young person age 6 or older – and to encourage caring adults to resolve to start something “Big” in 2018 by becoming mentors. BBBS of the Eastern Shore has provided services that include mentoring, case management to children of prisoners, enrichment activities, and workshops to 260 Eastern Shore youth since July 1, 2017. Another 118 young people are still waiting for mentors. Learn more at [www.shorebiglittle.org](http://www.shorebiglittle.org), Facebook at BBBSES and Twitter at ESBIGS.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

## G.O.L.D. GIVING

Stephen Decatur High School National Honor Society members Laila Mirza, Lily Rakow, Hallie Edmunds and Kasey Clayland show off just some of the presents given to the group's adopted Worcester G.O.L.D. (Giving Other Lives Dignity) family for the holiday. In addition to working with Worcester G.O.L.D., the school club presents an annual donation to Believe in Tomorrow during the holidays. The organization raises money by conducting a raffle with gift card giveaways to local establishments.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

## ORNAMENT GIFTS

Members of the Ocean City/Berlin Leo Club recently visited the Berlin Nursing Home and presented the residents with homemade Christmas ornaments that they made especially for the occasion. The visit always brings joy to the residents and is something that they look forward to every year. The Ocean City/Berlin Leo club is a youth group based at Stephen Decatur High School and is sponsored by the Ocean City Lions Club. Pictured, from left, are Kayla Smith, treasurer; Logan Townsend, president; Kennedy Duke; Jude Al-Hamad; Hannah Johnson, secretary; Halle Friedman, vice president; Hattie Brous; Cashmere Murphy; and School Advisor Nikki Zervakos.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

## STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

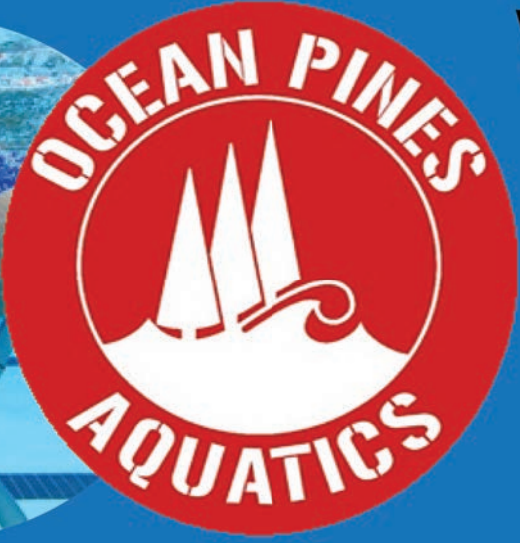

Audra Ely, manager of Ripley's Believe It or Not in Ocean City, recently honored fourth graders from Berlin Intermediate School. Ripley's Students of the Month for December, from left, are Emily Blume, Megan Brown, Mason Lyons, Brody Olsen and Hunter Hudson.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

## WPS HOLIDAY GIVING

Students and faculty at Worcester Preparatory School have been busy elves this holiday season giving back to the community with choral concerts for the elderly to multiple food and toy drives for local families in need. On Dec. 13, Lower School students, from Pre-Kindergarten to fifth grade, eagerly lined up to visit with Santa and give gifts to those in need at Diakonia, which provides emergency and transitional housing, food services and counseling for its guests.



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# OPA hires DBF to help plan club renovations

**By Josh Davis**  
Associate Editor

(Jan. 18, 2018) It's been anything but fun and games at the Ocean Pines Country Club of late, as plans to renovate the two-story building, started more than a year ago, have stalled out several times.

First-floor renovations, which included expanding the Tern Grill restaurant and kitchen and upgrading the bathrooms, finished last year. The second floor, however, is more problematic.

The previous board of directors, in December 2016, approved \$840,000 to overhaul the entire club. That included \$417,000 for renovations of the second floor that would have created new meeting spaces and expanded the Tern Grill upstairs.

That work, originally to be done by Ocean Pines Public Works, stopped last summer when removal of fire safety systems caused problems with the county fire marshal.

In an attempt to get back on track, the Ocean Pines directors on Friday approved \$40,000 to allow Davis, Bowen & Friedel Inc. of Salisbury to amend architectural drawings for the second floor.

Association Vice President Cheryl Jacobs, who made the motion, said there is some urgency to finish the project because of the upcoming golf season and associated tournaments, especially a tournament to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the community scheduled for June 30.

"I feel very passionately that we have to move forward and get this second floor completed," she said. "As quickly as possible is my goal."

Christopher Cullen, associate architect, and Andrew Welch, structural engineer at Davis, Bowen and Friedel, showed drawings that would create two new meeting rooms controlled by movable partitions, and a large boardroom capable of seating

up to 125 people. Almost all the entire second floor could also be opened to create an even larger space for meetings or banquets.

Men and women's bathrooms would be remodeled and the outside deck would be restored, and a bar area with additional seating would flank the boardroom.

This, General Manager John Bailey said, would be the first phase, with renovations of the kitchen and the addition of an elevator planned in later phases.

For now, the existing kitchen would remain and serve as a staging ground for buffets for banquets. Bailey said larger, seated dinners would be held at the Ocean Pines Yacht Club.

Cullen admitted the firm had yet to make calculations on whether more parking spaces would be required, an issue the association ran into before when building the new yacht club.

He was also unsure if planned storage space would be enough to hold the 125 chairs assigned for the boardroom.

Director Ted Moroney was worried the plans would not take into account the eventual installation of an elevator.

"When you finish this building, the day you get ready to shut down this ... man-lift that's [currently] in the front there to do it, you have shut the second floor of that building down, because there is no ADA compliance," he said. "You can't operate that for anything if you don't have a way to get the people up there."

"What I would like to have considered in this first phase is to do the design at least on that, so we know where we're putting it, what it's size is, the electrical needs – that kind of stuff," he added. "That way we're not going back and ... ripping out stuff that we did already."

Cullen said he wasn't sure the

front of the building, where the elevator was slated to go, could be reconfigured economically.

"We're going to end up doing something there," Moroney said. "I just want to make sure that ... we are sized well enough to go either way, electrically."

"Let's think about, not so much the aesthetics and architectural part, but the mechanical part and make sure we've got that figured in, in this first phase," he added. "I just don't want to go back and tear stuff out – we've done that in the past."

Association President Doug Parks added, "Are we doing anything in this particular phase that would preclude us from doing anything else going forward ... are we painting ourselves into a corner?"

Cullen said he wasn't sure where the evaluator would fit in the current plan.

Bailey said he envisioned the elevator roughly adjacent to where the stairwell was, opening on both sides to allow people to enter and exit from separate sides.

Director Colette Horn said she concerned about plans for the upstairs kitchen – or lack thereof – because the association did not yet have

a long-term strategy for the yacht club.

Bailey said even if the yacht club was closed during the winter for dining, it could be opened for special events, including weddings and large banquets.

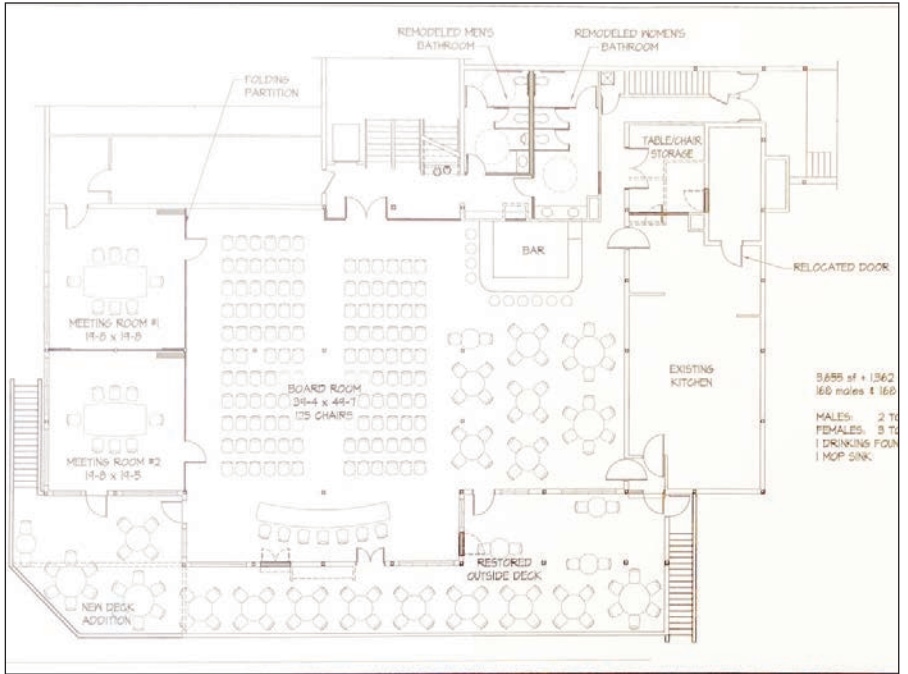
"Do we need another restaurant? The answer is no," Parks said. "For right now, I don't want to boil the ocean ... we can function in the short term in order to keep this project on task and on time, designated the way [Bailey] said."

Bailey added plans for the upstairs country club kitchen fit into his vision of how the facility could "be utilized in a reasonable way."

"Can you go further than that? Sure you can. But I don't think that that's what we want to do. It adds a whole other level of difficulty," he said.

The directors vote 6-0 to approve not to exceed \$40,000 for the updated drawings. Director Slobodan Trendic was not present during the meeting.

Bailey said the association should have construction documents and a request for proposals for construction companies in time for the Feb. 25 regular board meeting.



Concept drawings for renovations of the second floor of the Ocean Pines Country Club show several new meeting spaces, including a large boardroom that could seat up to 125.



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# Trendic still wants country club business plan

Director prioritizes getting deficit under control, says he anticipates budget cuts

**By Josh Davis**  
Associate Editor

(Jan. 18, 2018) Ocean Pines Association Director Slobodan Trendic on Tuesday emailed a statement regarding recent developments at the country club.

The board voted 6-0, on Jan. 9 to hire Salisbury firm Davis, Bowen & Friedel Inc. to amend architectural

drawings for renovations on the second floor of the club.

Trendic was unable to attend the meeting because of an illness and he had concerns about aspects of the decision that were not part of the board discussion.

“Getting [the] deficit under control and taking proper actions should have been [the] Board’s top priority since last summer,” Trendic wrote. “I will look for a draft budget that clearly reflects that. I will expect to see across-the-board budget cuts, expenditure cuts and increase in revenue where one can be achieved. The Board should only consider projects that are essential and also have a clear justification.

“Let me give you one example. Last year, when I first saw the proposed layout at the Country Club [building] calling for a large second floor dining area, I asked for a business plan. I am still asking the same question. I want to see a business plan that will allow the Board to make intelligent and informed decision. A plan that will show an [return on investment]; that will tell us who will be held accountable and responsible if the losses start to occur.

Do we really need any additional food space that may end-up needing to be subsidized like the Yacht Club?

“Our [food and beverage] operations have been money losing burdens to homeowners for far [too] long. The yacht club lost over \$1.5 million before depreciation since 2010. What makes us convinced that a large dining space is needed at the Country Club; that the Tern Grill space is not enough? I would rather see that space repurposed to meet community’s greater need; for example turning it into a nice fitness center.”

# Worcester Humane Society membership drive

Donations would benefit all animals at no-kill shelter; dues range from \$35-\$500

(Jan. 18, 2018) The Worcester County Humane Society is seeking animal lovers to join in making a difference in the community. During the start of every year, the shelter launches its membership drive and the funds raised enable the shelter to continue serving animals in the community.

Membership donations directly benefit all of the animals that come into the no-kill shelter.

Individual Membership Levels are:

Bronze: \$35 (basic membership)  
Silver: \$100 (helps to spay/neuter up to one dog)  
Gold: \$250 (helps to spay/neuter up to five cats)  
Platinum: \$500 or above (helps to spay or neuter 10 shelter cats, 10 feral cats or four dogs)

Membership runs from Jan. 1 to Dec. 31. Members will receive updates about the shelter and upcoming events through email. Membership forms are available at [www.worcestercountyhumanesociety.org](http://www.worcestercountyhumanesociety.org). Make checks payable to Worcester County Humane Society and mail payment and form to P.O. Box 48, Berlin, Maryland 21811 or drop off at the shelter.

Caring for ever increasing numbers of animals puts a tremendous burden on the staff, facility and limited resources. Every donation is crit-

ical to carry out the shelter’s mission to advocate for animal welfare and to provide compassionate care and protection for all cats and dogs that find their way to the shelter.

The Worcester County Humane Society is a private, nonprofit, no-kill animal shelter that currently houses nearly 150 cats and 25 dogs. Follow the shelter on Facebook and Instagram for available pets and events or visit [www.worcestercountyhumane-society.org](http://www.worcestercountyhumane-society.org). The shelter is located at 12330 Eagles Nest Road in Berlin.

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# Dispensary to hold info session in Pines, Sat.

First medical marijuana site could open next week; mtg. will include consultant

By **Brian Gilliland**  
Associate Editor

(Jan. 18, 2018) With all signs pointing toward an opening next week, Worcester County's first medical marijuana dispensary, Positive Energy, is set to hold an information session for prospective patients in Ocean Pines on Saturday.

"I'm really excited for the opportunity to let the community get to know us," Lyndsey Odachowski, general manager, said. "It's one thing to read about us, but it's another thing to be able to approach us in a way that can be easily absorbed. That way people can understand what it is we're doing here and can maybe support us."

The meeting is scheduled to start at 3:30 p.m. in the Assateague Room of the Ocean Pines Community Center at 235 Ocean Parkway.

"I'm calling it 'New Year, New

Medicine,' and it's going to explain what the medicine can and can't do for you, and how you can get it," she said.

During the presentation, expected to last between 30 and 45 minutes, Odachowski said she would explain, in depth, the merits of medical marijuana. Following her presentation is a question-and-answer period.

"You'll be able to learn about the different benefits and the different ways to consume the medicine," she said. "I've talked to people who don't like the smell or don't want to smoke — and that's totally fair. We have things, like lotions and balms, that you would never know contained marijuana unless you looked at the label."

The dispensary's clinical director, Nurse Practitioner Vanessa Adams, and Dr. William "Eddie" Gunn of Shore Wellness and Med Spa, a certifying practitioner, will be on hand to answer questions.

The process for obtaining medical cannabis in Maryland is somewhat

inverted from the traditional doctor-patient relationship, where a patient brings a complaint and the doctor prescribes medicine. A patient, having registered with the Maryland Medical Cannabis Commission, schedules an appointment for certification from a provider, also registered with the state.

The patient describes the result they would like to achieve to the provider, and if that matches with one of the state's qualifying conditions, a certification is issued. That certification is taken to the dispensary by the patient, who determines, with assistance from the dispensary staff, what product best suits their needs.

"We're going to provide the simple intake forms we need at the meeting, so if you're issued a certification we can take you right into the back where the products are," Odachowski said. "There's also a state-mandated form we need to certify the patient will use the products responsibly by promising not to drive, etc."



Lyndsey Odachowski

Registration for medical marijuana is open in the state and Odachowski noticed something about the people first in line for treatment.

"They're all over 40," she said.

For more information, visit [www.facebook.com/PositiveEnergyOC](http://www.facebook.com/PositiveEnergyOC).

# Colder temps could mean frozen, burst pipes

Recent snowstorm played havoc in Berlin, but simple steps could prevent breaks

By **Josh Davis**  
Associate Editor

(Jan. 18, 2018) Berlin Water Resources and Public Works Director Jane Kreiter said the recent snowstorm and extended cold spell was the worst she has seen during her nearly three-decade career in the town.

Because temperatures were well below freezing for a week straight, several dozen small leaks were reported, along with significant water

main breaks on Jefferson and Franklin Avenue during the storm.

Another water main break occurred on Friday and caused the town to announce scheduled outages.

All told, Kreiter estimated about 950 customers were without water at some point during the last two weeks.

"I've never seen anything like it ... It was extreme. We've never had it this bad before," she said. "[The water-main break on Harrison] was very strange for us. At that point I would say close to 50 percent of the town was without water, for that hour and a half that night."

Kreiter said precautions should be

taken any time temperatures drop below freezing over a period of several days. When water freezes, it expands and can rupture water pipes.

The first step is to close or block vents near pipes under the house.

"If it's going to be an extended period of time where temperatures are going to be below freezing, that's what you're looking for," she said. "Especially with wind — it blows onto your house and it freezes those exposed pipes under your house."

"A lot of people forget to block their vents during the wintertime [and] a lot of times we don't have to do that because we have real mild winters —

this just is not one of them," she added.

Also, open cabinet doors on vanities and below sinks to allow heat to get those pipes.

"It's cold and you're going to lose a little bit more heat, but I heard someone say last time their pipes froze they had \$30,000 worth of damage. Pay a little bit now, or pay a lot later," Kreiter said.

Not every faucet in the home needs to be left on. Instead, target ones further from the source. For example, if you have a two-story home, keep the water on upstairs.

"That way, water is going to be traveling through the whole system," Kreiter said. "That's not going to completely eliminate the chances, but it's going to give you a real good shot of not having your pipes freeze."

"The most important thing is to let your water run a little bit, just a drip," she added. "As long as the water is moving, it's less likely to freeze."

Townwide, Kreiter estimated about 35 leaks were reported during the snowstorm and its aftermath, the majority likely caused by burst pipes.

"Most of the time you don't find out there was a frozen pipe until it thaws out — you don't have any water, but you don't know that your pipes are broken, because it expands when it's frozen. Then, when it thaws out, you have a leak under your house," she said.

"If it's only going to be 32 degrees overnight you don't have to do anything, but we had it for seven days — and not just 32, it was 10," Kreiter continued. "I think we almost broke an 80-year-old record, but were one day short."

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The license plates will be highly sought-after and attract a great deal of attention. **Purchase your raffle ticket/s by visiting the Administration Building, located at 239 Ocean Parkway in Ocean Pines, MD.** Got questions? Contact 410.641.7717 ext. 3006.

Denise Sawyer,  
Marketing & PR Director, Ocean Pines Association



# Opinion

Please send all letters and other editorial submissions to [editor@baysidegazette.com](mailto:editor@baysidegazette.com) by 5 p.m. Monday.

## Reservations on reserves

The question of how much money the Ocean Pines Association should keep in reserve to cover the major expenses of maintaining its assets such as buildings, roads and bulkheads continues to haunt its budgetary discussions.

It has done so again, as the administration, in concert with the budget committee, prepares to ask the OPA Board of Directors for a \$30 increase in assessments over the next five years to restore the \$1.4 million taken from the reserve fund it to cover big losses in the last two years.

The question, again, is whether that \$1.4 million really needs to be restored via the \$30 increase, given that the reserve fund, not including the bulkhead fund, stands at about \$4.4 million.

The obvious answer, as General Manager John Bailey recognizes, is yes it does. Proving that to property owners, however, is not so easy, as was evidenced by the last board's inability to agree on how to respond to the reserve fund study it commissioned in 2015 and debated for a year.

That study, performed by a highly reputable firm, found that Ocean Pines had roughly \$17.4 million in assets and only about 20 percent of that set aside to deal with depreciation, deterioration and unforeseen problems that could occur in the years ahead. The principle that firm and others preach to homeowners' associations is that it's easier on property owners to put something aside on a gradual basis to build this fund than it is to impose a special assessment should some urgent need arise.

Even though the optimum size of the reserve fund has not been defined, it's a safe bet that \$4.4 million is not it.

The losses OPA experienced these last two years aren't likely to be repeated, as this administration appears to have adopted a more pragmatic and conservative approach to operations.

That additional \$30, however, is a hedge against unexpected problems, the financial surprises that would come with them, and the most dreaded words of all, "special assessment."



## Letters

### 'Angels' help set fundraising records

Editor,

There are truly angels among us.

In November, we asked you, our neighbors on the Lower Shore, to "Be an Angel," and 1,163 of you responded, giving us a record-breaking year, raising more than \$118,000.

All of us at Coastal Hospice would like to thank you for contributing to help fund the charity care we provide.

Last year, Coastal Hospice cared for nearly 1,200 patients and families in Wicomico, Worcester, Somerset and Dorchester counties and provided more than \$600,000 in charity care to patients and families who have no resources for care or have needs beyond their insurance coverage.

The average gift this year was \$101, which will have a significant impact on the care Coastal Hospice provides.

For example, if you made a \$100 donation, you paid for one month of oxygen for a patient at home.

We sincerely thank everyone who took the challenge to "Be an Angel."

Alane K. Capen  
President  
Coastal Hospice &  
Palliative Care

### Pines director on recent budget mtgs.

*The following statement was read during a Jan. 10 meeting between the Ocean Pines Association Budget and Finance Committee and General Manager John Bailey. It was sent to this paper, Tuesday.*

Editor,

With projected \$1.4 million in losses the Board should have insisted on the development of a "deficit reduction plan."

That kind of a plan usually consists of budget cuts, cost cutting measures and revenue increases.

The Board failed to request such plan, so I proposed my motion last year to mandate a 5 percent target for overall cuts in recurring expenditure; I believe this was and still is the right position for the Board to take.

There are many areas / items that must be questioned. That is the GM's job and now the B&F Committee's job.

If the GM's budget proposes to raise HOA fees, then [a] reduction in recurring spending by at least an equal amount must occur.

That is what I would call good management and [a] fiscally responsible Board attempting to address a serious deficit problem.

What is most revealing about the GM's draft budget is the proposed five-year annual increase of \$33 per property as a "special assessment" for prior years losses, while at the same time budgeting a \$40 loss per homeowner (\$338,000 in total) for the [yacht club] for the coming year.

In my view this is fiscal irresponsibility. His document states the proposed budget is balanced, but requires a \$27 HOA fee increase.

Blaming the losses on inaccurate revenue budgeting is nonsense. The losses were incurred because past management failed to control costs in the face of the unrealistic budgeted revenue.

Management must focus on what they can control, the cost side of the equation.

Slobodan Trendic  
Director  
Ocean Pines Association

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### Have an opinion?

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

# Delmarva Birding Weekend returns, Jan. 26-28

Events planned in Berlin, as well as several places throughout Sussex County

By Kara Hallissey  
Staff Writer

(Jan. 18, 2018) Waterfowl, seabirds, raptors, shorebirds and even seals are some of the animals that have been spotted across the area during Winter Delmarva Birding Weekend, which will take place this year, Jan. 26-28, in Worcester County and Sussex County, Delaware.

The third annual Winter Delmarva Birding Weekend usually features species such as harlequin duck, great cormorant, purple sandpiper, snow bunting and American white pelicans.

“One of the biggest things is if you don’t get outside during the wintertime, you are missing out on an entire group of animals,” said Jim Rapp, organizer of the event with Dave Wilson. “There are 27 species of waterfowl including colorful ducks with bright feathers, seabirds and songbirds. Snowy owls; there is always a chance for that. I guarantee you will see some interesting and cool stuff you won’t get to see in May.”

As of Tuesday afternoon, nearly a dozen field trips are taking place next weekend and some have already sold

out. There are trips where 120 people can participate and others are capped at 22 bird watchers.

Delmarva Birding Weekend kicks off on Friday, Jan. 26 from 8-11 a.m. with a driving and hiking tour of the Chincoteague Bay Wilderness Landings. The cost is \$25 per person and participants will meet at the Public Landing Pier at the end of Public Landing Road.

This tour features some of the most unspoiled historic areas on the East Coast and takes bird watchers through remote and exclusive saltwater and marsh landings within 16,000 acres of protected property on Chincoteague Bay.

“Most of the field trips take place along the coast either in the coastal bays or on islands and freshwater bays,” Rapp said. “One of the coolest things is the relationships we have with local owners. Some of these places you can’t go on your own.”

On Friday afternoon, participants will meet in the parking lot of Berlin Falls Park for a driving and hiking tour. The cost is \$25 per person and runs from 1:30-4:30 p.m.

The trip goes through Berlin’s 60-

acre nature park and a 150-acre private farm. Berlin Falls Park features a wide variety of duck species like northern shovelers, hooded mergansers and ruddy ducks. Hawks and eagles are also usually spotted in the area. Then, bird watchers will head to the Golden Quarter Farm along Ayers

Creek to check out the forest, ponds, fields and creek for brown-headed nuthatches, kinglets, eagles, wood ducks and Wilson’s snipe.

This trip will also take place on Saturday, Jan. 27, from 8-11 a.m.

Delmarva Birding Weekend participants

can choose to end their Friday night at the Berlin Tally Rally at Burley Oak from 5-7 p.m.

“People enjoy the social nature and going out to the bar to swap stories and talk about the day,” Rapp said.

There is no fee to attend, craft beer and root beer will be available for purchase. Local guides will also be in attendance.

For \$50 per person, a three-hour boat tour will take bird watchers around the mouth of the Delaware Bay next Saturday afternoon while

visiting ice breakers and two stone breakwaters looking for gulls, cormorants, gannets, loons, scoters, eiders, ducks and razorbill. Attendees also have a good chance of seeing a harbor or gray seal hauling out on the ice breakers.

“Eighty people have already signed up for one of our premier trips of the weekend,” Rapp said. “The boat has a cabin inside to warm up and when you see seals hauled out on rocks, it’s like you are in Maine for the weekend. [There are] great birds and you see Cape Henlopen from out on the Atlantic.”

The Lewes Boat Trip is aboard the Thelma Dale V, which has an enclosed cabin with window viewing and a top-deck area for open-air views. The trip takes place Saturday, Jan. 27, from 1-4 p.m. and the meeting location is at the Fisherman’s Wharf in Lewes, Delaware.

Saturday’s festivities conclude with the Lewes Tally Rally at Irish Eyes from 4-6 p.m. There is no fee to attend and food and drinks will be available for purchase. Local guides will be in attendance and bird watchers can discuss the weekend.

On Sunday morning, bird lovers have the option to enjoy a remote duck-filled, 50-acre freshwater pond next to the forests and marshes of Newport Bay in Berlin. The 2,000-

See BIRDING Page 21

‘One of the biggest things is if you don’t get outside during the wintertime, you are missing out on an entire group of animals.’  
Jim Rapp, organizer of the event

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# Snapshots



PHOTO COURTESY TED PAGE

## HOLIDAY PARTY

The Democratic Women's Club of Worcester County held its annual Holiday Party and swearing-in ceremony on Dec. 18 at Ruth's Chris Steak House in Berlin. Pictured, from left, are Members-at-Large, Linda Linzey, Doris Fields and Em Hench; Recording Secretary Sue Hubbard; Vice President Harriet Batis; Corresponding Secretary Debra Fisher-Reynolds; Treasurer Sandy Sribnick; and President Vicky Wallace. The Democratic Women's Club meets the second Monday of each month at 9:30 a.m. in the Assateague Room, Ocean Pines Community Center.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

## HOSPICE VISITS

Coastal Hospice volunteers visited 167 hospice patients and their families recently across the Lower Shore, delivering fruit baskets, warm blankets and stuffed bears. Volunteers dressed as Santa, Mrs. Santa and elves make the visits every year to bring holiday cheer to those being cared for by Coastal Hospice. Coastal Hospice volunteer Ellen Lowe visits hospice patient Elizabeth Smith of Hebron.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

## WCEF DONATION

Heather Mahler from the Community Foundation of the Eastern Shore presents a \$500 check to the Worcester County Education Foundation during the Dec. 6 Board of Education meeting. The Community Foundation awarded the \$500 prize to the WCEF as part of a Giving Tuesday promotion. Pictured, from left, are Dr. Annette Wallace, Pocomoke High School principal; Mahler; Todd Ferrante, Worcester County Education Foundation representative; and Lou Taylor, superintendent of Worcester County Public Schools.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

## TOY DONATIONS

Members of the Ocean Pines Hammerheads swim team, and their coach, Brooks Ensor, deliver plush animals to the Atlantic General Hospital Emergency Department to be given to pediatric patients. Pictured, from left, are team members Will Schlesinger, Nat Fink, Audrey Iman, Katie Pizlo, Emma Coyman, Emily Fink, Victoria Iman and Molly Hoffman.



PHOTO COURTESY CHRIS GARRITY

## BOWL CRAWL

Despite the cold temperature, local skaters spent New Year's Day touring area skate parks in Sussex, Worcester and Wicomico counties. The event attracts skateboarders from across the state. They are pictured in Ocean Pines.



PHOTO COURTESY D.J. LANDIS, SR.

## NEW MEMBER

Suzanne Foley was inducted on Dec. 13 as a new Kiwanis Club of Greater Ocean Pines-Ocean City member. Pictured, from left, are new member's sponsor Tom Southwell, Foley, Membership Chair Pat Winkelmayer and Club President Ralph Chinn. Foley moved to the Pines seven months ago from Silver Spring where she lived for 30 years.

# Birding events also planned at Chincoteague Bay in SH

Continued from Page 19  
acre Newport Farm is home to winter bald eagles, American white pelicans, golden eagles and several waterfowl species.

The driving and hiking field trip takes place Sunday, Jan. 28, from 8-11 a.m. The cost is \$25 per person and bird watchers will meet at the cul-de-sac at the eastern end of Hayes Landing Road.

Taking place during the same time on Sunday, Jan. 28, there will also be a driving and hiking adventure through Cape Henlopen State Park in Lewes, Delaware. The cost is \$25 per person.

The park is located where the Delaware Bay meets the Atlantic and has a pitch pine forest, tidal marsh, forested wetland, dunes and beach habitats with a wide array of birds. Look forward to seeing brown-headed nuthatch, snow bunting, loons, scoters and other bay and sea ducks. Rare birds include the "Ip-swich" Savannah sparrow, common

redpoll, razorbill, common eider, great cormorant, lesser black-backed, black-headed and little gull.

"Every year it gets bigger and bigger," Rapp said. "People are looking for something to do. Put on a coat and get outside to share the experience with other people who like being outside."

Organizers recommend attendees bring binoculars and spotting scopes.

"The guides will teach you about the birds and the environments' they live in," Rapp said. "We will have a couple spotting scopes available and everyone is going to see something they haven't seen before, which is part of the reason people continue to come back and participate each year."

In addition, look forward to the 23rd annual Spring Delmarva Birding Weekend slated for April 26-29.

For more information and a list with descriptions of all trips taking place during Winter Delmarva Birding Weekend, visit [delmarvabirding.com/winter-dbw-jan-27-29](http://delmarvabirding.com/winter-dbw-jan-27-29).

## Locals' Favorite

### 2018 Soup & Sandwich Sales

SOUP & SANDWICH SALE FUNDRAISER

*Benefiting Atlantic United Methodist Church*  
4th Street & Baltimore Avenue, Ocean City, MD 21842

A 'Thursday Must', 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM

**Mark Your Calendar:**

January 11, 2018	February 8, 2018
January 25, 2018	February 22, 2018

Winter is here, there's a bite in the air, but the cooks at Atlantic United Methodist Church have planned winter soup specials to keep you warm.

- ❖ Homemade Ham and Bean Soup
- ❖ Homemade Vegetable Beef Soup
- ❖ Chicken Salad Sandwich
- ❖ Ham Salad Sandwich
- ❖ Homemade Desserts
- ❖ Coffee, Tea or Soda
- ❖ Biscuits

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2018 Ad for Local Papers

## NFL Championship Party

Kick off the AFC and NFC Championship Weekend with a Guest Bartending Event at Sister's Wine Bar to benefit the critically ill children and their families.

Sister's Wine Bar  
113 N. Main Street, Berlin  
Saturday, January 20, 2018  
6:00pm - 9:00pm

Bartender Tip Challenge  
Snacks and really Lite Fare will be provided

Giveaways and a lot Fun!

- Every Dollar raised is a Vote for Erin Phillips, Frankie Schmidt, Jessica Jersey and EJ Foxx
- Carriage Rides will be available outside Sisters
- Many Raffles, 50/50 Cash Giveaway, Football Activities will be available
- Live Entertainment by Spare Change
- 20% of the proceeds of the Bar and the entire store are donated to The Children's House By The Sea

For more information please contact Wayne at 410 723-2842

[BelieveInTomorrow.org](http://BelieveInTomorrow.org)

# TACO NIGHT

## Noche de tacos

### Fundraiser

#### Recaudador de fondos

10709 Bishopville Rd  
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**BUFFET**

**JANUARY 26, 2018**  
**26 de enero de 2018**  
**6pm-8pm**

\$10 all U can eat  
\$6 Children under age 11  
Beef, Chicken & Fish Tacos  
Beans & Rice  
Guacamole Dip  
Salsa & Chips  
Hard & Soft shells

**Soda & Water sold separately**

# NOW PLAYING

## BJ'S ON THE WATER

75th Street and the bay  
Ocean City  
410-524-7575  
www.bjsonthewater.com  
Jan. 24: DJ EJ Fox, 5-9 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.

## DUFFY'S TAVERN

130th Street in the  
Montego Bay Shopping Center  
410-250-1449  
www.duffysoc.com  
Jan. 19: Bob Hughes, 5-9 p.m.

## HARBORSIDE BAR & GRILL

12841 S. Harbor Road  
West Ocean City  
410-213-1846  
www.ocharborside.com  
Jan. 19: DJ Billy T, 4 p.m. to 2 a.m.  
Jan. 20: Side Project/Chris Button,  
2-6 p.m.; DJ Jeremy, 9 p.m. to 2 a.m.  
Jan. 21: Opposite Directions,  
2-6 p.m.; DJ Billy T, 4 p.m. to 2 a.m.

## OCEAN CLUB NIGHTCLUB

In the Horizons Restaurant  
In the Clarion Fontainebleau Hotel

101st Street and the ocean  
Ocean City  
410-524-3535  
www.clarionoc.com  
Every Friday and Saturday:  
DJ Dusty, 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.  
Jan. 19-20: New Censation

## SEACRETS

49th Street and the bay  
Ocean City  
410-524-4900  
www.seacrets.com  
Jan. 19: DJ Tuff, 10 p.m. to 1:55 a.m.  
Jan. 20: Full Circle Duo, 5-9 p.m.;  
DJ Bobby-O, 6 p.m. to 1:55 a.m.

## WHISKER'S BAR & GRILL

11070 Cathell Road, Suite 17  
Pines Plaza, Ocean Pines  
410-208-3922  
www.whiskersbar.com  
Jan. 19: Karaoke w/Donnie Berkey



**PHIL PERDUE**  
Captain's Table: Friday & Saturday, 5:30 p.m.



**FULL CIRCLE**  
Seacrets: Saturday, 5-9 p.m.



**SIDE PROJECT**  
Harborside Bar & Grill: Saturday, 2-6 p.m.



**NEW CENSATION**  
Ocean Club Nightclub: Friday & Saturday, 9:30pm-2am



**OPPOSITE DIRECTIONS**  
Harborside Bar & Grill: Sunday, 2-6 p.m.

# SU to offer new courses in Pines

Topics to include changes in aging, bison genocide, global environmentalism

(Jan. 18, 2018) Salisbury University will expand its lifelong learning program in Ocean Pines after a successful launch last semester, offering more lectures at the Ocean Pines Community Center, beginning Jan. 19.

"We are delighted to introduce our many amazing Salisbury University faculty to the community of Ocean Pines," said Mary Angela Baker, director of the Center for Extended and Lifelong Learning at Salisbury University. "This is a great opportunity to stretch your creativity, enhance your knowledge and encourage your curiosity to thrive. Our programs prompt you to meet new friends while connecting with old friends."

The first wave of Salisbury University lectures to take place this winter in Ocean Pines is the 12-week series "Exploring the Humanities," held 3-4:30 p.m. on Fridays, Jan. 19 to April 6 at the Community Center, located at 235 Ocean Parkway.

Topics include "Cognitive and Neural Changes in Aging," "Genocide of the Bison," "The Formation of Korea and Japan in the Chinese Crucible," "Political Science &

Democracy," "US involvement in WWI," "Global Environmentalism," and "Hidden in Plain Sight? An Introduction to the Indian Peoples of the Eastern Shore."

Those interested in learning to flex their creative writing muscle can hone their craft by enrolling in either or both upcoming Salisbury University writing courses in Ocean Pines.

The six-week "Creativity and the Craft of Writing" course with Fran Severn-Levy will be held 9-10:30 a.m. on Tuesdays starting Feb. 13. The writing workshop, "Writing Your Memoir: From Draft to Craft," with Delmarva Review editor Emily Rich will be held 9-10:30 a.m. on Thursdays starting Feb. 15.

Both courses will take place at the Community Center.

Participants in both "Creativity and the Craft of Writing" and "Writing Your Memoir: From Draft to Craft" seminars will explore personal writing and examine elements such as character development, incorporating sensory detail and writing scenes.

Salisbury University professor Dr. David Burns, who has worked for CNN and NBC News, will lead the six-week discussion, "Beyond the Box Scores: Current Issues in Sports Communication," held 4-5:30 p.m. on Wednesdays, March 14 and 18,

April 4, 18 and 25 and May 9 at the Ocean Pines Community Center.

Sports have recently served as a cultural platform for social change. This course covers today's social issues through a sports lens.

"The continued excitement for these non-credit courses in Ocean Pines is helping to galvanize more lifelong learners. The benefits of lifelong learning include intellectual cognitive, social and even spiritual rewards," said Ocean Pines Marketing and Public Relations Director Denise Sawyer.

These classes and seminars are part of the "Salisbury University at the Beach" series, presented by the university's Center for Extended and Lifelong Learning and the Ocean Pines Association.

Salisbury University, a Maryland University of National Distinction, a member of the University System of Maryland, is a regionally accredited four-year comprehensive institution.

"Individuals who are seeking knowledge enrichment from faculty who are top industry experts should enroll," Sawyer said.

To register, visit [www.salisbury.edu/cell](http://www.salisbury.edu/cell) or contact 410-543-6090. Participants can register for the entire lecture series/discussions or drop in to one or several courses.

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To benefit Scholarships & Community Projects

Saturday, January 20th, 2018

Stephen Decatur High School Cafeteria

Rt. 50 ~ Berlin, MD

Doors Open @ 5 p.m. • Games Start @ 6 p.m.

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Ticket Reservations: 410-603-1397 410-524-9000

For More Information: [permitink@verizon.net](mailto:permitink@verizon.net)

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Wednesday

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Thursday

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Friday

Fish Fry \$11

Saturday

Prime Rib Dinner

\$15 Queen Cut

\$18 King Cut

Fenwick Inn

# Cuisine

## Et tu Brute? Try this recipe for Caesar salad

*This column originally ran in a Jan. 7, 2016 edition of the Bayside Gazette.*

Caesar Salad. Wow. Where to begin?

It was November, 1984. It wasn't long after I earned my license and started working my first job in Annapolis, the Chart House. But it was the first time that I had experienced one of the truest food-loves of my life; the salad eponymous with the man stabbed on the Ides of March by Brutus himself.



By Paul Suplee,  
MBA, CEC, PC-3

The school year was dragging on, despite the fact that we had only been in session for a mere three months. You see, I hated school – with a passion. I was not a good student until I spent some time in the Marine Corps and realized that there just might be something else out there ... or maybe it was the constant prodding and nagging of my well-meaning late mother, but I digress.

My brother Danny and I had been afforded the opportunity to join our parents in Florida at the Barefoot Mailman, an interesting oceanfront inn that looked as though it was going to provide shelter for the week. But Mother Nature had different plans.

Danny and I spent a 16-hour shift changing hands at the wheel (I was a brand-new driver and he was a “seasoned” second-year driver) of the le Mans that had well-over 200,000 miles on it, and we cruised all the way to Florida.

That was my first time to the Sunshine State, and I can't emphasize enough how excited I was. All that I could imagine were the girls and margaritas that I had heard about. Of course, I was 6'0" and 130 pounds soaking-wet, so I understood the odds, but the sights as trees turned from oak to palm were insurmountable in my tiny brain.

Don Henley's “Boys of Summer” was cranking at that point, and we must have heard it 30 times on the way down. Even as I wasn't an Eagles fan, or a Henley fan for that matter, that song still takes me back to that entire trip; not a moment in that trip, but the entire ride.

We landed at the Barefoot Mailman, and then the rain started. In fact, that's precisely the point at which the hurricane made its landfall. And it never ended. It went on for the entire week, but our parents took us to a Chart House in the area and we ate well; very well as a matter of fact.

And you will never guess what I had to start our meal off.

### Caesar Salad

*Serves 4*  
2-3 Hearts of Romaine  
2 cup Croutons (recipe follows)  
1/4 cup Grated Parmesan  
3/4 cup Caesar Dressing, or to taste (recipe follows)

1. Most romaine hearts sold in bags these days are washed on the farm, thus precluding the need to do so yourself. However, if you are a germaphobe, “type-A thorough” or a clean-freak, please feel free to clean the lettuce by cutting into large, bite-size pieces, rinsing well and then drying
2. Mix everything together, serve on plates, and



garnish with a little extra parmesan and croutons.

### Croutons

*Makes about 2 cups*  
2 cups Diced bread, assorted  
1/2 cup Melted whole butter, unsalted  
1/2 tsp. Dried thyme  
1/2 tsp. Granulated garlic  
Salt & Pepper to taste

1. Place the bread on a baking sheet and place in a 350° oven until dried about halfway
2. Remove and allow to cool
3. Melt the butter, add the thyme, garlic, salt & pepper and then toss the diced bread in this
4. Put back on the sheet pan and bake until crispy, golden and delicious
5. Set aside until ready to serve

### Caesar Dressing

*Makes about 2 cups*  
2 ea. Egg yolks  
1 tsp. Anchovy paste or 2 filets  
2 garlic cloves  
Juice of 1 lemon  
2 tsp. Dijon mustard  
3/4 cup EV Olive oil  
1/4 cup Grated parmesan cheese  
Black pepper, to taste

1. This is probably the most important step, so pay attention! Use pasteurized egg yolks only. If you can't find them in a store there are two meth-

ods for pasteurizing, as follow:

2. The first method is to cook the eggs sous vide (if you're lucky enough to own a Jewel or Anova sous vide cooker or a Sous Vide Supreme for that matter
3. The second method is to take a cheater shortcut, although I will not and cannot ethically put my name to it despite the fact that it has been printed in many cookbooks and textbooks over the few past decades. I will tell you that I have used this method, and have eaten many salads with dressing made from this method ... but this is up to you
4. Place the whole eggs in cold water. Heat on a stove and bring to 142 degrees
5. Hold them here for three minutes and then cool immediately
6. There are two proteins in the egg whites; one of which starts to cook at this temperature. It will not affect the end result and safety is the priority
7. Separate the yolks and place in a bowl
8. Whisk vigorously and add anchovy, garlic, mustard and lemon
9. While whisking, slowly drizzle in the oil to form the emulsion that results in a creamy Caesar (we have no time for that “Caesar vinaigrette” garbage)
10. Finish with the parmesan and pepper and either serve immediately or let it rest a spell. It gets better with age

— Paul G. Suplee is an Associate Professor of Culinary Arts at Wor-Wic Community College. Find his ePortfolio at [www.heartofakitchen.com](http://www.heartofakitchen.com).

# Puzzles

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MD STATE INSPECTED

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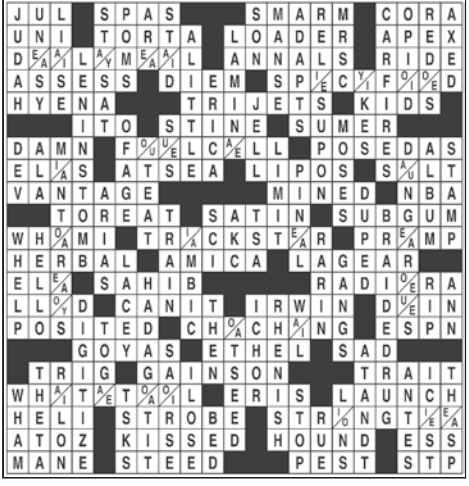
### HARD - 68

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.

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

### Answers to last week's puzzles

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



### SUPREME INTELLIGENCE

BY JOEL FAGLIANO / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

#### ACROSS

1 Mike who was the 2017 N.B.A. Coach of the Year

8 Presidential advisory grp.

11 Covers

18 Worked on some screenwriting?

19 Major work

21 Like the French directors Eric Rohmer and Jean-Luc Godard

22 Poseur

23 Kid's creation out of pillows

24 Kind of elephant

25 Last monarch of the House of Stuart

26 Destructive sort

29 Photographer Adams

30 Lines in geometry

31 Android's counterpart

32 \_\_\_\_ Xtra (soda)

34 Scoundrel

36 Worked from home?

39 Cease communication

41 Bug-studying org.

42 Steinbeck novella set in La Paz

46 Topic for Sun Tzu

47 Has as a tenant

49 Shakespearean king

50 Retired chat service

51 Military term of address

52 Perry of fashion

53 "I knew that would happen!"

58 "Twelfth Night" twin

62 Thin pancake

63 Spa treatment

64 Flowery

66 \_\_\_\_ Nation (record label for Jay-Z and J. Cole)

67 Illegal interference ... or what can be found in this puzzle's 1st, 3rd, 7th, 15th, 19th and 21st rows?

71 Stewbun

72 Noted brand of guitars

73 Use an ice pack on

74 What a conductor might conduct

75 Online admin

77 Where a big bowl is found

79 Indication to bow slowly, say

80 Creator of the "Planet Money" podcast

82 Like a boiled lobster

83 Buoy

85 Poe ode

89 Nicknamed

90 Largest moon in the solar system

91 Got down

92 Discharges

94 Reasons for sneezin'

95 They might be backless

97 Fan favorite

98 Frequent Twitter poster

99 Thick hairstyle

103 For the case at hand

105 Hooded cloak

109 Home to the historic Moana Hotel

110 Connecticut city near New Haven

112 \_\_\_\_ speak

113 Kind of race

115 Dum-dums

116 In \_\_\_\_ (entirely)

117 Bit of advice before taking off?

118 Evasive basketball move

119 Brooding sort

120 Häagen-Dazs alternative

#### DOWN

1 Big name in Scotch

2 Appliance brand

3 Word before goat or state

4 Sporks have small ones

5 Suffix with crap

6 Bird bills

7 Now there's a thought!

8 Sign by a pool

9 Features of monarch butterfly wings

10 Add salt to, maybe

11 Santa \_\_\_\_

12 Former Buick sedans

13 "Victory is mine!"

14 Covered with water

15 Sleek fabrics

16 Closest to base?

17 Dry, as wine

20 Daze

27 Jessica of "The Illusionist"

28 Empty

33 Chocolate purchase

35 Language with six tones

36 180s

37 Dallas pro

38 Limit on what can be charged

39 "All right, let's play!"

40 Butcher's stock

42 Nickname for Springsteen

43 Comics superhero with filed-off horns

44 Joins forces?

45 Run off

46 Actor Wheaton

48 Prefix with -nomial

50 Joins forces

54 Insurance giant whose name begins with a silent letter

55 Spoke tediously, with "on"

56 Just for laughs

57 Marble marvel

59 Cuban province where the Castros were born

60 Found (in)

61 Nail-polish remover

63 Trivia venue

65 Margarine container

68 Sign of wind on water

69 Range that's home to the Mark Twain National Forest

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17				
18							19			20		21								
22							23				24									
25					26		27				28		29							
30							31			32		33		34		35				
					36	37	38			39			40		41					
42	43	44	45					46			47		48							
49								50				51								
52							53	54			55	56	57		58	59	60	61		
62							63				64			65			66			
67							68				69				70					
71							72					73				74				
75							76				77				78		79			
							80				81				82		83	84		
85	86	87						88			89				90					
91							92				93				94					
95							96				97				98		99	100	101	102
							103				104				105		106			
110											111				112		113		114	
115											116						117			
118															119					

70 Unit of 74-Across

76 It stands for January

78 Raiders' org.

79 Big name in chips

81 Hamlet's plot in "Hamlet"

84 "To what \_\_\_\_?"

85 Bill

86 Italian castle town

87 Advance warning

88 Nancy Drew's boyfriend

89 "Finally!"

90 Roman Empire invader

93 Part of S.S.N.: Abbr.

94 Wrap tightly

96 Looks for purchases

98 Crested \_\_\_\_ (Colorado ski resort)

99 Like Santa's suit on Dec. 26

100 Short-story writer Bret

101 The slightest margin

102 Shows nervousness, in a way

104 Taking action

106 Kids' character who says, "People say nothing is impossible, but I do nothing every day"

107 What has casts of thousands?

108 Hair-removal brand

110 Grate stuff

111 Potent venom source

114 "\_\_\_\_-haw!"

# Calendar

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

## THU, JAN. 18

**PINE'EER CRAFT CLUB MEETING**  
Ocean Pines Community Center, 235 Ocean Parkway, Ocean Pines, MD, 10 a.m. Refreshments served at 9:45 a.m., business meeting at 10 a.m. Guests are welcome. Sharon, 410-208-3032

**PLAY DOUGH CREATIONS**  
Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, Ocean Pines, MD, 10:30 a.m. Be creative with Play Dough. For 3 to 7 year old children. 410-208-4014, <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

**STORY TIME 'COWBOYS AND COWGIRLS'**  
Snow Hill library, 307 N. Washington St., Snow Hill, MD, 10:30 a.m. For 2 to 5 year old children. 410-632-3495, <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

**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

**NASA BALLOON MISSION**  
Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, Ocean Pines, MD, 2 p.m. Learn about the exciting NASA Scientific Balloon Mission stationed at Wallops Flight Facility. 410-208-4014, <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

**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. 19

**COFFEE AND COLORING**  
Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, Ocean Pines, MD, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Join the group for a relaxing coloring session. 410-208-4014, <http://www.worcesterlibrary.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](mailto:moonlightknitting@gmail.com), 703-507-0708

**BERLIN BOOK THE MONTH**  
Berlin library, 220 N. Main St., Berlin, MD, 1 p.m. Featuring "The Dovekeepers" by Alice Hoffman. Copies of the books are available in advance at the library. 410-641-0650, <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

**SNACKS & APPS**  
Ocean City library, 10003 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, MD 21842, 1 p.m.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

**SDHS STOCK MARKET**  
Stephen Decatur High School seniors Justin Manganiello, center, and Andrew Haas earned the title of Fall Stock Market Game state champions. Manganiello and Haas participated in the Economic Education Stock Market Challenge, which allows students to invest a virtual \$100,000, while enrolled in business teacher Kurt Marx's Consumer and Personal Finance course. The money savvy duo earned 19 percent on their virtual \$100,000 investments over a 10-week period.

Learn how to prepare some yummy snacks for the big game. Hosted by Taryn Bradley. Register: 410-524-1818, <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

**BINGO AT THE LIBRARY!**  
Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, Ocean Pines, MD, 2 to 4 p.m. Play for a chance to win a prize. Prizes courtesy of the Friends of the Ocean Pines Library. 410-208-4014, <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

**CODING FOR GIRLS**  
Berlin library, 220 N. Main St., Berlin, MD, 4 p.m. This is an informal Q&A-based meeting and an opportunity to be the first to sign up for the weekly program to start March 2. For girls in 6th through 12th grades. 410-641-0650, <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

**FISH DINNER**  
Bowen United Methodist Church, 8421 Newark Road, Newark, MD, 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. Platters cost \$10 and include flounder filet, mac and cheese, green beans, corn bread, dessert and for those who eat in includes beverage.

**FAMILY RETRO MOVIE NIGHT**  
Pocomoke library, 301 Market St., Pocomoke City, MD, 7 p.m. Featuring "E.T." Light refreshments served. 410-957-0878, <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

## SAT, JAN. 20

**MEDICAL MARIJUANA INFORMATION SESSION**  
Ocean Pines Community Center, Assateague Room, 235 Ocean Parkway, Ocean Pines, MD, 3:30 p.m. During the presentation, expected to last between 30 and 45 minutes, Lyndsey Oda-chowski will explain in depth the merits



PHOTO COURTESY D.J. LANDIS, SR.

**KIWANIS APPRECIATION**  
The Kiwanis Club of Greater Ocean Pines–Ocean City meets almost every Wednesday of the year in the Assateague Room of the Ocean Pines Community Center. Tables and chairs need to be setup for the meetings and often taken down afterward or re-arranged for meetings by other clubs. Pictured, from left, are Norbert Violante and William Parker with Kiwanis President Ralph Chinn as they are presented with appreciation gifts for their support.

of medical marijuana. The dispensary's clinical director, Nurse Practitioner Vanessa Adams and Dr. William Gunn will be on hand to answer questions.

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

**WALK WITH A DOC**  
Ocean Pines War Memorial, South Gate Pond, Ocean Pines, MD, 9 to 10 a.m. There is a short presentation by a doctor on a current health topic followed by a

walk around the pond at your own pace while you visit with others and have conversation with the doctor. Family and pet friendly. Ashley, [agodwin@atlantic-general.org](mailto:agodwin@atlantic-general.org), 410-641-9644

**SOUL FOOD DINNER**  
St. Paul United Methodist Church, 405 Flower St., Berlin, MD, 11 a.m. Choice of three entrees: chitterlings, \$12; pig feet, \$12; or chicken and dumplings, \$9. Each entrée comes with two sides. Info: Michelle Smack, 410-251-7584 or Darlene Bowen, 443-614-1554

**TEEN TIME: ANIME!**  
Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, Ocean Pines, MD, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Discuss your favorite anime or learn about a

# Calendar

new series. For teens. 410-208-4014, <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

**ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT FRIED CHICKEN DINNER**  
New Hope United Methodist Church, 7338 New Hope Road, Willards, MD, 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Menu includes mashed potatoes, greens, string beans, macaroni and cheese, beets, biscuits, dessert and coffee. Cost is \$13 for adults. Carry-outs available. 410-543-8244 or 443-235-0251

**SENSORY STORY TIME**  
Snow Hill library, 307 N. Washington St., Snow Hill, MD, 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. Hear a story, sing songs and make a craft. Siblings, families and caretakers welcome. Register: 410-632-3495, <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

**‘80S PARTY**  
Whiskers Bar & Grill, 11070 Cathell Road, Ocean Pines, MD, 2 to 6 p.m. Believe In Tomorrow candidate Frankie Schmidt will host this event.

## SUN, JAN. 21

**PADDLE OUT FOR P.J.**  
Ocean City Inlet, 806 S Atlantic Ave., Ocean City, MD, 12:45 p.m. Paddle out or hang out on the beach and pay tribute to P.J. Aldridge. Remember to support the Pj Aldridge Foundation. Brad Hoffman, [brad@live-wire-media.com](mailto:brad@live-wire-media.com), 443-366-5944

**WOMEN’S MARCH REUNION RALLY**  
Ocean City Boardwalk, 709 S Atlantic Ave., Ocean City, MD, 2 p.m. Members of Indivisible Worcester Maryland and the Women’s Democratic Club of Worcester County will rally and march on the Boardwalk. The theme will be “Empowering Women to Vote, Run for Office and Help Other Women.” All are invited. The group will meet on the Boardwalk near the Tram Station and march up to N. Division Street and back. Participants are encouraged to wear “pink pussy hats” and to bring signs honoring the undying spirit of the march.

## MON, JAN. 22

**KEEP CALM AND COLOR**  
Snow Hill library, 307 N. Washington St., Snow Hill, MD, All Day Take some time to relax and color this week, choosing from a selection of coloring pages suitable for adults and children. 410-632-3495, <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

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

**WRITING FOR WELLNESS**  
Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, Ocean Pines, MD, 1:30 to 3 p.m. Group



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

**HOLIDAY CONCERT**  
On Dec. 13, Worcester Prep Middle/Upper School music teacher Christopher Buzby delivered a performance of “Imagine” during the 22nd annual Holiday Concert featuring the sixth grade stage band, Middle School concert band and chorus, and Upper School chorus, vocal ensemble and dance ensemble. Dylan Simons is pictured playing the trumpet.

uses exercises to stimulate the process of creative expression. No prior writing experience needed. 410-208-4014, <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

**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. 23

**KEEP CALM AND COLOR**  
Snow Hill library, 307 N. Washington St., Snow Hill, MD, All Day Take some time to relax and color this week, choosing from a selection of coloring pages suitable for adults and children. 410-632-3495, <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

**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. Men are welcome. Register: Norma Kessler, 410-641-7017, <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

**PLAY DOUGH CREATIONS**  
Berlin library, 220 N. Main St., Berlin, MD, 10:30 a.m. For 3 to 7 year old children. 410-641-0650, <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

**TOT TIME: ACTIVE PLAY FOR ACTIVE TODDLERS**  
Pocomoke library, 301 Market St.,

Pocomoke City, MD, 10:30 a.m. Active free play program for toddlers ages 1 to 3. 410-957-0878, <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

**HAIR SALON DEMONSTRATION**  
Ocean City library, 10003 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, MD, 1 p.m. Learn hair fashion tips and secrets for Valentines Day. Corrina and Suzi from Headlines Salon will show you how to solve any hair problem. 410-524-1818, <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

**LIVING WELL WITH CHRONIC DISEASE WORKSHOP**  
Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, Ocean Pines, MD, 1 to 3:30 p.m. A free, 6-week interactive workshop proven to help people manage their chronic conditions and maintain an active lifestyle. Register: Jill Kenney, [jak@macinc.org](mailto:jak@macinc.org), 410-742-0505, Ext. 159

**OCEAN PINES POLICE**  
Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, Ocean Pines, MD, 2 p.m. Detective Tish Ottey will give some tips about staying safe in the community as well as online. 410-208-4014, <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

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

**FAMILY NIGHT ‘THE MITTEN’**  
Ocean City library, 10003 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, MD, 4:30 p.m. Enjoy books, crafts and games for the whole family. Snacks and drinks provided. 410-524-1818, <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](mailto:jeanduck47@gmail.com)

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

## WED, JAN. 24

**KEEP CALM AND COLOR**  
Snow Hill library, 307 N. Washington St., Snow Hill, MD, All Day Take some time to relax and color this week, choosing from a selection of coloring pages suitable for adults and children. 410-632-3495, <http://www.worcesterlibrary.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.kiwaniso-fopoc.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, <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

**STORY TIME ‘COLORS’**  
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, <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

**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](mailto: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](mailto:cliff0917@aol.com), 410-641-1700

**BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP**  
Atlantic General Hospital, conference room 1, 9733 Healthway Drive, Berlin, MD, 7 to 8 p.m. The group gathers the fourth Wednesday of each month. Pre-registration is not necessary. Pastoral Care Services, [gmansell@atlanticgeneral.org](mailto:gmansell@atlanticgeneral.org), 410-641-9725



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AUCTIONS

The contents of mini storage units will be sold at public auction. Units to be auctioned; B1, B11, B18, B31, B83, B97, O19, O24, O60, O68, O79, O134, O178, O29, O115, O164, S26, S40, S56, S102, S117, S135, S160, S177, S180, S185, S315, S317, S714, S748. Units are being sold due to non-payment of rent. Common items in units are, household items, furniture, tools, fishing equipment, paintings, antique and vintage items.  
Date: Saturday, January 27th, 2018  
Time: NEW TIME 10:00AM  
#1 Starts at Berlin Mini Storage: Route 346  
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### BRAND NEW SRT CHARGER

Was \$54,780  
Now **\$45,821**

Prices & Incentives are Subject to Change Without Notice. Prices Do Not Include Tax, Title & Processing Fee. 0% Interest Based on Approved Credit. In-Stock Vehicles May Differ From Those Shown.



## FREE Tires for LIFE

with purchase of a New Vehicle

All service must be done to GM & Chrysler specifications

## 32" LED TV Giveaway

No purchase Necessary

Drawing held Feb. 1, 2018

Home of the

# \$5,000

ON ANY USED CAR

# TRADE GUARANTEED!

*Wishing Everyone a Happy & Prosperous 2018 from the Sales Staff*  
*See You Soon for Your Next New or Used Car*



Chad Colman



Dave Staigerwald



Marlow Hall



Bryant Sterling



Chris Hare



Greg Phillips