



Community talks to be held on tax and fee increases

By Josh Davis
Associate Editor

(Jan. 3, 2019) The next Town of Berlin budget will probably include property tax and utility fee increases, and public discussions related to how and to what levels that would occur could have implications on the next decade or more.

Last month, representatives from Ocean City firm PKS & Company, in delivering a fiscal 2018 audit, said overall the general fund decreased by more than \$1.8 million.

Largely to blame were losses by three of the town's utilities that operate under separate funds, or budgets. Of those, the sewer fund was hit the hardest with an operating loss of more than \$900,000.

Compounding matters are increased funding levels to the Berlin Fire Company and EMS. In October, the Berlin Town Council approved a \$605,000 contract for fire and EMS services, representing a significant increase.

Mayor Gee Williams, during a Dec. 27 interview, said none of this came as a surprise to town officials, who keep a close watch on such things, but it was clear something needed to be done.

"Every year has a different main theme, just based on life and how the community evolves," Williams said. "This is our year to really talk about the budget and what is expected of the town, [and] what the people want and what they're willing to support through taxes and fees."

"What have a number of budget decisions to make – we always do – but this year I think it's more come to the [forefront] and the decisions we need to make in this new year, at least in my view, are based on one underlying premise. And that premise is that, financially, we need to be reasonable for the short term while also being responsible for the long term. And the two are not necessarily always the same – it's a matter of finding balance."

In preparing for the fiscal 2020 budget, Williams said it has become apparent that "adjustments to our utility fee structure and our property tax rate must be made." He said that would first include increases and then setting a minimum level for the town's unrestricted

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JOSH DAVIS/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

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A crowded downtown Berlin, Maryland braves the rain to celebrate a special ball drop for children and families on New Year's Eve. The event was timed to coincide with the New Year's celebration in Berlin, Germany.

DPI seeks delay of new reg rollout

By Josh Davis
Associate Editor

(Jan. 3, 2019) Members of the Delmarva Poultry Industry trade association are seeking a delay in the rollout of environmental regulations they contend will inflict severe financial damage on local farmers.

DPI officials said they are concerned by the "Phosphorus Management Tool" that was developed a decade ago by University of Maryland scientists to "identify the potential risk of phosphorus loss from farm fields and prevent the additional buildup of phosphorus in soils that are already saturated," according to a 2017 report developed for Gov. Larry Hogan and the Maryland General Assembly.

According to the Phosphorus Management Tool Transition Advisory Committee report, "Soils with high phosphorus levels are typically found on fields that have used ma-

nure or poultry litter as a crop nutrient over an extended period of time. Use of the Phosphorus Management Tool only applies to farm fields with high soil phosphorus levels identified by a Fertility Index Value (FIV) of 150 or greater. If a farm field scores less than 150 FIV, the farmer may apply phosphorus to the land based on the farm's nutrient management plan and current University of Maryland recommendations."

The Phosphorus Management Tool Transition Advisory Committee was established in 2015 and is chaired by the Maryland Secretary of Agriculture.

DPI Executive Director Bill Satterfield, in a Nov. 14 letter to the Phosphorus Management Tool committee, said his membership includes "hundreds of farm families that grow chickens for the five local chicken companies, many of whom also grow crops, and grain farmers"

and were negatively affected by the PMT regulations.

"Our organization seeks a comprehensive evaluation ... and a transition adjustment to allow time for a thorough evaluation as allowed by the regulation because conditions appear to warrant such a delayed implementation," Satterfield said.

He said a delay for further evaluation is necessary because "Viable on-the-farm alternative uses for chicken litter/manure have not developed," adding "Economically and technologically the envisioned systems have not [worked]."

"There have been poor results from on-the-farm demonstration units funded by the Maryland Department of Agriculture's Animal Waste Technology Fund," Satterfield said.

"Crop farmers who might be denied the use of chicken litter/manure

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Reserve funds cover five months of operations

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general fund balance.

“Currently, we have a general fund balance, also known as reserves, of \$3.7 million, which equals about five months worth of town operating expenses,” Williams said, adding “there’s no one percentage or one amount that applies to all towns – large or small.”

“That depends on the vulnerabilities, risks and expectations of each community,” he said. “But, all of us working together, we’ll figure it out.”

Among the vulnerabilities and risks, Williams said, is the potential for a nat-

ural disaster because of a major storm.

“Part of the town is in the floodplain district immediately east of [Route]113 in East Berlin and the rest of the town is just one level up,” he said. “Everything becomes more vulnerable as you get closer to the ocean but, even so, we’ve already experienced serious flooding here and I think the community’s response has been the right one.”

Because of those risk factors, the town held a series of community meetings several years ago that led to the creation of a stormwater utility and, more recently, several major stormwater proj-

ects funded largely by more than \$2 million in federal and state grants.

“Climate change and severe flooding are part of our future for, it looks like, at least hundreds of years,” Williams said. “And I’m very proud that the ... community has been so supportive of this. We’re not done yet, but we’ve gotten off to a very good start.”

He said more improvements were coming as more grants became available, but cautioned, “grants don’t take care of 100 percent” of the problem.

“It’s a combination of, obviously the grants that come through the State of

Maryland ... but also it’s from the money that we raise through the town’s stormwater utility fees, plus the borrowing that the town does itself and, in this case, we’ve done some borrowing from the general fund,” Williams said.

“None of that money is being thrown away. It’s all for ongoing investments that would make anybody that’s got property here ... know that they’ll be protected to the fullest extent that we can afford and what good practices allow in terms of minimizing stormwater situations,” he added.

Also at play, Williams said, was the

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Williams: ‘I’m an optimist’ about town’s future

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“borrowing from the general fund to cover utility fund losses.”

“The past four years, the sewer fund has borrowed over \$3 million from the general fund to cover operating expenses and, during the same time, the stormwater fund has borrowed about a half-million dollars,” he said. “Utility fees charged from these two funds must be increased to generate enough cash flow to first stop the borrowing and, over time, to pay back the loans from the general fund.”

Williams said repaying the general fund would not happen “in just one or two years.”

“I do not apologize for any of the improvements we made – they were essential, and I think that’s part of our responsibility, because if your basic services are something you can’t rely on day in and day out, what are we here?” he said.

Looking ahead to the next five to 10 years, Williams said the town and the public needed to determine what level of capital expenses are needed to meet both immediate needs and longer-term infrastructure and public safety requirements.

Along with stormwater, the town also in recent years has addressed major projects like the creation of an electric utility to help reduce the average eclectic bill.

“The old norm was to do what was absolutely needed to keep from getting into a bind,” Williams said, adding of the

electric utility, “there had been no significant investment in it for at least multiple decades.”

“That [changed] toward the end of the last century ... and over time it’s proven to be a very good investment, because we have extremely high reliability,” Williams said. “In addition to the reliability, our cost to our ratepayers in Berlin Electric has actually gone down, and significantly so in comparison to the overall marketplace.

“We’re very competitive in that way, but none of that would be possible unless you make the investment to make the whole system work,” he added.

Williams said property taxes, based on the audit report, would likely also need to be increased in order to maintain an adequate level of services.

“In 2018, the town budget showed that property taxes provided about 52 percent of general fund revenues to the town,” he said. “Now, we must determine what is the appropriate percentage of general fund revenues that should come from town property taxes, going forward.

“We must strike a balance between keeping taxes low while also meeting our financial responsibility,” Williams continued. “The world is not a stagnant place. We’ve had the lowest property taxes in this region for about seven years ... I don’t think it’s realistic to think that we can keep the absolute lowest property taxes in this region and still meet all

these responsibilities.”

Williams said property taxes had not increased at all during his tenure as mayor, which began in 2008.

“The rates have only gone one way ... about seven years ago we dropped them,” he said. “They haven’t gone up in a long, long time. Unfortunately, expenses and inflation and critically needed infrastructure doesn’t go away. So, we’ll address it.”

As for exactly how much fees and property taxes could increase, Williams said it was too early to tell.

“At this point, that’s the process we need to go through. I don’t want to speculate until we’ve actually been through the process, and, all of that will be done very publicly,” he said. “As soon as we have figures that we have confidence in, we’ll be sharing them.”

Also likely to be part of upcoming budget discussions are funding for a parking and mobility study, as well as “options for capturing some reasonable level of town revenues from Berlin’s economic growth,” Williams said.

“The private business sector directly benefits from the town’s ongoing investments in both infrastructure and economic development, and I’ve long maintained that town revenues should not have to underwrite those town investments that are necessary for sustaining and enhancing economic growth,” he said.

“I also believe the mayor and council should do everything within our influence and means to ensure that Berlin’s economic resurgence is sustainable and does not become just a short-lived flash in the pan,” he continued. “Progress does not happen by itself ... when you make investments some of them work out wonderfully and others are disappointing, but it doesn’t mean you just stop.”

William said a sales tax was “out of the question in this state at this time.”

“That would certainly answer a good deal, but the state would have to restructure so much of what it does,” he said. “We have to look at other ways and ... even municipalities and states with sales taxes have income that comes from economic development. They key is, it’s gotta be structured to make sense here.”

He said possibilities included the for-

mation of a commercial or parking improvement district.

“The solutions can take many forms,” Williams said. “First, we have to find out exactly what we need, because we don’t need everything.

“But, if people want the town to continue to be economically viable and vital ... then we just can’t stop doing what we’re doing,” he continued. “All of this is about balance and ... something has to give eventually, and that’s the community discussion we’ll have.”

Williams said one or more public meetings would likely occur during February and March, with formal budget hearings set to start in April.

He would also like to have public discussion based on “where future economic development should be encouraged.” In Williams’ opinion, those areas are Route 50 and Route 113, as well as along Old Ocean City Boulevard.

“There’s places where it makes sense and it’s the right places for development, and I think there’s other places where it would be totally inappropriate,” Williams said. “But, it’s just not my decision – it’s the community’s decision.”

When the Route 113 dualization is completed, meaning the entire stretch from Pocomoke to the Delaware line has two lanes going each way, Williams sees the intersection of 113 and Route 50 in Berlin becoming the transportation hub of the peninsula.

“Both of those critical, major corridors are in our community,” he said. “For a variety of reasons ... we’ve never made the investments and encouraged the private sector investments that would greatly benefit our community and allow regular folks to continue to be able to live here, not just for the next few years, but for the next few generations. I know it sounds big, but it is.

“It’s our responsibility now to show what we can do in the immediate years ahead, what we can do in the next few decades, and what is the vision for the turn of the next century,” Williams continued. “All of these things are great things to discuss, but they need to be done publicly – and they will.

“All in all, I’m an optimist about our town’s immediate future,” he added.

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Delay of phosphorus reg rollouts unlikely

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through the PMT system might not be able to buy more expensive commercial fertilizers,” he continued. “Crop prices are low. Corn is selling in the \$3.50 per bushel level while soybeans are in the \$8 range. These prices are the lowest in years. Many farmers are struggling to remain in business. Forcing farmers who must transition to the PMT schedule might make fertilizer too expensive to buy.”

Satterfield went on to say fertilizer manufacturers and distributors “have noted that it would be difficult to supply enough fertilizer to Maryland farmers in the coming years if all those forced to stop using animal manures because of the PMT need commercial fertilizers.”

“The uncertain nature of state support for manure transport programs is another issue,” he said. “While Maryland’s chicken companies have provided millions of dollars to assist in the movement of manure to sites where it can be used, there always is year-to-year uncertainty of what the state government’s commitment will be.”

He said efforts in Pennsylvania to reduce nutrient pollution to its waterways and the Chesapeake Bay would likely lead to more Pennsylvania manure being shipped within the state, “thus displacing Maryland chicken

manure being shipped there now.”

“This displacement will cause a huge negative impact on Maryland chicken farmers’ options for shipping to alternative use facilities,” he said.

What’s more, Satterfield said there had been little funding or research “to extract phosphorus from soils that would lower the FIV in the soils below the 150 level.”

“Accordingly, the Delmarva Poultry Industry, Inc. urges the Phosphorus Management Tool Transition Advisory Committee to conduct a comprehensive evaluation as allowed under the regulation and to give serious consideration to allowing a delay in the phase-in schedule for PMT implementation to allow this evaluation to be conducted properly,” he said.

Representatives from the Delmarva Poultry Industry also pointed to comments during a November public meeting that cast doubt on how much research had been done. The comments were attributed to Dr. Patricia Steinhilber, a soil fertility and nutrient management specialist with the Nutrient Management Program at the University of Maryland.

Steinhilber, in a Dec. 28 email, said, “At a recent meeting of the Phosphorus Management Tool (PMT) Advisory Committee in November, I stated that the PMT is a sound theoretical tool that had not

been field-verified. The PMT, like the Phosphorus Site Index before it, has many components to address all the potential loss pathways (runoff, erosion, leaching and subsurface drainage). Various components have been verified by hydrologists and soil scientists in the Mid-Atlantic.

“Field verification would be costly as it would require additional staff and expensive monitoring equipment at multiple sites around the state for 3 to 5 years,” she added.

Maryland Department of Agriculture Director of Communications Jason D. Schellhardt said his department did receive the Delmarva Poultry Industry letter, but added, “any discussion of a delay would be premature at this point.”

He did not respond to further requests for comment.

Virgil Shockley, the DPI representative to the Phosphorus Management Tool Transition Advisory Committee, suggested a delay this year is unlikely.

Shockley, who represented the Snow Hill area for several terms as a Worcester County Commissioner, said the impact of agriculture on the local economy varies from year to year. According to Shockley, in 2011 agriculture was roughly 31-32 percent of the Worcester County economy, while last year it was closer to

25 percent.

He said Phosphorus Management Tool rollouts last year, for farms with a Fertility Index Value of more than 450, affected about 8-10 percent of the 69,000 acres of plantable farmland in Worcester County.

“Which means that they could not use chicken manure as far as a fertilizer for their crops,” Shockley said. “Simply because you’re not using chicken manure doesn’t mean you’re not using fertilizer – the only difference is you’re paying for it.”

He said further rollout of the regulations this year, to include farms with a Fertility Index Value of greater than 300, would account for close to 25 percent of Worcester County farms.

“When they kick in the 2020 rollout and go to nothing over 150 ... you’re going to lose about 75 percent of the fields that won’t be able to be spread [manure] in Worcester County – and probably closer to 80 percent,” he said. “At some point in time, it’s going to catch up with everybody.”

For a farmer spreading chicken manure of 100 acres of corn, for instance, “that’s about \$5,000 worth of fertilizer that I did not have to buy,” Shockley said.

He said the increased cost to move

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Public input sought on multipurpose bldg.

By Josh Davis
Associate Editor

(Jan. 3, 2018) Leadership of the Berlin Community Improvement Association is seeking comments from the public before deciding what to do the multipurpose building on Flower Street.

The property, part of the former Flower Street School, was deeded in 1971 from the Worcester County Board of Education to the BCIA after it sold at a public auction for \$700.

Articles of incorporation for the BCIA were filed the same year “To establish and operate an association of civic minded people residing in the northern part of Worcester County, Maryland, to serve the community by meritorious public and civic works designed to make the community a better place in which to live; and to offer and provide educational, recreation and social activities for its members.”

The original incorporators were William T. Briddell, Virgil O. Armstrong, Elton M. Taylor, Samuel S. Henry Sr., Elisha Henry and John W. Washington.

Current BCIA Chairman D.J. Lockwood, during a community meeting in November, said the multipurpose building in its current state was “holding the BCIA back.”

“We can’t put forth what our forefathers wanted us to do ... because of the

declining and diminishing state of the multipurpose building,” he said.

Lockwood had called the meeting to discuss a proposal by Town of Berlin officials to take over the building, potentially to use it as a site for a new community center.

Feedback during the meeting was split, with some saying the building should be preserved because of its historical significance to the community, while others said the promise of a new community center in the region known as East Berlin was too good to pass up.

Lockwood, during a Dec. 27 interview, said the BCIA and the multipurpose building “were like two separate entities.”

“Everyone sees the state of the building, but they don’t understand how the building is connected to the organization,” he said.

According to Lockwood, the BCIA was created during the 1970s to serve the community within a 10-mile radius, stretching north to the Maryland-Delaware line, south to Newark, Maryland, west to the Wicomico River and Willards, and east to West Ocean City.

At the time, he said, that would have meant serving about 4,000 people.

“The building was originally designed to have community events for that circle,” he said. “Now, it’s over 30,000 – that’s a lot of people.”

Lockwood, now 49, remembers at-

tending events at the multipurpose building as a child.

“This was probably early ’80s, late ’70s – it was a really happening facility,” he said. “Every weekend something was there.

“There’s definitely a need for a nice community center in the Town of Berlin,” Lockwood continued. “We’re the ‘coolest small town,’ but we don’t have a community center. Ocean Pines has two community centers. Ocean City has one.”

Also at issue, according to Lockwood, is the BCIA membership is aging and becoming increasingly inactive. Of the 50-some current members, he said only about 15 are active.

Before the BCIA Board weighs in on whether to let the building go, he wants all of the stakeholders to be able to voice their opinions – if they want to.

“The town is interested in the property – that’s the underlying thing,” he said. “The town is interested in the property, but the town cannot give the BCIA any promises. No one can promise anything.

“The mayor says we definitely need a community center – the town wants a community center – but, if the BCIA agrees to give that property to the town, there’s no 100 percent [agreement] saying that we’re going to get a community center there,” Lockwood continued. “There could be money problems, it could get knocked down to a parking lot, whatever.”

Lockwood said he and other BCIA Board members would meet to discuss possible deed restrictions and what kind of assurances they would want from the town. After that, he said a meeting would be scheduled with town officials, including the town attorney, at some point this month. Then, he plans to hold one more community meeting to go over all of the options.

“We’re going to meet with the town and get a feeling,” Lockwood said. “The town and the lawyer and the mayor [may] say, ‘we’re definitely going to build a brand-new community center right here.’ If they can put that in writing, we’re good.

“But, we’re going to meet as the

BCIA to see what we want from the town before we go to the meeting,” he continued. “I think the BCIA should be included in some part of that, even though it is a community center.”

In the meantime, Lockwood encouraged others in the community to weigh in.

“As the chairman, I really want everyone to see ... the building is falling apart. We don’t have the funds to keep it running, but if we decide to give it up to the town, it becomes the town’s,” he said. “I trust what the mayor says. He says he wants the community center, but he also says there’s no guarantee that it will be there [and] that the town owns property all over the place.

“I just want everyone to have the opportunity,” he continued. “This building was designed for you guys – this 10-mile radius. The membership’s down, so any idea of how we can raise funds ... or come up with ideas [would be helpful]. There may be some contractors out there. Who knows?”

Lockwood said among the main problems with the building is a leaky roof and repairs were previously estimated to be upwards of \$300,000. The structure is in such a state that the November community meeting on what do with it was moved to Stephen Decatur Middle School.

“It’s getting hard to even operate out of that building. And to talk about that building and have to do it somewhere else ... it’s difficult,” he said. “I just feel that, as the chairman, I want everyone to realize [what’s at stake].

“The [BCIA] members are older and, if I can get a larger group of people, not even show interest, but just be informed and then see what comes of it. And if nothing comes of it, that makes my decision a lot easier,” Lockwood continued. “I don’t feel comfortable telling the town, ‘here, take it,’ without letting everyone know that this is what it’s for.

“Hopefully, we can get that 10-mile radius involved ... by then, the roof may be caved in,” Lockwood said with a laugh.

To contact Lockwood, email djlockwood334@gmail.com.

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to commercial fertilizer would likely top \$750,000 countywide this year and balloon to \$5 million next year.

Further complicating matters are declining crop prices and the agricultural trade war between the United States and China, Shockley said.

"Farmers are a victim of their own ability to produce," he said. "We're out here and we were told back in 2000 we have to feed the world. So, like any good farmer, we went ahead and decided to do that.

"Agriculture was and still is one of the few things that we export instead of importing," Shockley continued. "We export a huge amount of grain to the world – or, we did until the China fiasco."

Unless something changes, he said, "corn prices aren't going to go up, bean prices are not going to go up, but your input costs are going up – because you're buying fertilizer now."

He also said any suggestion that farmers would encourage pollution is laughable.

"Nobody wanted a dirty Chesapeake Bay – nobody wants a dirty Pocomoke River," Shockley said. "These are our farms – do you really think we're going to pollute the hell out of them?"

"This is what's so asinine to me – and insulting – is that you have someone who knows absolutely zero about farming anything or growing anything being a committee chair in Annapolis and standing up and saying, 'You guys are the worst polluters in the world' ... that's about where it was," he added.

Because of the lead-time required before the next planting season, Shockley said it is unlikely anything could be done to delay the rollout this year.

"I don't think you're going to see [a delay] in 2019," he said. "I'm optimistic we'll get one for the 2020 planting season, but I'm not optimistic we're going to get one for 2019."

"There's going to be a lot of pain before this is over – and I've heard some horrendous corn yields," Shockley said, adding some farmers reported growing half their output from just one year prior. "There's no way when you're losing that kind of money per acre ... if you're a young guy starting out, it's over."

What can people do?

"You have elected officials that need to hear from you," Shockley said. "If you're hurting and this affects you, then your delegate's phone should be ringing and your senator's phone should be ringing."

"You don't have to get personal, but they need to be able to take the message to Annapolis that we've got a problem and it's not going away," he added.

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OPA Clubs committee adjusting to new role

By Josh Davis
Associate Editor

(Jan. 3, 2019) For more than a year, Ocean Pines Clubs Committee members have debated what to do with comment cards submitted by customers at the yacht and beach clubs.

With a professional management company now overseeing food and beverage operations, they've also wondered about their larger purpose.

A year ago, when the association was running the yacht and beach clubs, committee members thought comment cards could help Ocean Pines to do a better job, with customers weighing in on what was working and what could be improved, and the committee breaking down that data.

Now that the Matt Ortt Companies are running the show, however, committee members have wondered how

best to contribute to a management already seen as successful.

Committee Chairman Gary Miller said Ortt Companies co-founder Ralph DeAngelus was more than happy to turn over stacks of comment cards received at the yacht club. DeAngelus personally delivered a stack to committee members last spring and committee members had several more large stacks of cards during their last meeting, on Dec. 20.

Miller said most of the comments were, essentially, "good, good, good, good," while committee member Gerald Horn said of the cards he had reviewed "I haven't seen anything below a four" out of five.

"The one thing they're saying is more vegetable entrees and more fresh seafood," Miller said. "So, they like what's here, [but are] suggesting some additional things."

Miller said it would be helpful if committee members could sit down with DeAngelus or Matt Ortt himself.

"What are the plans going forward into next season ... what is their viewpoint on how this first season went?" Miller said. "What type of issues have they had that they would need our help to straighten out?"

"It would help if we could say ... what's going on? What do you see as problems? What do you want us to do with cards? What do you have planned in advance? Do you have a new menu that's going to come out? Just little things like that," he added.

Committee member Cheryl Jacobs said there ought to be a way to get that information "without stepping on anybody's toes."

"We're here to assist in any way," she said. "What can we do? What would you like us to do?"

"And we've said that numerous times, but the impression that we've gotten ... is the board didn't really want

them interacting with us," Miller said.

Director Slobodan Trendic, the board liaison to the committee, said the situation is somewhat complicated because recent changes in association resolutions forbid committees from directly interacting with staff.

"Some of the resolutions have changed last year during the time when

an idea of how you can make yourself more efficient and more effectively, more valuable to the GM and to Matt Ortt, I think the board would be happy to listen to your ideas."

Trendic suggested inviting Bailey to the next committee meeting, because the general manager "is responsible for the operations."



JOSH DAVIS/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Members of the Ocean Pines Clubs Committee discuss comment cards during a recent meeting at the community yacht club.

the acting GM was here. A lot of interaction with staff ... for certain committees was removed," he said. "It was done for different reasons – some were valid [and] others were maybe not so valid. But, these are all the things that we're dealing with now."

He added the committee was an advisory body to the board – not to the general manager or the Ortt Companies.

"This is their first year so, obviously, we don't want to sent mixed messages from different sources," he said. "I can't speak for whatever happened in the past ... [but] going forward, if you have

"It's a question of sequence," he said.

Trendic added, "If we have any issues with what you're planning to do, the board will voice their opinion."

Miller said he would invite Bailey to attend the next committee meeting "and have a discussion on how he's interacting with the Matt Ortt Company and how we should interact."

"That way, we can do all that and then report to the board on how everything's coming together," Miller said.

The Ocean Pines Clubs Committee is scheduled to meet again on Jan. 17 at 4 p.m. at the yacht club.



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Trendic: All options on table for country club

Pines Director says small, large-scale renovations and replacement still possible

By Josh Davis

Associate Editor

(Jan. 3, 2019) When Ocean Pines Clubs Committee Chairman Gary Miller asked on Dec. 20 how the country club renovations were going, he didn't know what he was getting into.

Based on the discussion that followed, all options are on the table and nothing is certain.

"What's going on as far as the RFPs and where are we?" Miller asked. "The last thing I read was, are they talking about tearing the building down and starting all over?"

"Dear God, don't get me started on that. I could blow a gasket," Cheryl Jacobs said. Jacobs, a former board member, is a recent appointment to the clubs committee. "When I read that in the paper I'm like, 'Seriously?'"

Jacobs, two years ago, unsuccessfully fought to convince board members that replacing the current building with a smaller, cheaper-to-maintain version was the best option. The current structure has suffered for years from issues such as mold, outdated HVAC systems and a leaky

roof.

Committee member Gerald Horn said he couldn't imagine how the association had already spent \$500,000 to renovate the downstairs portion of the country club. Estimates to renovate the second story are now north of \$1.3 million.

"It's astounding to me," Horn said.

As a former board member, Jacobs added, "We are so far beyond the point of discussing a tear down."

"They've just got to let go of that entirely," she said.

"Are you aware that there are individual heating and air conditioning units that were purchased that are sitting somewhere, waiting to be installed [on the second story]?"

Director Slobodan Trendic, the committee liaison to the board, said he was.

According to Trendic, bid requests for the second-floor renovation have been received.

"This is where I was leading with this — are we going to have anything completed for next season for the golfers, and a new place for meetings and all that?" Miller asked.

Trendic said if a "simple renovation" were being done, it could start on Jan. 1 and be done quickly.

"But if you're going through some major renovation, which is what the RFP was put out for, or the notion of tearing it down to replace, that's a different scenario altogether," he said.

Committee member Lewis Furman compared the situation to what happened at the old yacht club.

"They argued all those years and didn't know exactly what they wanted to do ... and look what we've got," he said.

"It's like an elephant put together by a committee.

"You've gotta make a decision and push it through," Furman continued. "We should've learned from this."

Trendic said the committee meeting was not the venue for his opinion on what should be done in terms of renovating the country club.

Jacobs, later during the meeting, asked again when the board might make a decision on the second floor, "assuming that there will be a second floor."

"As a board, we haven't discussed that and that decision hasn't been

made," Trendic said.

He said the general manager had a timeline in mind, but that actual timeline would depend on "which option the board will ultimately approve."

"The next action item is for the GM to come to the board and, basically, ask for approval," he said, adding there was no date yet for that to occur.

"What I'm hoping to see, as an individual director, is that by the time the board meets to hold a budget working session, which will be on Jan. 14, 15 and 16 ... that we would have some kind of a discussion related to the numbers for the clubhouse."

Asked whether he preferred the renovation or replacement plans, Trendic indicated there could be a third option — a less costly renovation.

"If you go on a string budget, a lot can be done by May," he said. "But, if you go with a major renovation, which is what this RFP is about, you're talking about six months plus of intensive work that will dictate how much of the downstairs can be open, because you have liability issues."

"Everything is on the table, from my perspective as an individual director," he continued. "I am considering everything."

'Everything is on the table, from my perspective as an individual director ... I am considering everything.'

Ocean Pines Director
Slobodan Trendic



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Friend remembers car crash victim as ‘an amazing guy’

By Rachel Ravina
Staff Writer

(Jan. 3, 2019) The day 36-year-old Berlin resident William Joseph “Will-billy” Hathaway died following a crash was a dark day for his friend, Stephanie Lisi.

“I laid in bed after finding out what happened to Will, and my heart just broke for Mary [his wife] and [their] baby, and then I just started seeing dollar signs,” Lisi said.

Lisi, 51, of Berlin, launched a social media fundraising campaign on Dec. 16 with an original goal of \$200. That goal was met within approximately eight minutes, and she later received advice to raise the target amount to \$250,000. The page accrued \$91,486 in donations, and was closed on Dec. 30.

“I think they’re going to have a little peace of mind and a little security for right now,” she said.

Lisi said she put herself in Mary’s shoes as a way to gain perspective and try to find a solution because “in such a tragic situation you want to fix things for people.”

“I thought about how my world would probably fall apart, and what would I need to get it together?” she said. “And I know it sounds terrible because it sounds so monetary, but you can’t even grieve if you think you’re going to be homeless.”

Police responded to the crash on Dec. 15 on Old Ocean City Road, just west of Richardson Road, and Hathaway was found slumped over in the center console, and did not appear to be breathing when paramedics arrived on scene, according to a Maryland State Police report. He was pronounced dead at Peninsula Regional Medical Center in Salisbury.

Police reports show Hathaway called his wife, Mary, and said someone turned in front of him and he had to swerve his Toyota truck into a ditch. However, the report went on to say he told her and several citizens who stopped at the scene that he was not seriously injured.

Police said the crash is under investigation, but circumstances leading up to the crash were unclear.

Hathaway was a crew member on Foolish Pleasures, a charter boat out of the Ocean City Fishing Center in West Ocean City. Lisi said Hathaway and her husband, Dale, fished together, and were on her husband’s boat which appeared on the National Geographic Channel’s television show “Wicked Tuna: Outer Banks.”

“He was a hell of a fisherman. I mean he really was an absolutely incredible tuna fisherman,” she said. “Probably one of the best.”

Lisi went on to say the couple would often spend time with her family. Mary Hathaway is a teacher at Stephen Decatur Middle School, and Lisi’s “youngest son knows her as Willbilly’s girl and he knew her as Ms. Malone then Hathaway once they got married last year.”

Lisi remembered a specific characteristic of Hathaway’s: his walk.

“He just he sort of did this shuffle when he walked,” she said. “The feet never left the ground.”

But it was his “laid back” and agreeable personality that Lisi said were reasons that made him a pillar in the community.

“He was an amazing guy, and he never had a bad word to say about anybody,” she said. “I’ve never met anybody that didn’t like him.”

Lisi said Mary Hathaway’s “strength was unbelievable” during the memorial service on Dec. 22 at the Ocean City Marlin Club in West Ocean City.

“Overall I think she feels incredibly loved and very humble through all this, and the outpouring of support and photographs and stories of how other people knew her husband,” she said.

In lieu of flowers, anyone interested had the opportunity to submit memories of her husband to an electronic dropbox link. It has since closed.

Lisi said another fundraiser is being planned for this spring, and the proceeds will go toward a fund for their daughter, Molly Jean’s, education.

Lisi emphasized a part of Hathaway she’ll always have: Molly Jean. The father and daughter looked incredibly similar, Lisi said, noting the facial expressions they share.

“There is a little smirk on her face ... and ... [when] you get a head-on shot with Will giving his little smile it’s the same exact smile,” Lisi said. “It’s the same squint of the left eye.”

Lisi said during this time of grief and great stress, Mary Hathaway still finds a way to be strong for her daughter.

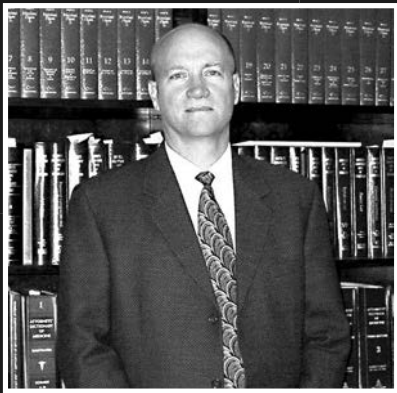
“You know if she starts to feel like she’s gonna break, she picks up Molly Jean and holds her because if she gets upset, Molly Jean gets upset,” Lisi said. “Right now, Mary says that’s really her strength, Molly Jean.”

**‘He was an amazing guy,
and he never had a bad word
to say about anybody ...
I’ve never met
anybody that didn’t like him.
Hathaway’s friend,
Stephanie Lisi**

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WYFCS program to help ‘disconnected youth’

(Jan. 3, 2018) Worcester Youth and Family Counseling Services (WYFCS) is working to help a group of people who have been identified by the state as “disconnected youth”

The Governor’s Office for Children said the phrase refers to a person between the ages of 16 and 24 who is not in school or working.

Worcester County has the highest number of disconnected youth in Maryland, according to the Governor’s Office for Children.

WYFCS Executive Director Steven Taylor said the state office is providing funding to counties across Maryland in the hopes of mitigating problems such as childhood hunger, childhood homelessness, children with incarcerated parents, and disconnected youth.

WYFCS launched the program officially last week, but it’s been a process months in the making. Taylor said his team has been working to design the program and develop relationships with community members since the summer.

Worcester County received \$645,229 for these programs, according to Jessica Sexauer, of the county’s health department.

She added that the Local Management Board, the local arm of the state’s program for children, awarded \$190,000 to Worcester Youth to help fund several of those programs, and said \$150,000 is designated for career development.

Taylor said he hopes to help at least 30 people. He said his team will meet with people who fit the program’s criteria, assess their needs and work to provide them with training. There will also be an assigned social worker for “additional support.”

“We’ve designed a program based on how we might think we might reach this group, and the kind of supports that the might need to find a job or enroll in college for higher education,” Taylor said.

“We’ll be working with them one-on-one to give them the tools that they need so they can become employed and be successful employees,” Taylor said.

“If we have to drive to their community and meet with them at a public place that’s more convenient for them, then we’ll do that,” Taylor said. “We don’t

want transportation to be an issue for people.”

Taylor said the program also would help address the larger problem of poverty in Worcester County. The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation rates counties across the state on a myriad of factors including socioeconomic conditions.

Out of the state’s 24 counties, Worcester County sits third from the bottom, according to the county health rankings website.

“You know [a] community is really only as strong as the people within it, and the abilities of the people within it, and so the more that we build strength within our own community, the more productive, more lucrative we’ll be as a whole,” he said.

To that end, Taylor emphasized the need to entice people to remain here, even though many young people find they must go elsewhere because of greater employment opportunities beyond this area.

“We really need to change that, and keep our brightest people here in the county, and give them opportunities so that we can build greater strength within the county, within the community,” Taylor said.

In reference to the area’s business community, Taylor said there’s an opportunity to cultivate a partnership. He said young people could gain employment exposure through apprenticeships, and businesses can gain employees to grow their businesses.

“They expressed interest in this as well because ... they are willing to take these individuals on and help them with the skills that we’ve been teaching, help them grow and become good employees with that company,” he said.

County approves next step for AGH outpatient building

By Rachel Ravina
Staff Writer

(Jan. 3, 2018) A request to reclassify the water and sewer systems of a proposed Atlantic General Hospital outpatient center for the Ocean Pines area was approved by the Worcester County Commissioners last month.

The site is located at on Racetrack Road, just south of the southern gate to Ocean Pines, according to the project description.

The proposal aims “to change the designation for the properties from W-6/S-6 (no planned service) to W-1/S-1 (planned to be served within two years).”

The potential property includes 98,964 square feet of designated space for “medical offices serving different medical specialties,” according to a public hearing notice.

Director of Environmental Programs Robert Mitchell said the county planning commission recommended approval of the developer’s amendment request in November and that request appeared to be consistent with the comprehensive plan.

Mitchell added the space would also require 34 equivalent dwelling

units, according to a public hearing memo.

Following Mitchell’s presentation, attorney Hugh Cropper IV said a national medical campus developer would be responsible for building the facility, and will then lease it to Atlantic General Hospital.

“Our plans are quite far along,” Cropper said.

Cropper said attention would be paid to any environmentally sensitive matters.

When the hearing was opened for public comment, no one approached.

“I assure you it’s going to be a very attractive building sort of in the character of Atlantic General Hospital, but keeping with the agricultural tradition under the design plan,” Cropper said. “Every effort will be made to preserve existing forests on site as it is right now.”

Cropper went onto say there “will be enough [trees] preserved on site to meet the threshold.”

Commissioner Jim Bunting made the motion to approve the reclassification amendment, which was seconded by Commissioner Joseph Mitrecic.



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Berlin woman has rescued over 1,500 animals

By Morgan Pilz
Staff Writer

(Jan. 3, 2019) Susanne Hoshino has rescued over 1,500 animals through her organization, Kindness Matters Rescue.

She has spent the last eight years living by her motto, “working together we save them because every life matters.”

Hoshino, a resident of Berlin since the 1980’s, has spent her life caring for animals and people alike. Equipped with medical knowledge and experience from her former occupations as a nurse and physical therapist, Hoshino uses her skills to help rescue and tend to animals who would otherwise be euthanized and forgotten.

Having a soft spot for animals,

Hoshino first began rescuing them full time in 2010.

“Back in 2010 I really started more intensively doing rescue,” Hoshino said. “I had found a stray dog and I ended up bringing him to animal control in the hopes that he could be reunited with his owner. When I brought him there ... I became aware of the overwhelming number of dogs that are homeless.

“Even though I’ve been involved with volunteering at shelters and have my own dogs, I had never realized the magnitude of it,” she continued. “So, I resolved that I would do something about that.”

In 2018, Hoshino rescued 403 animals spanning from multiple animal control shelters and kill shelters in Maryland and Virginia. Of these ani-

mals, 266 were dogs, 136 cats, and a baby raccoon.

Most of the animals she has rescued were expected not to survive, riddled with illnesses, starvation and poor living conditions. Hoshino used her medical training to nurse hundreds upon hundreds of animals back to health and worked around the clock to find these animals a forever home.

Hoshino travels throughout the Delmarva area picking up animals from shelters. She receives very little monetary assistance from the community, spending a large sum of her own money to care for her rescues.

“The veterinary bills are the highest costs,” Hoshino said. “I’m working with 10 different rescues that increases my ability to rescue animals exponentially. But all those animals that go to rescues they need to cross state lines ... They need a health cer-

him to rescue.”

Willie was rescued by Hoshino and sent to a rescue organization in Wilmington, Delaware, where he was adopted by his permanent family. Willie even has his own Instagram page, “WilliePierogiPlatypus” with more than 40,000 followers.

“This was a dog that almost froze to death ... he would have died had animal control not busted the owner,” Hoshino said. “He became an Instagram star. Willie was even featured by the Dodo [website] and he had 64,000 likes.”

Several of her rescues have become part of her own family. One particular favorite of hers was an older beagle she named Daisy.

Daisy was abandoned and nearly starved with a necrotic tumor the size of a baseball which left her struggling to sit up.

“I’ve seen a lot of terrible things in

animal rescue but she was just about the worst,” Hoshino said. “When I picked her up to put her in my car, she could not even lift her head. She couldn’t stand ... and yet the tip of her tail would wag and she tried with all her strength to lay her head in [my] arms.

“I brought her home and started some homeopathic remedies in addition to the regular medicine,” she continued. “She started to eat on her own and I was so, so happy. Pretty soon she could lift her head and she could sit.

Tragically, due to the advanced state of her tumor, Daisy passed away March



PHOTO COURTESY SUSANNE HOSHINO
Susanne Hoshino has rescued over 1,500 animals in eight years, including hundreds of cats and dogs, and even a baby raccoon.

20 last year in Hoshino’s arms. Daisy had been in her care for five months. The Berlin resident said she was happy to spend the time she had with Daisy.

“I really feel like she’s an angel that came to Earth because she was pure love,” Hoshino said.

Hoshino has several fosters in her house at any given time, but she also has her permanent furry friends, like Snuggles, another rescue she claimed for herself.


“I was picking up some animals at the animal control that I was taking to rescue ... and I saw this little puppy,” she said. “The animal control manager said, ‘She’s got a problem and we don’t know if we’re going to let her out of here.’ I had a rescue partner interested in her and I would be fostering her for the rescue partner so I took her home with me that day.

tificate and they need a rabies shot, so that’s coming out of my pocket and depending on which vet I go to it can be very expensive.”

After nursing the animals back to health, she sends them off to various rescue operations all across Delmarva, spanning as far away as Hughesville, Maryland, to Wilmington, Delaware. She works with more than 25 animal rescue organizations including Worcester County Humane Society, Town Cats and K9 New Life.

Some of her rescues have even become Instagram famous. A pitbull named Willie was rescued from a negligent owner who bragged about his yard mate freezing to death on Facebook.

“I saw [Willie] ... and he was emaciated like a walking skeleton with hair loss and scars,” Hoshino said. “I’m like, ‘Oh, well I am going to get




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Hoshino continues mission of helping local pets in need

I followed my procedures of quarantine, immediate vaccinations and the quarantine procedures that I usually do.

“She recovered and I realized how intelligent she was,” Hoshino continued. “I ended up being a foster failure and I kept her.”

Hoshino takes in just about any animal she can, because in her mind, all animals are worth saving. She uses every available space in her own home to care for these rescues.

“Luckily my sons are grown up and not living at home because their rooms have been turned into foster rooms,” Hoshino said.

Kindness Matters Rescue will be expanding into a nonprofit this year, which will enable more animals to be rescued, Hoshino said. The animals rescued will be trained to become service animals for veterans and people with disabilities.

“I’m starting to bring in another person to help me with things just in the last few weeks which is wonderful,” she said.


Hoshino encourages the public to contact her if an animal needs assistance, and to adopt rescue pets. She accepts pregnant mothers, bottle-fed babies ... any pet in need.

“The [main] thing is not to think that animals that are in animal control have anything wrong with them,” Hoshino said. “They have nowhere to go but to death. That is why I choose to help them, because I’m gonna be their step away from that. Consider adopting an animal from that type of situation or from a rescue. I really want to press on people is every animal is an individual and you cannot really judge [them] by its breed especially if it’s a mixed breed.”

Hoshino is in the process of setting up a Facebook page and website for her organization. To contact Hoshino about animals in need of rescue, email her at shoshino@aol.com or through messenger on her personal Facebook page.



Susanne Hoshino cuddles with her two-year-old rescue dog “Snuggles” at the inlet parking lot last month
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Berlin business vacancies likely to fill in by summer

By Josh Davis
Associate Editor

(Jan. 3, 2019) A few business vacancies were in downtown Berlin last year, but Economic and Community Development Director Ivy Wells said she expects those all to be filled by next summer.

For starters, Wells said a new clothing store would likely move into the 11 South Main Street space vacated by Attics of My Life after a fire last spring.

Two spaces in the former PNC Bank building on 1 South Main Street were filled in November by Yuppie Puppy and the new location for A Little Bit Sheepish. Wells said Michael Queen, who owns the building, is considering “a walk-up, vending type operation” for a third space, where the former bank drive-through window had been.

“Maybe snow cones or something like that,” she said. “But, there still needs to be a lot of work done for that drive-through part.”

Across the street, on 2 South Main Street, Wells said Alyssa Maloof’s new photography studio would eventually open on the second floor, above the new location for Dream Weaver, which also opened in November.

“Her photos are unbelievable,” Wells said. “They’re just gorgeous.”

In a game of musical chairs, Uncle Jon’s Soap on 12 William Street will soon move into the former Burley Florist space on 12 Pitts Street. Wells said two others are vying for the William Street space.

The On What Grounds coffee shop on 103 North Main Street has expanded into the former Maryland Wine Bar location, Wells said, and will expand the menu to offer more food options.

She said a new tenant for the former Culver’s antiques space remains on hold.

“They’re still working through some proposals for that building,” she said.

Wells is also working to help a new business open on Gay Street, “which is hush-hush right now.”

“There’s a possibility – we’re still working on that,” she said.

Asked about her impressions of overall business last year, Wells said, “Every time that I was downtown, it was busy.”

“I peeked in the shops and they looked pretty busy to me,” she said, adding she has yet to do a formal assessment. “Usually, I check with the businesses after the holidays, because it’s so busy sometimes I don’t want to interrupt them while they’re waiting on people in their shops.”

By peak season this year, Wells expects all of the downtown slots to be full.

“I see all of our spots full for this



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More Main Street shops, restaurant are coming soon

summer ... and everyone succeeds when the spots are full,” she said. “It’s more variety and it’s more of a destination.

“What’s interesting is that they’re all different – each shop is unique in its own way,” Wells continued. “When property owners ask me what do I think would work here, I give them my honest opinion. If there’s a business that wants to open here that’s exactly the same or similar to what we already have, I’ll tell them it probably won’t succeed because we already have this – you need something different.”

Along with a full downtown, Berlin is also likely to benefit from John Trader’s new, 145-seat barbecue restaurant on Old Ocean City Boulevard bordering Route 50. Trader is the owner of Liquid Assets in Ocean City and Our Harvest in Fenwick Island.

Wells said the impact of that new business can’t be underestimated.

“There are so many people who don’t even realize, still to this day, that downtown Berlin even exists,” she said. “Now, you’re going to have a restaurant right on the outskirts that will be a destination for people who want really good barbecue. And John Trader, his reputation precedes itself.”



Yarn store A Little Bit Sheepish opened last month in a portion of the former PNC Bank building on Berlin's Main Street. Several other businesses are expected to fill in Main Street vacancies before next summer.

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Opinion

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

How phosphorus could impact Super Bowl LIII

As Eastern Shore farmers attempt to gain more time before they have to abide by the stricter standards the state’s phosphorous management tool would impose this year, most people probably aren’t paying attention.

They should be, considering that more than just farmers will be affected if the state goes to the next, more restrictive step in controlling how much or even whether farmers can apply chicken litter to their fields as fertilizer.

The phosphorous management tool, which was established in 2015, aims to reduce the amount of that chemical that finds its way into the state’s bays and waterway.

Phosphorous is, according to the Maryland Department of Agriculture, one of the primary pollutants of the Chesapeake Bay, so preventing it from flowing into that great body of water via runoff from litter-fertilized fields is a good thing, right?

Well, yes, but not just farmers will pay the price. For a good many people, knowing where their food comes from is not important, as long as they can pick up their nicely wrapped packages of Super Bowl chicken wings for less than \$3 a pound.

Maybe when chicken wings are \$6 a pound they’ll pay attention, or at least begin to wonder what transpired that took one of the least expensive sources of protein and pushed it up another price tier or two.

If, as many farmers say, their fertilizer costs will soar if they can no longer use their own home-grown product, the public is going to have to pay the difference one way or the other.

As much as people might want dollar-a-pound whole chicken, they can’t have that and, at the same time, push elected officials to ensure that farming operations don’t harm the environment.

In a get-what-you-pay for world, the public should recognize that these regulations reflect voters’ growing environmental awareness, and that they, not farmers, are obligated to pay the bill.



“Welcome to the wedding of Amanda and Matthew. Would you like to be seated on the Pro Trump side or the Anti Trump side?”

Letters

Thanks from the Cottman family

Editor,

The family of the late Preston “Peacock” Cottman, Jr. wishes to offer their sincere thanks, appreciation and gratitude to all the doctors, nurses and caretakers from Atlantic General Hospital, Peninsula Regional Medical Center, Peninsula Regional Cancer Care and Harrison House Rehabilitation and Nursing Home who assisted in his healthcare and support to his family during his illness.

To all of the family, relatives and many friends who called, visited, prayed for the family or attended his funeral services or in any way offered any and every form of kindness to us during this time, we thank you and may God continue to bless you.

The family of Preston Ernest Cottman, Jr.

OPA farmers market to move indoors

(Jan. 3, 2019) The Ocean Pines Farmers & Artisans Market has moved indoors for the winter.

“Customers who are looking for a climate-controlled farmers market should look to the Ocean Pines Farmers & Artisans Market this winter,” said Denise Sawyer, marketing and public relations director for the Ocean Pines Association.

The indoor market will run each Saturday, Jan. 5 to March 9 from 9 a.m. to noon, at the Northside Fire House next to White Horse Park, located at 235 Ocean Parkway in Ocean Pines.

The opening day of the indoor market will showcase the sounds and savor of Delmarva. Acoustic Musician Riley Rager, of Ocean Pines, will provide live entertainment on Saturday, Jan. 5.

The indoor market will also feature vendors such as Bay Mushroom, Charlie’s Treats, D.J. David & Company, DelVecchio’s Bakery, Eastern Shore Kettle Korn, Ethne Coffee Roasters, Girdletree Farms, Home Canning Classics, Pampered Chef, Pureblend Teas, Stag Run Farm, Tout de Suite Patisserie, and Windmill Creek Vineyard & Winery.

“At the market, agricultural vendors offer high quality fruit, vegetables, meat, eggs, poultry and dairy products,” said Market Manager David Bean. “Local food vendors also bring a wide variety of freshly baked goods, jams, cider, wine, honey, maple syrup, coffee, sauces and soups, as well as kitchenware and treats for your pets.”

The market’s long-time goal is to promote local, sustainable agriculture; increase economic opportunities for small businesses; provide equitable access to wholesome food; and build a vibrant gathering place for Ocean Pines residents and visitors.

“The market and its customers are very much appreciative of the Ocean Pines Volunteer Fire Department and Fire Chief Steve Grunewald for opening the fire house to this popular amenity this winter,” Bean said. “The market is open to the public – so swing by.”

For more information, contact Sawyer at 410-641-7717 ext. 3006 or dsawyer@ocean-pines.org.

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Santa visits Cedar Chapel School

By Josh Davis
Associate Editor

(Jan. 3, 2019) A decades-long local holiday tradition continued last month, as Santa Claus and one of his top elves visited the Cedar Chapel Special School in Snow Hill to deliver presents to students.

The school has 55 students between the ages of 3 and 21 with moderate to severe disabilities.

Principal Belinda Gulyas said the tradition dates back to at least the mid-1990s and was started because many parents had difficulty taking their children to visit Santa in public venues.

“Sometimes it can be difficult for parents to get their children out,” she said. “It can be the mobility of getting kids out, [or] it can be the community that doesn’t always understand behaviors that are happening with children, so it can be tough for parents to endure how they’re feeling out in the community.

“It can be overwhelming – it can be too many people or too much noise,” Gulyas continued said. “So, it really does provide an opportunity for our kids to see Santa, where many of them may not [otherwise] get to see Santa.”

Community donations and fundraisers help support the service. Gulyas said staff members buy and wrap individual gifts, “and then Santa comes and delivers all the gifts to the kids.”

This year, filling in for Santa Claus was Berlin Town Councilman Thom Gulyas.

“It’s such a great opportunity to give back,” he said. “I can’t tell you how much their [kids’] faces light up when Santa walks in. I think they really enjoy having the chance to meet Santa and sharing that small amount of time during the holiday with the

kids always makes it worth it” Also pitching in was Berlin Falls Park Committee Vice Chairman Jack Orris, who has served as one of Santa’s elves.

“I started helping Santa last year and was incredibly touched by how much the kids at CCSS sincerely enjoy meeting and talking with Santa,” he said. “They express pure joy and being a part of their holiday truly is an amazing experience.”

Principal Gulyas said the school welcomes visits from all community members – not just those hailing from the North Pole – and is always looking for financial and other assistance to help continue its level of services.

“They can contact Cedar Chapel at any time and we, of course, love to do tours,” she said. “We love to educate our community on the amazing strength and gifts that our kids have. The more that we can do that, the more there can be an understanding in our community, so when our students are out ... the public around them has a better understanding.”

Gulyas said it’s difficult for those with regular interactions with disabled children to understand their behavior.

“Once once someone has an education, [they can be aware] that children with autism might have certain behaviors, or children who are non-verbal may need some assistance or may need some extra time communicating what their wants and needs are,” she said.

“Usually, once we provide some of that education for our community, our community really just envelops our kids and becomes this very generous and kind community. But, we do need to take that time to educate, so I would love to do a tour any time someone would like to,” Gulyas added.

For more information or to contact the school, call 410-632-5230 or visit www.cedarchapel.org.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE
Berlin Town Councilman Thom Gulyas fills in for Santa Claus during a recent visit to the Cedar Chapel Special School in Snow Hill.

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Buckingham Elementary unveils new mural

By Josh Davis
Associate Editor

(Jan. 3, 2019) Just before going on Christmas break, students and faculty at Buckingham Elementary in Berlin unveiled a new mural at the school.

Planning for the months-long project began last year and in October muralist Amanda Pellerin from the Baltimore based Young Audiences program began working with students to put together most of the pieces.

Pellerin works with clay and the mural – about 30 feet long and installed in a hallway that's visible just through the school's front entrance – is largely made up of small, clay sculptures created by first-through-fourth-grade students.

Buckingham Principal Karen Marx, during a public unveiling on Dec. 21, said a mural by local artist Patrick Henry had hung in the spot, but was showing its age and needed to be replaced. She said the old mural was taken to the Germantown School Community Heritage Center for historical purposes.

"And then we had a big white wall," Marx said. "I went to our art teacher, Melissa Reid, last year and I said, 'Melissa, wouldn't it be great to have something beautiful go into that space?' And that's all I needed to say to her, because she just had a vision for exactly what she thought would fit perfectly in that space that would also carry through our kindness theme that we have here at Buckingham Elementary School."

fectly in that space that would also carry through our kindness theme that we have here at Buckingham Elementary School."



JOSH DAVIS/BAYSIDE GAZETTE
Students and school officials help cut the ribbon on a new mural inside Buckingham Elementary School in Berlin, Dec. 21.

Marx said the finished mural represented "a little piece of all the students here, because every student has had a piece of their heart put into this, as well as the faculty and staff."

"It's so heartwarming when we have the kids walk by and they identify a piece that they put in there and say,

"That's me! I did that," Marx said.

She also credited community partners, including the Community Foundation of the Eastern Shore, Maryland

"beyond what we even envisioned."

She said the mural was installed about a week prior to the public unveiling.

"Every time the students walk past, they're looking at things and they're seeing something different ... and they're pointing out their tiles," she said. "They have such ownership of this project."

Reid said Pellerin kept the students involved "from step one all the way through to the very end."

"She even had them in the art room grouting the tile and then they were polishing it," she said. "It was a whole process and it turned out unbelievably well."

Students also seemed pleased. Fourth grader Autum Khamdath, chosen as a representative from her class, said they helped make all of the animals seen in the mural.

"I think it turned out really, really good," she said.

Pellerin later shared a video message with the students during an assembly.

"I just want to say congratulations on such an amazing project," she said. "I was so very impressed with all of your drawings, your ideas and, of course, the clay tiles that you guys made."

"Your teachers and I want to recognize what a brilliant job each and every one of you did on this project," Pellerin added.

She also thanked school staff for its assistance, and singled out several students for their help: first graders Laura White and Selvin Diaz, second graders Layla Evans and Christopher Byerly-Maglio, third graders Tyiah Collins and Chase Poole, and fourth graders Khamdath and Ava McLaughlin.

Pellerin thanked educational assistant Jez King "for being my friend at lunch" and helping her to feel included and a part of the community, and technology coach Bryan Hamilton for letting her steal his chair and use his printer to make "all those color pictures for the first and second graders."

"Last, but not least, artists make the world go around. Mrs. Reid, you are 'A' to the 'M' amazing," Pellerin said.

Arts Council and the Humphreys Foundation, that helped support the mural project financially.

"We'd also like to make special mention to the Harrison Group," Marx said. "Hale Harrison and Cindy Wimbrow were so generous to give Amanda Pellerin accommodations, free of charge, while she stayed for several weeks here in helping us with this project."

"We just couldn't do it without our community partners and it's just wonderful to see that the support for our schools is out there," she added.

Among those attending the unveiling were Worcester County Schools Superintendent Lou Taylor and Community Foundation Program Administrator Lauren Zarin.

"The Community Foundation Appreciates the opportunity to help out however we can, and we really appreciate the teachers and administrators who put the work into coordinating this project and writing the grants," Zarin said.

Reid said she was thrilled by how the project turned out, adding it was



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Cuisine

New Year's resolution: make more carbonara

I can always tell when it is time for the kids to get back to school. The conversation shifts quite rapidly from an old person's diatribe on what to eat for breakfast, lunch and dinner (and what I am going to do to entertain them), to something to the effect of wanting to give blood or a kidney to get out of school tomorrow.



By Paul Suplee,
MBA, CEC, PC-3

Yes, this is how it starts out every Jan. 2 as they lament reentry into our illustrious educational system. For my part, at least I can say that teaching at the college level is much easier. The fall semester ends before winter break, and the spring semester starts crisp and clean after the New Year has broken ground. This works so much more nicely for my cookie cutter, ADD-adled mind.

Eleven years ago, as a first year high school teacher (I have to take a break to get my retching and gag reflex under control), I was thrilled as winter break approached. I was calmed knowing that I was about to get rid of this group of kids who had tormented me in my first semester as a teacher.

It wasn't until a co-teacher told me that the semester continued until the end of January that I knew that I had made a grave mistake. Truth be told, I am not even sure how I made it back in after New Year's. I remember vividly rubbing my toes in the carpet and my remarkable late wife (psychotherapist) asking what was wrong. I could only respond sheepishly in a child's lost and vulnerable voice, a practicably inaudible "I don't want to go back."

Nevertheless, I returned. I imagine necessity – health insurance, to be exact – dictated my presence in the classroom shortly after ringing in the new year of 2009.

Alas, I do understand my children's trepidation of returning to school, albeit for quite different reasons. It doesn't matter, though, as school is vital and of course the truancy officer will be breathing down my neck if they were to stay home and sit on the couch texting and watching "The Office."

As we did for years, the answer lays in a simple meal that takes a small bit of effort to throw together, but boy does it put a little spring back in everyone's step. When the kids were younger, we would make the youngest



stand with their arms stretched out and see how long they could stand while we piled fresh pasta on top, a beautiful game that never disappointed.

Knocking out this fresh pasta with a simply elegant carbonara and crabmeat will make everyone smile. The tykes will relax, and all will be pleased to go back to school. Okay, perhaps the last part isn't true, but it's still a damn fine plate of food to get your mind off of statistics and Spanish.

Pasta Carbonara

Serves 6

- 4 ounces Pancetta
- 1 tsp. Olive oil
- 1 pound Fresh pasta (recipe follows)
- salt, as needed
- 2 whole eggs
- 2 egg yolks
- 1/2 cups Italian Cheese blend
- Cracked black pepper, TT
- 1. Whisk together eggs, yolks and cheese and set aside
- 2. Cut the pancetta into little matchsticks.
- 3. Place these and the olive oil in a pan just large enough so that the pancetta reaches the edges

4. Heat to medium and render out the fat. The lardons will essentially fry in their own fat in conjunction with the olive oil, and you will be left with divine fat-ness

5. When the lardons are crispy, set them aside, ensuring to save the fat

6. While the lardons are cooking, bring a pot of lightly salted water to a boil to cook the spaghetti. Typically, I would tell you to salt the water until it tastes like the ocean, but there is already a fair amount of salt in the pancetta and the cheeses, so you don't need much

7. Cook the spaghetti until it is just about done, and when it is close, heat up the lardons and the fat in a larger pan that can accommodate the whole mess

8. Add the pasta with a little bit of the cooking liquid to the lardons and fat and cook for about a minute. **do not perform steps 9-11 in the cooking pan as it will be too hot!

9. Pour small amount of pasta water (presumably still hot) into a separate bowl to warm it and drain it

10. Pour the pasta combination into the bowl, and with fork or spoon in hand, add the egg & cheese mixture while stirring steadily so as to disperse

the mixture and prevent it from sitting too long and cooking

11. Don't feel shy about stirring the carbonara. Keep going until the cheese is melted and you have a rich and creamy sauce

12. Serve with cheese sprinkled as garnish and a touch of Italian broadleaf parsley

Fresh Pasta

Makes about a pound

- 2 cups Hi-gluten or bread flour
- 2 large eggs + 1 yolk
- 2 Tbsp cream
- 2 tsp. fine salt
- 1. Place flour in stand mixer, and with the paddle going, add the eggs and cream
- 2. Check the consistency and after five minutes of kneading, add more liquid or flour as needed and season accordingly with the salt
- 3. Allow the dough to rest for about ten minutes and then roll as desired

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

Puzzles

“NO DUH!”

BY LUKE VAUGHN / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

ACROSS

1 Fixture on a ski lodge deck

7 Sound quality

13 West African capital

19 Like counting your chickens before they’ve hatched

20 Going great guns, as business

22 Come to terms with

23 “Good golly!,” across the pond

24 Close enough

25 Cloaklike garment

26 Nosh

27 Goes around

29 Hardly a right-minded individual?

31 N.C.A.A. rival of Duke

32 To which one might respond “Salud!”

33 Superlative suffix

34 Summer setting in Seattle: Abbr.

36 Reason for an R rating?

39 McGregor who played Obi-Wan Kenobi

42 Gobble

44 Quaint photos

45 Cuban or Zuckerberg?

48 Archie’s pal at Riverdale

51 Dry as a bone

52 Largest species of the genus Leopardus

53 Fighting

111 Rumbles

112 “The world’s greatest ...,” e.g.

113 Opposite

115 Capital of Thessaly

117 Washington air hub

119 Post-workout activity

120 Unusually short

121 Start to take off, in a way

122 Shanghai

123 Accents and Sonatas

124 100-meter and 200-meter

21 Theodor ____ (Dr. Seuss’s real name)

28 Live

30 Stealth bomber, familiarly

32 Partner of snick

33 French Alpine river

35 Root of Polynesia

37 Mesopotamian mother goddess

38 Female in a pen

40 In front of, old-style

41 Cowboys’ home, for short

43 It’s more than a warning: Abbr.

46 Street handout, maybe

47 View from la plage

48 “Aladdin” villain

49 City between Albany and Rochester

50 Stimulate

51 2017 World Series winner, for short

55 Something required

56 Dog or cat transporter

58 Often-smoked cheese

59 First lady

61 Shia of “Transformers”

63 Beginnings of fame and fortune?

65 Some SAT study

66 Kind of alcohol

67 “____ Days” (1990s platinum Bon Jovi album)

69 Anthem contraction

70 On another call

DOWN

1 Commotion

2 Connected

3 Reaction to a really bad pun

4 Something you might need to kill

5 Treat like an object

6 Really, really needing some sun?

7 Neighborhood north of the World Trade Center

8 Charges

9 Weasel’s relative

10 Beach tops

11 ____ Tin Tin

12 2003 Economics Nobel

13 One’s most ardent supporters

14 Finisher of cakes

15 86

16 Buy one circus animal, get one circus animal free?

17 Most newspapers have one

18 Sport-____

54 Sprang

57 More ready to go

60 Show stopper?

62 Pure and simple

64 Part of the eye where vision is sharpest

65 Old hand

68 Maker of the MDX luxury S.U.V.

69 Needing certain ink for a color printer?

71 Epitome of laziness

73 Freestyle, e.g.

74 Harbor city of NW France

76 Went to court, say

77 It may be right under your nose, informally

78 Fixture behind the bar

80 IHOP order

82 Billy of infomercial fame

83 Only European capital on both a river and an ocean

86 Kind of vision

88 Fit for the job

90 Impetus behind a paternity test?

93 Not so far

95 “Straight Outta Compton” group

96 “The path to the dark side,” per Yoda

97 On a Paleo diet, say?

102 Slow boat

104 ____ Studies (college major)

106 Big Starbucks orders

107 Year the Office of Homeland Security was created

108 Some paints

Online subscriptions: Today’s puzzle and more than 4,000 past puzzles, nytimes.com/crosswords (\$39.95 a year).

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72 Hedy ____, subject of the 2017 documentary “Bombshell”

79 Hybrid tourney style

93 Rating somebody?

105 Exams for future J.D.s

73 Woman’s name meaning “born again”

81 Pure

94 The Supreme Court and the Muses

109 Traveling from coast to coast, maybe

74 Installment of a women’s clothing catalog?

83 Worker at a hosp.

98 Zoroastrianism’s sacred text

111 “Do you ____?”

75 Common potato chip flavor, in brief

84 Waterloo’s home

99 Author of “The Joy Luck Club”

112 Robust

76 Director Lee

85 Something up for grabs on a fishing boat?

100 Collision

113 Part of A.M.A.

77 Rules, informally

86 “____ Days” (1990s platinum Bon Jovi album)

101 Barbara and Jenna Bush, to Jeb

114 X

78 Quavering sounds

87 Director Lee

102 Slow boat

106 Medicinal plant

79 Quavering sounds

88 Fit for the job

107 Part of S.A.S.E.: Abbr.

80 Often-smoked cheese

89 Rules, informally

108 Some paints

90 Impetus behind a paternity test?

91 Untagged

109 Car sticker fig.

92 Quavering sounds

93 Rating somebody?

100 Collision

110 Car sticker fig.

94 The Supreme Court and the Muses

101 Barbara and Jenna Bush, to Jeb

111 “Do you ____?”

95 Author of “The Joy Luck Club”

102 Slow boat

112 Robust

96 “The path to the dark side,” per Yoda

103 Famous

113 Part of A.M.A.

97 On a Paleo diet, say?

104 ____ Studies (college major)

114 X

98 Zoroastrianism’s sacred text

105 Exams for future J.D.s

99 Author of “The Joy Luck Club”

106 Medicinal plant

100 Collision

107 Part of S.A.S.E.: Abbr.

101 Barbara and Jenna Bush, to Jeb

108 Some paints

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109 Car sticker fig.

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104 ____ Studies (college major)

110 Car sticker fig.

105 Exams for future J.D.s

106 Medicinal plant

107 Part of S.A.S.E.: Abbr.

108 Some paints

109 Car sticker fig.

110 Car sticker fig.

111 “Do you ____?”

112 Robust

113 Part of A.M.A.

114 X

115 Medicinal plant

116 Medicinal plant

117 Part of S.A.S.E.: Abbr.

118 Part of S.A.S.E.: Abbr.

119 Car sticker fig.

120 Slow boat

121 Robust

122 Robust

123 Part of A.M.A.

124 X

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HARD - 18

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.

Answers to last week’s puzzles

7 6 2 1 8 9 5 4 3

8 5 3 6 4 2 9 7 1

9 4 1 7 3 5 6 2 8

6 2 4 3 5 7 1 8 9

1 8 5 2 9 4 7 3 6

3 9 7 8 1 6 4 5 2

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CHAP HEM GRAVEL MECCA

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INSANE STENO SMARM

ENAMEL OILRIG ANNOYS

YASIR FILLINGSTATS

ATTN EAST UNATHREW

RHETORICALQUESTS ERLE

KASHA LADIES EEO ROLE

SITAR STANDS TEN SWAP

Calendar

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

Thurs., Jan. 3

STORY TIME ‘FAMILIES’
Snow Hill library, 307 N. Washington St., 10:30 AM. For 2 to 5 year old children. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

PLAY TIME
Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 10:30 AM. Learn new skills while playing with educational toys. For infant to 5 year old children. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

REFORM BILL DEMONSTRATIONS
Indivisible groups from Dorchester, Kent/Queen Anne’s and Worcester counties, plus Lower Shore Progressive Caucus, Talbot Rising and Together We Will - Delmarva, will be holding their first coordinated joint demonstrations of the year at Congressman Andy Harris’ Kent Island district office (100 Olde Point Village, Suite 101, Chester, MD) and in front of Wicomico County Circuit Court (101 N. Division St., Salisbury, MD), call for his support for the democracy reform bill that Democrats are expected to introduce that day (H.R. 1). Events begin at 12 PM.

BEACH SINGLES
Thursdays - Harpoon Hanna’s, 39064 Harpoon Road, Fenwick Island, DE 19944, 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM. Beach Singles 45-Plus meets for happy hour. Info: Arlene, 302-436-9577 or Kate, 410-524-0649. <http://www.BeachSingles.org>

GRIEF SUPPORT
Thursdays - Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 11 a.m. Coastal Hospice provides grief support and education. Participants work together to help each other navigate through grief at their own pace. Free and open to the public. Nicole Long, 443-614-6142

Fri., Jan. 4

FIBER FRIENDS
Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 10:00 AM. Bring your lap work and join this informal get-together. Knitters, crocheters, embroiderers, etc. are welcomed. Victoria Christie-Healy, moonlightknitting@gmail.com, 703-507-0708, <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

FIRST FRIDAY
Ocean City Center for the Arts, 502 94th St., 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM. Shared Visions is a partnership between the Art League of Ocean City and the Ocean City library, home of the Ocean City Writers Group. Members of the Art League created art that inspired the poetry and prose of the writers, and both sides will be on display during January. Also hanging in the Gal-

leria will be an all-media group show by members of the Art League. Free and open to the public. 410-524-9433, <http://www.artleagueofoceancity.org>

ANIMATION AFTER HOURS
Ocean City library, 10003 Coastal Highway, 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM. Educational showcase of rare, classic, groundbreaking and bizarre animation from every era around the world. Designed for adult audiences. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

ANNUAL CASH BINGO
Bishopville Volunteer Fire Department, 10709 Bishopville Road. Doors open at 5:30 p.m., early bird games start at 6 p.m., bingo starts at 7 p.m. Cost is \$25 in advance or \$30 at the door. Featuring 20 regular games, 2 specials and 1 cash jackpot. Food and beverages available for purchase. Tickets: 443-880-6966.

Sat., Jan. 5

CRAFTY SATURDAY MAKE & TAKE ‘SNOW SCENES’
Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM. Create themed crafts using materials provided by the library. For all ages. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

TABLE TOP KINGDOM
Berlin library, 13 Harrison Ave., 10:00 AM. Play Magic The Gathering, Boss Monster or Mustache. Young adults ages 12 and up are welcome. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

FIRST SATURDAY WRITERS’ WORKSHOP
Berlin library, 13 Harrison Ave., 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM. The group meets once a month to share their creative writing. New members and occasional visitors welcome. This month’s theme (optional) is hope. Jean Marx, 443-880-0045

INDOOR FARMERS & ARTISANS MARKET
Saturdays - Northside Fire House, next to White Horse Park, which is located at 235 Ocean Parkway, Ocean Pines, Jan. 5 through March 9, 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM. Featuring quality fruit, vegetables, meat, eggs, poultry an daily products, as well as, baked goods, jams, cider, wine, honey, maple syrup, coffee, sauces, soups, kitchen ware, treats for pets, unique finds and live music. Open to the public. 410-641-7717, Ext. 3006

Mon., Jan. 7

CPAP MASK FITTING
Atlantic General Hospital Sleep Disorders Diagnostic Center, 9733 Healthway Drive. Free mask fitting clinic for patients who are having trouble adjusting to their CPAP equipment. By appoint-

ment only: Robin Rohlfing, 410-641-9726.

AARP MEETING
Ocean Pines Community Center, 239 Ocean Parkway, 10:00 AM. Social time is 9:30 a.m. This month’s guest speaker, Claude Lewis, will be taking about the role of a ombudsman. Larry Walton, 443-831-1791

HYPERTENSION CLINIC
Apple Discount Drugs, 314 Franklin Ave., #600, 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM. Sponsored by Atlantic General Hospital and takes place the first Monday of every month. Free blood pressure screening and health information. Michelle, 410-641-9268

LAP TIME
Snow Hill library, 307 N. Washington St., 10:30 AM. Children will be introduced to songs, stories, games and finger plays. For children under 2 years old. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

THE MOBILE MENTOR
Berlin library, 13 Harrison Ave., 2:00 PM. Providing one-on-one assistance for those who want to make the most of their tablet or mobile device. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

LIVING AS A JOYFUL BEING: BE READY FOR WHATEVER LIFE BRINGS!
Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 2:00 PM. Learn to experience tools and techniques to leave old habits behind, become more mindful and release bodily tension, the relationship of thought and desire and calming practices for stress. Presented by author Joy Jangdhari. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

GREAT BOOKS DISCUSSION
Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 2:30 PM. The group meets twice a month to discuss both classic and modern reading selections recommended by the Great Books Foundation. Lisa Harrison, 410-632-3970, <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

HEALING SALVES
Snow Hill library, 307 N. Washington St., 5:00 PM. Learn how to make your own healing salve and its uses. Learn what herbs and oils are good ingredients for salve. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

FAMILY TIME ‘CRAFTING WITH YARN’
Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 5:00 PM. Make fun yarn crafts. For the whole family. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY MEETING
Atlantic General Hospital, Conference Room 1, 9733 Healthway Drive, 5:00 PM - 6:30 PM. TOPS is a weekly support

and educational group promoting weight loss and healthy lifestyle. Berlin group No. 169. Rose Campion, 410-641-0157

AGH DIABETES SUPPORT GROUP
St. Paul United Methodist Church, 405 Flower St., 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM. Open to the public and meets the first Monday of each month. Speaker and education related to diabetes is provided. AGH Diabetes Outpatient Education, 410-208-9761

DELMARVA A CAPELLA CHORUS
Mondays - Ocean Pines Community Center, 239 Ocean Parkway, 7:00 PM. All levels of singers and drop-ins welcome. Carol, 410-641-6876

Tues., Jan. 8

PLAY TIME
Berlin library, 13 Harrison Ave., 10:30 AM. Learn new skills while playing with educational toys. For infant to 5 year old children. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

5TH ANNUAL EMPTY BOWL PROJECT
Ocean City Center for the Arts, 502 94th St., 2:00 PM - 3:30 PM. The project begins with bowl-making sessions and culminates in a soup dinner. All ages get involved by hand-making ceramic soup bowls during bowl-making sessions held now through February. The cost is \$25 and includes the bowl and admission to the soup dinner on March 29, 2019. A complete schedule of sessions is available at www.artleagueofoceancity.org. Proceeds benefit Diakonia. Open to the public. 410-524-9433, <http://www.artleagueofoceancity.org>

ZUMBA FOR SENIORS
Ocean City library, 10003 Coastal Highway, 2:00 PM. A less intense Zumba dance class designed especially for seniors and for those working their way up to traditional Zumba. Tuesdays, Jan. 8-26. Register: 410-524-1818. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

A WINTER START TO A SPRING GARDEN
Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 2:00 PM. Denise Wagner will show how to get an early start on your spring garden. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

TUESDAY CRAFTERNOON
Berlin library, 13 Harrison Ave., 2:00 PM. This month, the group will be creating journals, greeting cards, book marks, decorating glass and decoupage. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

FAMILY TIME ‘CODING’
Ocean City library, 10003 Coastal Highway, 3:00 PM - 6:00 PM. Learn to code using Scratch, Sphere BB8 robots.

Calendar

<http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

PARKINSON'S SUPPORT GROUP
Gull Creek Senior Living, 1 Meadow St., 3:15 PM - 4:30 PM. Group provides discussions and mutual support, as well as education on exercise, nutrition, coping techniques, medications and developments in treatment, Kay Rentschler, 410-641-4765, <http://www.delmarva-parkinsonsalliance.org>

HISTORIES OF ART: DOCUMENTARY SCREENING 'DEGENERATE ART'
Ocean City library, 10003 Coastal Highway, 4:30 PM - 6:30 PM. This 1993 documentary by David Grubin examines the infamous Nazi art exhibition condemning Germany's modern art. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

NAMI LOWER SHORE FAMILY SUPPORT GROUP
Atlantic General Hospital, Conference Room 1, 9733 Healthway Drive, 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM. Free, monthly program offers shared wisdom and problem solving for family members of individuals with mental illness. Carole Spurrier, 410-208-4003, or carolespurrier@msn.com or Gail S. Mansell, gmansell@atlantic-general.org, 410-641-9725

LIBRARY BOARD MEETING
Berlin library, 220 N. Main St., 3 p.m. Open to the public. www.worcesterlibrary.org

ART LEAGUE FUNDRAISER
Mio Fratello, 38016 Fenwick Shoals Blvd., #4, Selbyville, DE, 4-9 p.m. The restaurant will donate a portion of each check to the Art League when diners mention the special fundraiser to their server. Reservations are suggested: 302-436-6400 or miofratellos.com

TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY MEETING
Tuesdays - Worcester County Health Center, 9730 Healthway Drive, 5:30 PM - 7:00 PM. TOPS is a support and educational group promoting weight loss and health lifestyle. jeanduck47@gmail.com

Wed., Jan. 9

GRACE PARKER ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT BREAKFAST
First Presbyterian Church of Ocean City, 1301 Philadelphia Ave., 7:00 AM - 12:00 PM. Eggs any style, pancakes, buckwheat pancakes, sausage, ham, biscuits, hash brown potatoes, grits, coffee, tea. Cost is \$9 to eat in or \$7 to carry out. Milk, soda, orange juice available. 410-289-9340

STORY TIME 'BLANKETS'
Ocean City library, 10003 Coastal Highway, 10:30 AM. For 2 to 5 year old children. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

OCEAN CITY BOOK OF THE MONTH
Ocean City library, 10003 Coastal Highway, 2:00 PM. Featuring Stay With Me

by Ayobami Adebayo. Copies of the books are available by calling 410-524-1818. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

HOMEMADE GIFT 'MARBLE VASE'
Berlin library, 13 Harrison Ave., 2:00 PM. Learn how to turn old vases into works of art. Participants will take home a finished and decorated marble vase. Register: 410-641-0650. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

FREE HEALTHCARE LECTURE
Ocean Pines Community Center, 239 Ocean Parkway, 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM. The Live Well Academy is a free, year-long lecture series on a wide range of healthcare topics. This month's topic will be Minimally Invasive Neurosurgery. The lecture is open to the public. Advance registration is required: Ocean Pines Recreation and Parks Department, 410-641-7052.

HEALTHY INSTANT POT COOKING
Snow Hill library, 307 N. Washington St., 5:00 PM. Start the new year off right with a variety of healthy recipes you can create in your Instant Pot or other pressure cooker. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

DELMARVA HAND DANCE CLUB
Wednesdays - Ocean City Elks Lodge, 13708 Sinepuxent Ave., 5:30 PM - 9:00 PM. Dance to the sounds of the '50s and '60s music. A \$5 donation to benefit Veterans and local charities. Dance lessons offered the first and third Wednesday of each month from 5-5:45 p.m. Dancing follows until 9 p.m. Members and their guests welcome. dance@delmarvahanddancing.com, 410-208-1151, <http://delmarvahanddancing.com>

KIWANIS CLUB OF GREATER OP/OC
Wednesdays - Ocean Pines Community Center, 239 Ocean Parkway, 8:00 AM. Doors open at 7 a.m., meeting begins at 8 a.m. 410-641-7330, <http://www.kiwanisofopoc.org>

OC/BERLIN ROTARY CLUB MEETING
Wednesdays - Captain's Table Restaurant in the Courtyard by Marriott, 2 15th St., 6:00 PM. cliff0917@aol.com, 302-540-2127

ONGOING EVENTS

BOOK A LIBRARIAN
Any branch, through January. Need some one-on-one help with your resume, job application, E-Reader or basic computer skills? Contact your closest library branch to schedule a personal appointment. www.worcesterlibrary.org

THE SHEPHERD'S NOOK THRIFT SHOP
Community Church at Ocean Pines, 11227 Racetrack Road. Open Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Accepting donations of gently worn clothes and small household items.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

WORLD SMILE DAY
Worcester Preparatory School celebrated World Smile Day on Oct. 5. The event falls on the first Friday of October each year and was initiated by commercial artist Harvey Ball who created the Smiley Face in 1963. WPS Counselor Kathy Roberts orchestrated the school-wide celebration to promote acts of kindness and cheer to make a person smile. Third grade teacher Jackie Knowlton and Lyons dress up as ladybugs on the class fieldtrip to Bearhole Farms. Worcester Preparatory School celebrated World Smile Day on Oct. 5. The event falls on the first Friday of October each year and was initiated by commercial artist Harvey Ball who created the Smiley Face in 1963. WPS Counselor Kathy Roberts orchestrated the school-wide celebration to promote acts of kindness and cheer to make a person smile. Third grade teacher Jackie Knowlton and Lyons dress up as ladybugs on the class fieldtrip to Bearhole Farms.

Locals' Favorite

2019 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 10, 2019

A colorful illustration showing a bowl of soup with a spoon, a sandwich cut in half, and a plate of biscuits. The illustration is done in a simple, cartoonish style with bright colors.

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
- ❖ Chicken Noodle Soup
- ❖ Egg Sandwich
- ❖ Ham Salad Sandwich
- ❖ Homemade Desserts
- ❖ Coffee, Tea or Soda
- ❖ Biscuits

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MARKETPLACE

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is now accepting applications for the following positions:
Y/R Exp. Hostess, Cooks, A/V Staff, Boutique Sales, EMT, General Maintenance & Painter
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Process bills for payment.
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Email Resume to: dunkindonutjobs@gmail.com - **Subject Line: Accounting Clerk**
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Serious inquiries only, must live within a 30 minute radius of West Ocean City Maryland.

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Date: SATURDAY, January 12th
Time: NEW TIME 10:00AM
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#2 Continues at OC Mini Storage: Route 50
#3 Finishes at OC Mini Storage: Route 611
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Sat-Mon, 11-4pm	Heron Harbour, 120th St., Bayside	1BR/2/BR/3BR/4/BR+	Condo, Towns & SF	—	Nanette Pavier/Holiday Real Estate
Sat. & Sun. 11-2pm	Muirfield Lane., River Run	3-4BR/2-3.5BA	Single Family	\$399,900-\$479,900	Ed Wehnert/Coldwell Banker
Sat. & Sun. 11-4pm	29 Boatswain Dr., Ocean Pines	3BR/2BA	Single Family	\$459,000	Greg Steen/Steen Realty
Sat. & Sun. 11-4pm	9801 Mooring View Lane, Unit 33, OC	3BR/2.5BA	Duplex/Townhouse	From \$299,900	Kathleen Clark/Monogram Realty



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