

Pines to build new golf club, cart barn, expand PD station

By Josh Davis

Associate Editor

(April 11, 2019) The Ocean Pines Board of Directors on Saturday approved spending \$3.185 million for three major projects: expanding the police and administration building, rebuilding the country club, and building a new golf cart barn.

Discussions on each of the projects had dragged on for several years.

Reports of mold and general deterioration have plagued the country club since at least 2014, and first-floor renovations done in 2017 reportedly cost about \$500,000, but achieved little.

A failing cart barn was also said not to protect the \$319,000 investment in electric golf carts that were purchased in 2016.

Meanwhile, Police Chief David Massey has said for several years the association police quarters is both undersized and a safety hazard. Plans to expand the administration building to accommodate a larger police facility date back to at least 2017.

The directors on Saturday apparently solved all three problems with one vendor, Whayland Construction from Laurel, Delaware.

Director Frank Daly proposed three separate motions for the projects, to spend \$1.115 million to renovate and expand the police and administration building, \$1.6 million for a new golf and community center building, and \$430,000 for a new golf cart-barn building.

Each bid came with a guaranteed maximum price, meaning the total price cannot exceed those numbers.

Daly said the police expansion “addresses deficiencies in the current facilities that create an unsafe working environment for the officers, victims and suspects by increasing working space and constructing that space to current law enforcement design and construction standards.”

On the country club, Daly said the “deteriorating single-use existing facility” would be replaced with a multi-use

See NEW Page 5



JOSH DAVIS/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

FALSE START

Ocean Pines Association President Doug Parks, right, tangles with Director Slobodan Trendic, left, at the outside of a regular board meeting, Saturday. See Story Page 10

Phillips new operations director

By Josh Davis

Associate Editor

(April 11, 2019) Colby Phillips has been named the new director of operations for the Ocean Pines Association.

The position was created at the Saturday board meeting and on Monday Phillips was appointed to the role by interim General Manager John Viola.

According to a motion by Associa-

tion President Doug Parks, the posi-



Colby Phillips

tion was requested by Viola, “with a salary range commensurate with the associated duties and responsibilities.”

Phillips has been the association’s aquatics director for several years, and more recently took on additional duties as director of parks and recreation and racquet sports. She will apparently also continue in those responsibilities.

See OPA Page 2

‘We are saying, we do not approve’

By Josh Davis

Associate Editor

(April 11, 2019) For the last several months, Berlin officials have fought criticism of proposed tax and fee increases by advancing the notion they didn’t know public opposition was so strong because so few people attended council meetings.

On Monday night, the latest in a recent string of well attended meetings, residents stood up and said they were here now, but still felt they weren’t being heard.



JOSH DAVIS/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Berlin resident Larry Smith on Monday speaks out against planned property tax increases.

For the better part of a year, Mayor Gee Williams has said property taxes would need to increase because spending overages in the water, sewer and stormwater departments forced those self-funded utilities to borrow from the town’s general fund.

In particular, wastewater overages were highlighted on Monday night, as town officials said the spray irrigation site in Newark, while environmentally friendly, has also proved to be much more costly than originally estimated.

See TAX Page 6

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OPA names new operations director

Continued from Page 1

When General Manager John Bailey departed in February, Phillips was given even more to do on the operational side, essentially splitting the job of a general manager with Finance Director Steve Phillips. Empowering both, so far, has been seen as an effective move by the board of directors.

Phillips emailed a statement on Tuesday:

"I am honored to be given this promotion and truly enjoy my job here in Ocean Pines. We have a tremendous team that I enjoy working with and I am extremely excited John Viola has stepped up to be the general manager.

"We have a lot we are working on, and the team as a whole is ready to continue working towards the future success of Ocean Pines and bringing the best we can to the community. I have truly appreciated everyone's support."

Viola on Saturday hinted he had someone in mind when he said of the new position, "this is not an increase to staff."

"This is what I believe is needed from an operations standpoint, [to] make us stronger," he said. "Assuming this is approved by the board, we are working already on how we would look at the structure, within her responsibilities."

Director Jeff Knepper said he'd had similar discussions about such a position with former General Manager Bob Thompson.

"I don't think I called it director of operations – I called it a second GM," Knepper said. "I made that recommendation to him. I made that recommendation to Mr. Bailey ... and the reason why I made that recommendation was it looked to me the job of general manager was growing in responsibility and complexity, to the point where we needed a second member in there, helping to do the job."

Knepper said his previous company, Intel, did something similar and labeled it "two in a box." He added, "You get a better result, I think, if you fracture the responsibility correctly."

"Our members want things done. They want to ask reasonable questions [and] get reasonable answers and, if they highlight a problem, have somebody who could go fix it," he said. "I think the job here is broad enough to support that structure [expanding]."

Director Esther Diller said it was "the definition of insanity" for Ocean Pines to keep doing the same thing over and over again and expect different results.

"We've gone through three GMs [in] See PHILLIPS Page 3

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Phillips also to oversee aquatics and parks

Continued from Page 2

recent times,” she said. Viola is the fourth in four years. “To keep doing the same old [thing] ... isn’t working.”

Diller said the board was given a unique opportunity, in replacing Bailey, to finally try something different.

“This job, in my opinion, is too big for one man, or woman,” she said. “Having this layer of management with a director of operations and a director of finance ... helps make us, as a whole, more successful.”

“For us to move forward and continue to grow, it is imperative that the

GM have the right support,” Diller continued. “You have to have this to move forward, or we’re just going keep making the same mistakes that we have done for the last number of years.”

Director Colette Horn was also supportive.

“The organization has grown to the point where that model [of having one person at the top] no longer works. We need a more nimble decision-making model and I think this decentralized model is exactly what we need,” she said.

Director Frank Daly called the new

position “a good and necessary first step.”

“And I think you can look forward to other steps to make us more effective in our management of this association, from both a financial standpoint and from an operating standpoint,” he said.

Director Slobodan Trendic called the move, “very obvious and long overdue.”

Association Vice President Steve Tuttle said he’s worked closely with public works since Bailey departed and has “seen the benefit of having someone who is on the front line, who is responding to questions [and] answering con-

cerns from association members,” as well as helping the department to better organize.

“I’m very supportive of this motion and I think it positions us well for whatever we do in the future, whether we bring in another general manager” or outsource the position, Tuttle continued. “If, for some reason, a GM comes in [and] it doesn’t work out and in two years they’re gone, we have the team in place to keep the association moving forward in a strong way.”

The directors voted unanimously to create the position.

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New country club, expanded police station

Continued from Page 1
building designed to house both golf operations and community activities. He added the current building's second story "is not suitable for any use."

"Over the past year, architects, engineers, contractors and members of the community who are respected contractors have advised this board not to spend any additional money to renovate the existing facility and to focus on constructing a new building," Daly said. "The proposed design 'right sizes' the space required to house golf operations, and provides additional space to be used by the community at large in a single-story space and energy-efficient facility."

Similarly, he said the golf cart barn "has deteriorated to the point of replacement."

Daly said Ocean Pines "reached out to a large number of contractors" for each of the three projects.

"In fact, if you want a number to hang your hat on, [it's] 13," Daly said, adding only one or two contractors responded in each case.

He said many were reluctant to bid on the projects because of "the current very strong construction market that we're experiencing on the Eastern Shore."

During the bidding and leveling process, Daly said one contractor emerged as the recommendation for all three projects.

He said there were several benefits to that. For instance, rather than having three project managers and three superintendents scattered across three different sites, according to Daly, "with one contractor you need basically one project manager and 1.2 superintendents."

"That reduces ... the supervision cost and the project management cost, which can be passed directly onto us," he said.

There apparently also were other factors in proceeding in this manner.

Daly said it was important for board members and homeowners to "recognize and acknowledge the serious and unacceptable shortcomings in the planning and execution of our past two major construction projects," namely the previous efforts to remodel the country club and building the new yacht club.

"We have discussed these shortcomings not only with ourselves as a board, but with the operation teams and with the contractors, and these projects will have specific contractual and oversight parameters to prevent these shortcomings from recurring," he said.

He said two homeowners, Frank Brown and builder Marvin Steen, would work with interim General Manager John Viola on matters of "design quality and cost guidance."

Daly said there were additional contractual provisions to allow the association to review and select subcontractors.

"That is a huge benefit to us, both in

terms of quality and ... in terms of cost," he said.

He said board members and the budget and finance committee would also provide oversight of construction schedules and expenditures, for all three projects.

Director Slobodan Trendic said he would vote against all three, because the procurement process was "pretty disappointing and disturbing" and amounted to changing the rules halfway through.

"As much as I would like to see these projects go forward, there's just so much ... wrong with the way this procurement process has been handled," he said. "I am just really worried that we will rush through something and later on it's going to cost us a lot more money that is not shown in the numbers."

"I'm also uncomfortable with the fact that a lot of this information came to us in the last 48 hours," he added.

Jeff Knepper, appointed to the board earlier during the meeting, said if one contractor wanted to bid on all three projects, that opportunity would be extended to others.

He added, in his experience dealing with contractors, "Every once in a while a bidder will have a really brilliant idea ... why would I want to throw that away on some technicality?"

Association Vice President Steve Tuttle noted the "guaranteed maximum

price contract" language that applied to all three projects.

Regarding the procurement process, Tuttle said he's learned that "Ocean Pines has a reputation of submitting RFPs, getting bids, and then not doing anything."

"That's part of the reason people are not bidding on our projects, because they're sick and tired ... of putting all the effort into preparing a bid, which is a very extensive process on these jobs, and then not hearing anything back from us," he said. "We just can't keep doing that."

"Unfortunately, we only did get one bid on this. I think it's a very reputable company. We've gotten incredible references," Tuttle continued. "I think we're working with a really good contractor. I think we've got a great opportunity to move forward, and a great opportunity to improve the reputation of Ocean Pines."

Director Esther Diller agreed.

"We keep forgetting the obvious: nobody wants to work here," she said. "You can't force people to give [Ocean Pines] an RFP."

"We need to make decisions. We need to get started," she continued. "We have what we have, let's move."

Trendic abstained from the police station vote, and opposed awarding contracts to rebuild the country club and golf cart barn. The six other directors voted in favor of all three motions.



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Tax objections continue at Town Council mtg.

Continued from Page 1

Residents, meanwhile, asked officials to consider phased-in increases, rather than the 29 percent figure Williams outlined during a general fund budget introduction last week.

Town Administrator Laura Allen said an \$1.8 million general fund shortfall needed to be made up, this year.

Resident Jim Meckley said a recent budget listening session at Stephen Decatur High School drew about 200 people, many of whom many told heart-wrenching stories about how increases could affect them.

“People cried,” he said. “And mayor, at the first work session, you sit down and open your meeting and ask for a 29 percent raise. [That’s] irresponsible.”

“Why do we, as taxpayers, have to take care of what you guys did?” Michelle Bruder asked.

Bruder, a business owner, said she combed through the 2020 budget draft and was appalled by some of the spending items she saw.

“Small leaks sink big ships,” she said. “None of my employees have Sam’s Club [memberships].”

She said the town, among other things, budgeted \$2,000 for the memberships.

“The small little things,” Bruder said, alarmed her. “I was like, excuse me? Are you f— k— kidding me? I struggle here, as a business owner ... I’ve struggled here

for 17 years and I have to see this. And I’m sorry, [but] it makes me sick.”

Resident Larry Smith agreed. “I have a real problem with over a 29 percent increase in my taxes,” he said. “The council and you, mayor, are the

Smith said his taxes would go up \$600 a year under the proposed increase, and that he already paid more to the Town of Berlin than to the county and state combined.

“I’m retired. I’m not made out of

spray irrigation facility ... it was a new idea. It was extremely expensive [and] operating it has become even more expensive than we anticipated. That’s the number-one issue we got and we’re still trying to figure it out.”

Purnell said in one year the deficit at the site was more than \$1.1 million.

“That’s when the wheels came off,” he said. “We’re still going to talk about that on the 15th [during a utility fund work session]. We need to know why, but we also need to fix it before it bleeds too much more.”

Homeowners continued to object to the tax increases.

Kim Holloway said her taxes could increase as much as \$700, to roughly \$2,800. Adding in \$3,400 in annual utility fees, Holloway said it costs her \$6,200, or almost \$520 each month, to live in the town.

“We’ve been proud Berlin residents since 2002. We hold down two jobs. My husband has volunteered in this community since we moved here. We have two sons in college, and we consider ourselves fairly young and active,” she said. “But we are being sucked dry by this town.

“I can’t imagine what the others in this community are going through on fixed income and I don’t see how they can possibly do it,” she continued. “I get zero pleasure from this tax increase, because there are no added services, we’re not getting any new programming [and] you’re cutting events that bring revenue to this town.”

Holloway said taxpayer money has not been spent responsibly and town officials have not paid attention to the problem.

“And the only solution is to pass it onto us with this enormous tax increase,” she said.

Resident Marie Velong said town officials “complained about the participation of the citizens.”

“They have come the last several meetings and said things, and it appears like you’re still going to go about doing what you set out to do to begin with,” she said. “So, what is the point of us coming and expressing ourselves, with anguish, to you?”

Velong asked what was the big emergency that necessitated a large tax increase, all at once?

See BRITTINGHAM Page 7



The Berlin Mayor and Council preside over another packed council meeting, Monday night, as residents continued to voice objections to planned property tax and utility fee increases.

ones that screwed this all up. So how come we’ve got to make it up at one time? How come the taxpayers’ backs are being broken to fix your screw-up?”

Williams said the alternative was incremental tax increases, likely over three years.

“That would mean continuing to borrow from reserves for three more years before we stop that,” Williams said.

“Not our problem,” Bruder replied.

money,” Smith continued. “I think it’s a crying shame ... you’re going to price everybody right out of this town. This is ridiculous.”

“We’re going to become a Snow Hill,” Bruder added.

Smith suggested the town get rid of “some of these white elephants you bought” and to stop expanding.

“Every time you annex something or build something else, you’ve gotta increase all the utility fees, because now you’re got extra draws ... and you’ve gotta run the lines and everything else,” he said.

Councilman Troy Purnell said the developer, not the town or taxpayers, foots the bill for new hookups, and that expansion helps spread out the cost to operate the town.

“I can tell you right now any growth in this town, things like Ocean’s East, has brought revenue to this town and not had any other expenditures,” Purnell said.

Asked who was paying for the spray irrigation site, Purnell replied, “we all are.”

“We had to do that years and years and years ago, when we ran out of capacity,” he said. “Everybody wanted to get a

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Brittingham says council listening, will take action

Continued from Page 6

Williams said the increase would not replace all of the money borrowed from the general fund, but would stop the need to borrow. He said reserves would drop to roughly \$2 million by the end of this fiscal year, and he would like to see that level replenished to \$4 million or \$4.5 million.

Councilman Zack Tyndall noted reserves were as high as \$6.5 million in 2016.

“Maybe you have to think about continuing to borrow from the reserves and doing it incrementally, so it doesn’t hurt us,” Velong said. “From what I understand, you have five months of reserves – I know I don’t have five months of reserves to support me.

“You can’t do this all at once. It’s unconscionable to do it. You have got to re-think this plan,” she continued. “You only have working people here ... We didn’t get a \$600 raise this year.”

Resident and business owner Jennifer Dawicki also suggested an incremental tax increase.

“I will echo, you have told us our silence was approval to you, that you were doing the best that you could with our funds. And we have been here and we are saying, we do not approve,” she said.

Resident John Watson said he’d never been to a Town Hall meeting before, but wanted to let the councilmembers know there was “a level of anxiety and a level of frustration with the town, as far as this tax increase is concerned.”

“We elect you officials to do the good work on our behalf ... and obviously you have failed in the last three or four years,” he said. “As an outsider coming in tonight I don’t feel, with all due respect, mayor, that you guys are taking this very seriously.

“You’re the ones that got us into this mess and now you’re putting it onto us to get you out of it, and I think that’s very unfair,” Watson continued. “I’m upset and I’m not happy. And I don’t mean this as a threat ... but elections have consequences.”

Councilman Elroy Brittingham said he’s been on the council the longest, and people often forget that elected officials are also residents and taxpayers.

“When we consider all this stuff, we’re not just looking at [the situations] for one or two people – it’s all of us. All of us are in this together,” he said. “Don’t think we’re not listening to everything that you say. We might not be able to do everything that everybody wants us to do, but we do consider what everybody says.”

Brittingham said he was glad people were finally coming to Town Hall meetings and giving their input.

“So, act on it,” Smith said.

“Give us time, we will,” Brittingham said.

A utility fund budget work session is scheduled Monday, April 15 at 5:30 p.m. at Town Hall on 10 William Street.

The next Town Council meeting is scheduled Monday, April 22 at 7 p.m. at Town Hall.

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Toy Town trial put on inactive docket, as talks continue

By Josh Davis
Associate Editor

(April 11, 2019) Nothing was resolved Friday in the matter of State of Maryland vs. Richard Seaton Jr., as the case was put on the stet (inactive) docket as the Town of Snow Hill and the Toy Town business continue to talk.

At odds is Seaton's lack of an occupancy permit to run his business on 207 North Washington Street.

The town signed a memorandum of understanding in 2016 to deed over the building to Seaton and his wife, Debbie, if certain renovations and repairs were done over a five-year period. Town officials, however, apparently wanted an accelerated timeline and shut down the business in February when that was not done, citing safety concerns.

Today, the building is closed and the sidewalk outside the shop obscured by scaffolding. A sign in the window, put up by the Seatons, reads, "CLOSED BY TOWN HALL until further notice."

Worcester County District Court Judge Richard R. Bloxom on Friday said the two parties had discussions in his chambers earlier that day and would continue to talk, outside of court.

Bloxom said it struck him as appropriate to stet the violation, or put it on hold, with the understanding "the Town of Snow Hill reserves the right to reactivate the citation, under certain circumstances."

Snow Hill Mayor Stephen Mathews was present during the trial, but declined to comment. The Seatons also did not comment.

Attorney Randy Coates, who represented Seaton, said the stet order amounted to "kicking the can down the road."

Just how far it's being kicked is not yet known.

"We're going to go over and meet with [Snow Hill's] attorney at the building and we'll have a discussion there," Coates said. "Based on that discussion, we may or may not be able to open."

The Seatons had argued they don't need a certificate of occupancy, because they do not yet own the building. Former Mayor Charlie Dorman is said to have signed an occupancy permit, but that apparently never left his desk.

Snow Hill Code Enforcement Officer Jon Hill came to the store with a sheriff's deputy on Feb. 28 to deliver a civil citation and close the store.

Toy Town has since opened a second location, in downtown Berlin.

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Community wants development crossed out

By Rachel Ravina
Staff Writer and
Josh Davis
Associate Editor

(April 11, 2019) Purnell Crossing residents on Monday continued to oppose a planned new development they said did not match the project they initially supported.

Last month, members of the 27-unit condominium association stormed a Berlin Planning Commission meeting when they learned owner and Town Councilman Troy Purnell had asked to modify the planned unit development for the community.

Previously approved plans included a 100-unit assisted living facility and 19 new townhomes, with the townhomes then becoming a part of the association.

However, Purnell now hopes to build five new rental apartment buildings, including one 30-unit building and four 24-unit buildings.

Developers argued the total number of units was virtually the same under both plans, while homeowners argued the apartments would be too close their homes and not consistent with the small-town character of Purnell Crossing, and of Berlin as a whole.

Residents said the apartments would lower property values and upset what has been a quiet, serene and safe

community. They also said there was little notice given before the planning commission meeting.

About a dozen homeowners attended an informal meeting at Stevenson United Methodist Church on Monday, when many urged continued public participation.

"We don't have enough community involvement," Purnell Crossing resident Wayne Harrison said. "We need a way [to] get the next meeting going and get everyone involved ... even if we have to meet on the sidewalk."

Ruby Halligan, president of Purnell Crossing Board, said she was not opposed to an assisted living facility being built, but five new apart buildings was another story.

"I don't want something like that in my backyard," she said. "I'm very opposed to it."

Halligan also urged homeowners to continue making their voices heard

during upcoming Berlin Planning Commission meetings, the next of which is scheduled on Wednesday, April 17 at 6 p.m. at Town Hall on 10 William Street.

She also asked residents to sign a petition, and to attend an informational presentation by Purnell at 8 a.m. this Saturday, in the community off Old Ocean City Boulevard in Berlin.

"We need to protect our investment in our community," Halligan said.



JOSH DAVIS/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Purnell Crossing Association President Ruby Halligan talks to homeowners about planned new developments in the community, Monday night during an informal meeting at the Stevenson United Methodist Church in Berlin.

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Threat involved Snow Hill school

By Josh Davis
Associate Editor

(April 11, 2019) A “school safety threat” against Snow Hill Middle School on March 21 led to two students being charged, according to Carrie Sterrs, Worcester County Schools’ spokeswoman.

Officials have not made public what the threat involved.

Sterrs said “a cooperative effort between school officials, law enforcement, and the state’s attorney’s office” led to the charges.

“The school made law enforcement aware of a threat to the school [and] it’s still under investigation,” Worcester County States Attorney Kris Heiser said on Saturday. “Two juveniles have been detained as a result. No one was harmed and law enforcement is not aware of any current threat.”

Heiser said the investigation continues and she was limited in the information her office could provide, “because of the rules governing pretrial statements by prosecutors.”

“As this is an active, ongoing investigation, we are unable to disclose any further detail at this time,” Sterrs added. “Worcester County Public Schools remains highly committed to ensuring a safe and secure environment for our students and staff.”

Mark Titanski, chief deputy with the Worcester County Sheriff’s Department, said a further statement or a press conference was likely later this week.

Wor. Health Dept. warns of scam

Spoofing efforts targeting local people using fraud, phony phone numbers

By Rachel Ravina
Staff Writer

(April 11, 2019) A Medicare information spoofing scam reached Worcester County last week, as health department officials found the Berlin Health Office’s phone number being “illegally and fraudulently used,” the department said in a Facebook post.

Spoofing involves impersonating a legitimate phone number to persuade someone to give away personal information for fraudulent or illegal purposes, according to the Federal Communications Commission.

Travis Brown, public information officer for the Worcester County Health Department, said the agency learned about the spoofing calls Monday after speaking with people from outside of the county.

“These individuals reported receiving calls from out Berlin Health Center phone number and called the center in confusion,” Brown said in a statement. “Some of these reports were from individuals as far away as Texas and Wisconsin.”

The FCC offered several tips to help people avoid spoofing situations:

- Exercise caution when responding to a request to give out personal information.
- Don’t give out personal information

including account numbers, social security numbers, passwords, mother’s maiden names, or other incriminating information.

• If the caller claims to represent a company or government organization, and requesting payment, the FCC suggests hanging up and calling the phone number from an account statement, phone book or other verified source. Officials added legitimate organizations would offer a written statement in the mail.

Brown said the health department has also taken measures to file an incident report to the FCC.

Incoming calls to the Berlin Health Office, 410-629-0164, will be transferred to health department offices, the department said in a statement.

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Ocean Pines directors Slobodan Trendic, left, Frank Daly, Esther Diller and Association President Doug Parks last Saturday consider a motion for an executive search for a new general manager. The directors ultimately decided to table the motion.

Ocean Pines Board tables GM executive search motion

Directors will instead look over resumes already on file, continue talks in May

(April 11, 2019) While Ocean Pines Board members agreed last month to explore outsourcing management, the same panel on Saturday tabled a motion to seek an executive search firm to identify individual general manager candidates.

John Bailey departed as the association's general manager in February and, last month, John Viola was appointed to become the fourth person to fill that role in four years.

However, as Viola is assumed to only be temporarily filling the vacancy, board members have openly debated whether they should fill the position, outsource it entirely, or seek a hybrid approach.

Each board member, on Saturday, seemed to have a different opinion on the subject.

Esther Diller said she did not favor hiring an executive search firm, joking they probably still had a file cabinet full of applications from the last round of searches.

Association Vice President Steve Tuttle added the fact that Ocean Pines needed a general manager was “already on the street,” and they’d just received a resume from someone in Pennsylvania.

Jeff Knepper also did not support the motion, saying if Ocean Pines did go in that direction there should be an opt-out clause in case the position was filled internally.

Slobodan Trendic said two senior

staffers, Colby Phillips and Steve Phillips, have excelled since their roles were elevated after Bailey left, and the board needed more time to evaluate that. He called for a new, hybrid approach to management and said now could be the perfect time, with Phillips and Phillips onboard.

Colette Horn, who introduced the motion, said in the past the association sought candidates with homeowner's association experience. Instead, she suggested, they should look for someone with a municipal background.

Horn said her main concern was the amount of time a search could take, adding that the association was capable of doing an outsourcing and outright replacement general manager search at the same time.

“The last time we had a temporary GM in place ... it went on for a very long period of time and I don’t think anybody wants that to happen [again],” she said.

Diller suggested tabling the motion for one month to review any resumes the association already has.

Horn agreed.

“One of my motives here was to get this discussion going. And clearly I did that so, mission accomplished,” she said.

"I agree with tabling the motion with the proviso that we are going to be looking at these resumes [and] we are going to be actively pursuing a parallel process that gives us all options," Horn added.

A vote to table the motion was unanimous. Association President Doug Parks said the matter would be on the “unfinished business” portion of the next regular board meeting.

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Newly appointed Ocean Pines Director Jeff Knepper, right, is greeted by directors Colette Horn and Frank Daly on Saturday. Knepper, who is filling the role of Ted Moroney after his resignation last month, said he would not run to keep the seat during the August election.

Knepper joins board, but will not run in Aug. election

By Josh Davis
Associate Editor
(April 11, 2019) Jeff Knepper, 74, became the newest member of the Ocean Pines Board of Directors on Saturday. He was appointed by a 6-0 vote to replace Ted Moroney, who resigned last month.

Association President Doug Parks said the board was obligated by its bylaws to replace Moroney and that Knepper, a former director, has experience.

In 2014, Knepper was appointed to replace another director, Dan Stachurski, after his resignation. Knepper ran for the board later that year, but lost to Pat Renaud and Dave Stevens.

During his working career, Knepper was an Ohio-based tax attorney. He would eventually retire as general manager of the Intel corporation's Information Technology Risk Management group.

Knepper said it was a condition of his 2014 appointment that he run for the board, but this time he would not seek election when his term expires this August.

He has been a regular presence at board meetings for many years, and also served on the budget and finance, and bylaws and resolutions advisory committees, up until the appointment on Saturday.

"I enjoy the meetings," he said. "I understand a lot of it ... [and] I have a pretty good working knowledge of the bylaws.

"I think I can serve the association and I think I can make some things better," he continued. "That's not a requirement for me, but I'm going to

try to do that."

Knepper several times on Saturday invoked his previous experience in procurement efforts with Intel, especially when discussing requests for proposals related to the police and administration building, country club, and golf cart barn.

"We were a \$60 billion a year corporation – Ocean Pines is nowhere near that," he said. "Some of the stuff we did was overkill beyond belief for Intel, even. Those things won't work here, so you don't try them.

"There are other things we did that will scale, so we can do a smaller version of it, and it was helpful before and [could be] helpful again," he added.

At Intel, for example, companies bidding on a project would often be some of Intel's biggest customers, meaning they didn't want to spurn the losers.

"We developed an absolutely bullet-proof RFP process," Knepper said. "If you were caught on the floor [of the company], we took your badge for a long time. An account manager can't do his job if he can't go on the site. If you're running around talking to engineers behind my back and trying to have something happen that the company doesn't want to but the individual engineer might, I can't let you do that. It's disruptive, it's expensive for me [and] it's the wrong thing to do.

"I doubt OPA would ever need to do [something similar], but if they ever do I know how to do it," he continued. "We were able to issue RFPs, single source, out of our five top-customers ... and they all said, 'we don't like the result, but the process was really fair.' That, to me, is winning."

'I think I can serve the association and I think I can make some things better ... That's not a requirement for me, but I'm going to try to do that.'

Jeff Knepper,
Newest member of OPA
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What will Ortt Companies do for an encore?

Restaurant management company entering second yr. overseeing OPA facilities

By Josh Davis
Associate Editor

(April 11, 2019) A year ago, all eyes were on the Matt Ortt Companies as they prepared to take over operations of the Ocean Pines yacht and beach clubs, which had just finished losing nearly \$800,000 in the preceding 12 months.

This fiscal year, under Ortt, the facilities project to break even or better, in large part because the company provided consistent food and quality customer service.

The question now is what do co-founders Matt Ortt and Ralph DeAngelus do for an encore?

Coming into Ocean Pines last April, DeAngelus said, “Everyone gave us warnings.”

“[People said] ‘you’re going to hate this and these people are impossible, and you’re going to be out in a year.’ It’s been kind of the opposite,” he said. “They’ve been open-armed and very gracious, the Ocean Piners. It’s been nice.”

Ortt, during a public meeting last April, joked the number one reason his company would succeed was because “my mother lives in Ocean

Pines and I’ll never hear the end of it.”

“So far, so good,” Ortt said with a laugh. “She’s one of those mothers that won’t let it go to our heads. She lets us know that we need to keep going and improving. But, I think my mom and dad are pretty happy with what we’ve done over there.”

DeAngelus said the plan this year is to improve operations even more

“It’s actually going to be easy to make it better, because we threw so much spaghetti against the wall to see what would stick – we don’t have to do that again,” he said. “That cost money when you test something out and it doesn’t work – and now we know what does work and what doesn’t, and we’re never going to throw that old spaghetti against the wall again.”

He said the goal was to do “more sales with less cost.”

“That’s the encore,” he said. “It’ll be the same great service, the same smiling face is going to be there, and the food’s actually probably going to be a better quality, because we’ve got a running start going into the year.”

DeAngelus and Ortt are thrilled with renovations being made at the beach club, on 49th Street, oceanside. The association board of directors recently approved creating a larger bar and altering the roofline to improve the view of the ocean.

“Now, you can actually sit at the bar and look at the ocean,” DeAngelus said. “You’re not looking at the corner of a building.”

Renovations are scheduled to wrap in time for a re-opening around Memorial Day.

The yacht club, on 1 Mumford Landing Road, remained open for most of the winter and will see expanded hours into the summer.

Ocean Pines and the Ortt Companies last year signed a two-year deal to manage both facilities. DeAngelus said there have already been preliminary talks about extending that deal.

“We’re starting to book [banquets] now for Ocean Pines that aren’t in our contract years and we addressed that,” he said. “We asked, ‘Who do we send these people to if we’re not going to be there,’ and they said, ‘Listen, let’s talk about renegotiating your contract to extend it, so you can actually book things for yourselves,’ which makes sense, obviously, for everybody.”

“They see that we’re thinking long term, and they like that,” he continued. “We’re going to think long term and do everything right, knowing that they’re going to give us a good deal to extend – at least we feel that way. I’d be surprised if they didn’t take care of us.”

Ortt added, “We didn’t do this for short-term thinking.”

“I’ve said it before and I’ve said it

to Ralph and everybody else: Ocean Pines turned out to be one of the most rewarding projects I’ve ever done, because of the amount of gratitude,” he said. “In this business you don’t always get that.”

He said the resort mentality is often all about getting people in and out as quickly as possible. Not so in Ocean Pines.

“Here, we see the same faces all the time and they thank us each and every night,” Ortt said. “And that’s one of those things that you never put a price tag on before, but the gratification we get from it really makes us want to keep going and do better.”

In January, the Ortt Companies parted ways with Rare & Rye, an upscale 32nd Street restaurant, after their two-year contract expired. They’ll soon take over The Abbey Burger Bistro on 12601 Coastal Highway.

DeAngelus said remodeling efforts in that location have included doubling the size of the existing bar and reducing the size of the dining room. He said there would also be a large outdoor dining area.

“We’re going to stay traditional, true to the Abbey Burger menu, as far as their meat and potatoes, which to them is obviously their burgers,” he said. “They sell the hell out of some burgers, let me tell you.”

He said they would also add “an Ocean City flair,” with steam pots and crab cake sandwiches coming onto the menu.

“For the most part, it’s going to be true to Abbey Burger’s menu – with a little twist,” DeAngelus said, adding the restaurant would reopen May 17.

The Ortt Companies also runs the Hooters in West Ocean City. DeAngelus said they’re working on two other projects, but neither would be open this year.

“They’re 2020s, but they’re going to be monsters,” he said. “I’m excited about it.”

‘It’ll be the same great service, the same smiling face is going to be there, and the food’s actually probably going to be a better quality, because we’ve got a running start going into the year.’
Matt Ortt Companies
cofounder,
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Builder Steen speaks on new advisor role

By Josh Davis
Associate Editor

(April 11, 2019) Local builder Marvin Steen on Monday weighed in on what his role would be in advising Ocean Pines on three major upcoming construction projects.

The board of directors on Saturday approved spending \$3.185 million to expand the police headquarters inside the administration building, rebuild the country club, and build a new cart barn.

Director Frank Daly at the time announced that Steen would serve as an advisor on the projects.

“My role is basically as a volunteer

– no money!” Steen said. “I’m going to be working with them as the construction starts and they build the buildings ... I’ll be inspecting for Ocean Pines – not for Steen Associates – and helping them in the ideas and things that they need.”

Steen said his livelihood is building and inspections, and his Ocean Parkway office is close to all three sites, making it easy for him to pitch in.

During a preconstruction meeting about two months ago, he said the consensus was that ideally one company would take on all three projects.

He indicated bidding came down to Whayland Construction and Gillis

Gilkerson, with Whayland eventually winning all three projects.

“What they did is they came in for the best price for Ocean Pines,” he said, adding having one company tackle all three projects “is the perfect way to do it.”

“They’ll have [one] superintendent here full time,” he said, as opposed to having multiple people working on multiple projects. “They saved a lot of money by doing that.”

He also said doing all three projects simultaneously would save money.

“They’re going to be doing all three buildings, I’ll guarantee you, at the same time,” Steen said. “Their equipment is here instead of taking it back and forth to different places. They’ll be here, the manpower’s going to be here, and they should be able to do it and do it quick for all three buildings.”

He compared the project to building several homes in a development at one time, versus building scattered homes across a city in a staggered fashion.

“It’s not a small savings – it’s a lot of money,” Steen said.

Steen also agreed with assessments made during a board meeting last Saturday that Ocean Pines had a somewhat damaged reputation with local contractors.

“They’ve got so many regulations to go by ... because they’re using the

homeowner’s association’s money to do these buildings, and a lot of times they’ll put [bids] out and they won’t build the building,” he said.

Five years ago, Steen said, 10 bidders might have submitted to repair or replace the country club, as an example.

“Nothing happens. Then, three years from then, the same thing. How many of those guys are going to rebid? At best, half of them,” he said. “Then, all of the sudden it comes down to two years – the hell with it, I’m not going to bid!”

“That’s been [going on] for a long time,” Steen added.

Steen said it was his understanding construction on three projects could start next month. If that happens, he said, Ocean Pines could have a new country club and golf cart barn, and an expanded, modern police station by October.

“Whayland’s a good company. They’re got good people. They’ve got good equipment – I know that because, hell, I grew up in Sussex County and that’s where they are,” he said.

“If they decided to do the country club, I’d say it might take six months. But I think by doing all three, they’ll all three be done in six months,” he continued. “I’m just glad to see it happening!”

Public hearing May 13 to consider late fee increase

By Josh Davis
Associate Editor

(April 11, 2019) The Town of Berlin on Monday scheduled a public hearing to increase business license late fees to a maximum of 24 percent.

Based on a staff recommendation, the town also would enable the transfer of unpaid penalties to the businesses’ water bill and make it a misdemeanor infraction to fail to obtain or renew a business license.

Town Administrator Laura Allen said about 20-25 percent of businesses generally pay late. As of March 1, she said, about 12 percent, or 28 Berlin businesses, have not paid for their license.

“The finance department spends a lot of time chasing the late payments, typically sending three or four invoices and making multiple telephone calls,” according to a staff report.

The town’s business license fee is


\$150 for banks and \$75 for all other businesses. The fiscal impact of the increase was said to be minimal, but the benefit “would be the reduction in the amount of time and expense associated with following up on the late payments,” the staff report said.

The policy change would require altering the town code, which triggers a public hearing.


Berlin Town Councilman Dean Burrell said he approved of the change, but wanted one section to be even stronger.

Currently, town code says, “the town reserves the right to post or otherwise publish the names of businesses which fail to comply” with the business license rules. Burrell asked that publishing those names be mandatory.


The Town Council unanimously approved a motion to set the public hearing during a regular Town Council meeting on Monday, May 13.




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Conditional use for industrial district bldg.

Washington Street structure approved for storage units, second-story apartments

By Josh Davis
Associate Editor

(April 11, 2019) The Berlin Board of Zoning Appeals on Monday approved a conditional-use exception that will allow three new apartments to be built over storage units on 305 Washington Street.

According to a conceptual site plan, the 13,512-square-foot building is zoned light industrial. The board of zoning appeals can grant exceptions for dwelling units in the district, provided they are for nonindustrial use, Planning Director Dave Engelhart said.

Owner Duane Maddy said the new “Bromley Place Commercial Condominium” would target furniture stores and moving companies, and that his company, Piney Island Builders Inc., would be one of the tenants.

He said the storage units would cost \$800-\$1,000 per month to rent, while the two-bedroom, two-bathroom apartments would cost \$1,500 per month.

Attorney Marc Cropper said the project is similar to one approved in

the same complex in 2016 for Austin Purnell.

Commission member Woody Bunting, however, noted that case was slightly different, because Purnell was to become the tenant of that property.

“I think Austin’s got approved, but the one big, major difference there was Austin was going to live in it,” Bunting said. “I assume you will be renting the three units.”

Maddy said that was correct, adding the market for the units would be “whoever can afford \$1,500 a month,” likely “two individual singles that are splitting the rent.”

Bunting said he had no doubt that the units would be nice, but worried about buffers between residential and industrial units in the area, which is also home to several other businesses.

Maddy said he’s had numerous plans for the property over the years, including a 22,000-square-foot high-end storage unit.

“I was approved for a shooting range there at one time,” he said. “I’ve been waiting for the right thing.”

“The town is growing. The town has a need for apartments and this was an opportunity,” Maddy continued. “The demand is there ... and I feel it’s a good plan.”

He added the entire property would be enclosed by a six-foot privacy fence and landscaped.

“It’s not just going to be a building slapped up,” he said. “I didn’t just haphazardly put the plan together.”

Maddy said he recently finished a similar project on Manklin Creek

Road in Ocean Pines. In Berlin, he said Chuck’s Vacuum was a potential tenant.

“I’m going to be very discretionary on who goes there,” he said.

Board member Jay Knerr moved to approve the exception, which the board approved unanimously.

Historic District approves new signs for Toy Town, Dusty Lamb

By Josh Davis
Associate Editor

(April 11, 2019) The Berlin Historic District Commission made short work of two sign requests for recently opened businesses last Wednesday.

First up was the new location for Toy Town Antiques, a business familiar to many in Berlin. Toy Town had been based on Berlin’s Main Street and then in 2016 moved to Snow Hill.

The business sells everything from small collectables like coins and comic books, to larger items from antique arcade units to classic cars.

After business owners Richard and Debbie Seaton tangled with Snow Hill officials over an occupancy permit, that location was temporary closed and they looked for a second location in Berlin, which opened last month.

Richard Seaton on Wednesday said the sign that hung over his new 8 Pitts Street location was the same one that formerly hung over Main Street. Commission members had no issues with the sign and approved it unanimously, 5-0, with only Mary Moore absent from the panel.

“It’s not supposed to be this simple,” Seaton quipped. “In Snow Hill, [there would be] lawyers and TV!”

Patty Backer had a similarly easy

go in getting approval for her shop, The Dusty Lamb. The store sells Becker’s playful and surrealistic artwork, as well as “a crazy mix of everything that makes me happy,” including small gift items, Backer said in a previous interview.

Commission Chairwoman Carol Rose said she was “really, really glad that you’re doing what you’re doing with your sign,” essentially repainting what was already on the building.

The 12 William Street shop was formerly Uncle Jon’s Soaps, which recently moved to Pitts Street, and was once home to Bungalow Love, which later moved to Main Street.

The sign was approved without objection, 5-0.

Also during the meeting, Economic and Community Development Director Ivy Wells said a new sign in front of the Main Street welcome center was recently installed.

The sign came the planning and zoning building near Town Hall and was revamped. Another sign, paid for by a grant, has yet to be installed, Wells added. The Berlin Historic District Commission approved both in February.

The commission is scheduled to next meet on May 1 at 5:30 p.m. at Town Hall, on 10 William Street.

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LET'S
CONNECT!  



Latest forecast shows Pines making profit

Association projecting to end current fiscal year, April 30, about \$60,000 ahead

By Josh Davis
Associate Editor

(April 11, 2019) While earlier forecasts predicted a loss for fiscal 2019, Ocean Pines is now projecting a \$60,000 profit against the budget, according to interim General Manager John Viola.

Viola, in giving a monthly treasurer's report on Saturday, said the association was ahead by \$184,000 during the first 10 months of the fiscal year.

From May 1, 2018 until Feb. 28 of this year, revenues were \$511,859 better than what was budgeted, while expenses were over budget by

\$308,695. Viola added new capital was over budget slightly, by \$19,116.

In February, revenues topped the budget by about \$50,000 and expenses were under budget almost \$4,000, Viola said.

The reserve forecast for the end of the fiscal year is \$8.6 million, including \$5.3 million in replacement reserves, \$2.3 million in bulkheads and \$1 million in roads. As of Feb. 28, the association had about \$10.2 million in cash overall, Viola said.

On the operations side, Colby Phillips said clay court resurfacing is underway for association tennis courts and several Easter events are scheduled, including an Egg Dive and Pool Party, Friday, April 19 at the

sports core pool from 5:30-8 p.m.

Phillips said a new policy would be in effect this year for the beach club bathrooms, which are slated to open at 8:30 a.m. and close at 6 p.m., with a "deep cleaning" scheduled each evening.

She said an attendant would be there each day from 11 a.m. until 3 p.m., starting on Memorial Day. Additionally, Phillips said beach wheelchairs would be available until 5:30 or 6 p.m. each night, and a newly installed ADA accessible sidewalk would make it easier for guests to reach the beach.

Finance Director Steve Phillips said forensic audit results would likely be available by the end of this fiscal year, which in Ocean Pines is

April 30.

Phillips reiterated the association position on pool access coupon cards stated during a town hall meeting last week, that balances would be good until April 30, 2020, and the association would work to ensure those with larger balances would roll over.

A special board meeting with Deeley Insurance Group is scheduled this Saturday, April 13, at 9 a.m. in the East Room of the community center on 235 Ocean Parkway.

"The presentation will summarize their work and finding in the past one-and-a-half months in auditing OPA's types and levels of property, and casualty insurance coverage," Phillips said.

Wells wants New Year's Eve back

Midnight ball drop could find support from brewery

By Josh Davis
Associate Editor

(April 11, 2019) Berlin Economic and Community Development Director Ivy Wells on Monday asked that the midnight New Year's Eve ball drop be returned to the fiscal 2020 budget.

Town officials had ordered 10 percent budget cuts across all departments, and Wells more than complied the week before, when she introduced an economic development budget that was 11.31 percent, or about \$36,000, less than the previous year's spending.

Among the savings discussed was cutting the annual July 3 fireworks and its \$10,000 cost, and possibly eliminating the \$18,000 cost of a billboard on Route 50.

Also on the chopping block was the midnight New Year's Eve ball drop, although the early evening New Year's Eve celebration for children would remain.

"What I'd like to publicly say is to add the midnight New Year's Eve ball drop back into my budget," Wells said Monday. "Only about \$1,000 comes out of my budget to pay for that event, so I would publicly like to request that to be added back."

Wells later said most of the cost for the event is paying staff overtime, which costs \$8,000.

No decision was made, as budget adoption is still several months away, although another way might be available to save the event and the annual fireworks celebration.

Burley Oak Brewing Company initially had provided financial support for the fireworks and may be willing to do so again. It also might support

the New Year's Eve event, according to brewery owner Bryan Brushmiller.

"Burley Oak is happy to pay for it and always has been. Supporting the fireworks the first year felt great to bring that to our hometown," Brushmiller said on Tuesday. "The ball drop is another important event that bolsters the town and we are happy to pay for it in full."

Wells, also reached for comment on Tuesday, said she expects to work with both Burley Oak and the Berlin Chamber of Commerce "for future sponsor opportunities" across several events.

For instance, "The town pays for all the entertainment for Oktoberfest and the chamber holds the alcohol permit and profits from the beer sales," she said. "Perhaps we could work toward the chamber donating back to the town to help with expenses."

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Obituaries

RALPH RAY MUMFORD Showell

Ralph Ray Mumford, 80, of Showell, Maryland, passed away peacefully at his home on March 21, 2019.

He was born on March 29, 1938 to the late Robert and Laura Mumford in Showell, Maryland.

He was educated in the Worcester County School System.

He was employed by Paul and Linwood Hadder doing landscaping for 20 years. He then worked for the Cliff Cannon Ford Lincoln Mercury dealership for approximately 40 years, retiring in 2012.

He was married to Lillie Mae Mumford until her death in 2007.

His hobbies included horseshoes, watching westerns and spending time with his family, especially his nephews.

He was a member of St. John AME Church in Bishopville, Maryland, and was the church janitor. He always made sure the building was heated for Sunday morning services.

In addition to his parents and his wife, Lillie Mae, he was also preceded by five brothers, Walter, William,

Robert, Jr., Ernest Mumford and John Hall.

Also preceding were seven sisters, Hattie and Hester Mumford, Louise Manley, Alice Hall, Irene Collins, Marion Person and Laura Hall.

He leaves to mourn three sisters, Janie Cephas, of Selbyville, Delaware, Edna Poulson and Catherine Mumford, of Berlin, Maryland; a god-daughter, Nichole (Terrence) Tyre, of Showell, Maryland; and a host of nieces, nephews.

A time of visitation and viewing was held on Friday, March 29, 2019 at Tyree AME Church in Berlin, with a funeral service following. Interment was at the Curtis UMC Cemetery in Bishopville, Maryland.

Electronic condolences can be sent to www.watsonfh.com.

GARY W. FOSKEY Pittsville

Gary W. Foskey, 72, of Pittsville, passed peacefully at home with his family on Tuesday, April 2. He was the son of the late George Vincent and Wilsie Mae (Lewis) Foskey of Powellville.

Cancer may have taken his life, but it could not take his contagious spirit and his zest for life. It could not take his deep love and loyalty to his family. It could not take his ability to make



Gary Foskey

anyone laugh with a joke or a witty saying. It did not dull his big spirit. It did not change his kind, generous heart. It can not take our countless, cherished memories.

Gary retired from Dresser Wayne Industries in Salisbury after 34 years, where he gained the nickname "Snowman." He later worked at the Adkins Company in Berlin. He was a former member of Delmarva Coon Hunters Association in Powellville and enjoyed spending time there with his father and other members. He was a U.S. Army veteran, serving in Vietnam.

He is survived by his wife of 48 years, Hilda H. Foskey of Pittsville; a daughter, Donna Foxwell and husband Barney of Pittsville; one treasured grandson, Mason Ray Foxwell; a sister, Alice Scott and husband Denny of Salisbury. He had several aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, and

very special cousins that held a special place in his heart as well. Gary's love of his family was immeasurable.

Gary enjoyed fishing in the Mill Pond in Powellville, going to the Annual Chincoteague Pony Penning, visiting old friends, and loved to watch his favorite show, America's Funniest Home Videos.

He will be fondly remembered for a life well-lived. He was loved, is missed, and will always be cherished.

A memorial service will be held at noon on Tuesday, April 9, at Bishop-Hastings Funeral Home in Selbyville with Rev. Howard Travers officiating. Friends may call an hour before the service. Burial will be in Lewis Cemetery in Whaleyville.

In lieu of flowers, donations in his memory may be made to Coastal Hospice, P.O. Box 1733, Salisbury, Maryland 21802 or Ayres United Methodist Church, P.O. Box 52, Pittsville, Maryland 21850

Condolences may be sent by visiting www.bishophastingsfh.com.

OBITUARY NOTICES

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Opinion

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

Credit due for Ocean Pines' fiscal recovery

Rare would be the business that could say its operations suffered a million-dollar loss against budget the year before, but would reduce that by half in the current year and post a profit in the next. Rarer still would be the organization that foundered in a \$1.3 million sea of red ink and 12 months later sailed unscathed into profitability. That, however, is precisely what the Ocean Pines Association is about to do, according to the latest financial update from interim General Manager and Treasurer John Viola.

It just could be, Viola told the association board of directors Saturday, the association would end its fiscal year this month \$60,000 to the good. That's a remarkable achievement and the board, staff and committee members who advise the association leadership on budget and finance matters should be congratulated.

Just as amazing, however, is how the association found itself in that mess and how an easy decision — in retrospect, at least — eliminated most of the problem.

Of that \$1.3 million deficit, a million of it resulted from some farfetched yacht and beach club revenue budgeting and an equally unrealistic operational plan to deliver it. All that, along with several unbudgeted expenses of more than \$100,000 here and there, combined to create a budget disaster that would have gotten the association into seriously deep trouble had it been allowed to continue.

Some credit for the turnaround must be given to former General Manager John Bailey, who insisted at the outset that the budget needed to be leaner and adhered to by all departments.

Having the greatest effect, as is now obvious to association members and their guests, was the board of directors' decision to get out of the restaurant business by turning the yacht and beach clubs over to professional operators.

Whatever the Matt Ort Companies get out of their contractual arrangement with the association to run these clubs, they earned it, just as the board deserves credit for accepting the association's limitations with regard to the food service business.

The budget process is never going to be without controversy, as property owners will always question how their money is being spent. At least now they'll be debating real numbers produced by a much more stable operation.



"I move that the Board of Directors approves the action to issue an RFP, with the help from an independent industry expert, to lease OPA's Golf Course with an intent to have the results presented to the Board by July 1, 2019."

Letters

'Internet Act' good for small business

Editor,

I am writing to you because I want to protect our open Internet. Two years ago, the FCC under Ajit Pai repealed the Net Neutrality protections that make the internet an open and free platform to connect and exchange ideas. If we can't restore these protections, the internet as we know it could change forever.

Earlier this month, Congress

introduced the "Save the Internet Act," which will restore the open internet protections that were repealed by the FCC in 2017. Despite having the support of over 80 percent of Americans, many members of Congress are siding with Big Telecom to vote against this bill.

I hope our representatives in Congress vote in favor of this bill. Otherwise, we'll be forced to hold them accountable at the ballot box in 2020.

I have never wanted the ISPs to determine which web-

sites I can visit or at what speeds those websites will be available. Small town business cannot afford to bribe an ISP for faster service but they need us as customers to thrive in today's business.

Net Neutrality allowed them to enter business. Killing it will cause them to fold. The "Save The Internet Act" will help to protect these small businesses and the jobs they supply to our towns.

Kelly Allison
Ocean Pines

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EDITOR Stewart Dobson

MANAGING EDITOR Lisa Capitelli

ASSOCIATE EDITOR Josh Davis

STAFF WRITERS Greg Ellison, Morgan Pilz,

..... Rachel Ravina

ASSISTANT PUBLISHER Elaine Brady

ACCOUNT MANAGERS Mary Cooper, Shelby Shea

CLASSIFIEDS/LEGALS MANAGER Nancy Hawrylko

SENIOR DESIGNER Susan Parks

GRAPHIC ARTISTS Kelly Brown, Kyle Phillips

PUBLISHER Christine Brown

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT Gini Tufts

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Foal naming opportunities at auction

(April 11, 2019) Assateague Island Alliance, the Friends Group of Assateague Island National Seashore, will host a special Name that Foal Spring Fundraising auction.

Currently known as N2BHS-MR, this bay pinto filly was born Jan. 11 to the bay pinto mare N2BHS-M (Susi Sole). The most likely sire is the bay stallion N6ELS-H (Delegate's Pride).

All are among the Maryland herd of 76 horses living wild and free on the sands and shores of Assateague Island.

This wild filly currently lives with her birth band in the de-

veloped area of Assateague Island National Seashore.

Each year Assateague Island Alliance holds naming rights auctions to provide proper names for the newest additions to the Maryland herd of Assateague horses in an effort to financially support the Assateague Wild Horse Management program.

The auction benefits ongoing efforts shared between the partnering organizations to educate visitors of the detrimental impacts their behavior can cause to the horse population roaming wild and free on the island.

Bidding for the Name that Foal Naming Rights eBay auction will close Sunday April 14 at 7 p.m. ET (eBay seller AIA2009). The highest bidder during this 10-day fundraising auction will have the rare opportunity to name N2BHS-MR, a wild foal living on Assateague Island National Seashore (Maryland district).

Assateague Island Alliance, a 501(c)3 organization, is the official group to benefit Assateague Island National Seashore.

For more information, call 443-614-3547 or email outreachAIA@gmail.com.

Second Friday stroll reinvigorated

By Josh Davis
Associate Editor

(April 11, 2019) The first in a reinvigorated series of monthly 2nd Friday strolls will begin in downtown Berlin this week, from 5-8 p.m.

Following a well-attended merchant's meeting last month, many local business owners pledged to recommit to the event, which has seen dwindling participation in recent years.

The 2nd Friday stroll is sponsored and organized by the Berlin Arts and Entertainment Committee.

"I hope to see a bunch of locals, especially, but guests as well, out and about and enjoying themselves," committee Chairwoman Heather Layton said. "Shops are onboard with 2nd Friday and offering extended hours.

"It's no secret there's been quite a bit of negative banter on social media lately regarding the town, and I just hope people can kind of forget about it for the evening get out enjoy themselves and each other. Second Friday is really a community event and, at the end of the week, I just hope everybody takes advantage of the nice weather they're calling for, and gets out and

has a good time."

Scheduled offerings as of last week include:

- A 10th anniversary celebration at Atlantic Retreat on 29 Broad Street, unit 102A.
- Featured artists Alice Cataldi and Katrina Zimmerman, and tastings of Farmhouse California red wine at Baked Dessert Cafe on 4 Bay Street.
- Fresh bouquets and a full-service terrarium bar at Bleached Butterfly on 3 Pitts Street.
- Wine and refreshments, and 10 percent off storewide at Bruder Hill on 25 Commerce Street.
- A Burley Oak Brewing company beer tasting and 10 percent off storewide at Bruder Home on 18 North Main Street.
- An open studio at Caroline F. Downes Fine Jewelry on 16 North Main Street, upstairs.
- Spring and summer items will be available, as well as donations accepted for the Jesse Klump Foundation and Worcester GOLD Rainbow Fund at the Church Mouse Thrift Shop on 101 North Main Street.
- Beer, wine and snacks in a brand new shop at The Dusty Lamb on 12 William Street.
- Live Music by the Dead Pens

starting at 8 p.m., and a "Local's Favorite Show" in the upstairs gallery at The Globe on 12 Broad Street.

- Paint demonstration and sangria at 6 p.m. at HOUSE Berlin on 111 Artisan's Way.
- Wine, cheese and extended hours at Life's Simple Pleasures on 15 Gay Street.
- Refreshments and demonstrations of the Espresso Book Machine at Salt Water Media on 29 Broad Street, unit 104.
- Vinegar and oil tastings, and extended hours at Una Bella Salute on 14 Broad Street.
- An open studio and free octopus coloring pages at Wooden Octopus on 8 Jefferson Street.
- The "Photography and Digital Media" juried exhibit at the Worcester County Arts Council on 6 Jefferson Street.

Additionally, downtown restaurants, including the Atlantic Hotel, Blacksmith, Burley Café, Burley Inn Tavern, DiFebo's and Fins Ale House, will be open late.

For more information on the Berlin Arts and Entertainment Committee, visit www.artsinberlin.org or www.facebook.com/artsinberlinmd.

Wor. Arts Council to fund locally made work through grants

(April 11, 2019) The Worcester County Arts Council Grants Review Committee is seeking applicants for local art projects to be held in Worcester County between July 1, 2019 and Dec. 31, 2019.

Proposed projects must be sponsored or presented by a not-for-profit, tax-exempt organization and be open to the public. Grant amount requested must be matched one-for-one by organization funds.

Applications must be received no later than 2 p.m. on April 15, at the Arts Council's office located at 6 Jefferson Street in Berlin.

Application forms and guidelines are available on the Arts Council's website: www.worcestercountycouncil.org.

The Worcester County Arts Council's Community Arts Development Grants program is designed to assist local community based groups produce and present arts activities in Worcester County and is funded and supported by the Maryland State Arts Council.

Last fiscal year, the Worcester County Arts Council awarded grants in a total amount of \$35,000 to various local non-profit organizations.

For further information or assistance, call Anna Mullis, Executive Director at 410-641-0809 or e-mail anna@worcestercountycouncil.org.

Princess Royale Easter Sunday Brunch

Sunday, April 21st in the Palmetto Ballroom

Seating's 9am-1pm

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Business Briefs

Promotions

Coastal Hospice recently announced the promotion of several employees.

Susan Olischar has been promoted to vice president of finance. She is responsible for optimizing the financial performance of the organization, providing accurate and timely reporting, financial planning and forecasting, and managing cash flow to ensure that the organization meets its financial commitments.

She has worked for Coastal Hospice for 12 years. During her time with the agency, she has assembled a talented team in the finance department and demonstrated her dedication to the overall mission of the agency.

She received her bachelor's degree in accounting from Salisbury University and is a licensed CPA with over 20 years of experience.

Staff member Stacy Cottingham has been tapped as the new senior director of Strategic Initiatives. Cottingham has been with the agency for five years. She originally started as manager of Quality/Performance Improvement and Education.

Before joining Coastal Hospice, she was a case manager at a regional hospital and worked in management in both the cardiac and oncology departments.

During her time with Coastal Hospice, she has grown staff in their education and was tasked with ensuring all regulatory requirements were met.

Cottingham is a nurse with over 25 years of experience and is certified in hospice and palliative nursing. She has a doctorate in Organizational Leadership from UMES.

Bob Miller will now serve as the senior director of Business Development.

Miller has been with Coastal Hospice for over five years. He worked as a chaplain and in bereavement services.

Afterwards, Miller moved into provider relations as an associate and eventually managed the department. He has successfully established and strengthened relationships with the community through effective education and outreach of Coastal Hospice services and programs.

Miller has a successful entrepreneurial background and holds a master's degree from Eastern University and a B.A. from Lee University.

Lauren Blair was promoted to Provider Relations manager after having been with Coastal Hospice since last fall.

Prior to joining the Coastal Hospice team, Blair worked at Salisbury

See BUSINESS BRIEFS Page 23

Easter Sunday

Brunch

A Family Event

April 21st, 2019 • 10am-2pm

\$24.95 Per Person • \$13 for Children Ages 5-12

Children Under the Age of 5 FREE

Farm Fresh Eggs, Bacon
Homefries, Pasta, Seafood,
Peel & Eat Shrimp, Homemade
Salads & Fresh Baked Goods & More!

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Business Briefs

Continued from Page 22
Rehabilitation and Nursing Center for over nine years, where she most recently served as the Memory Support Program director.

She attended Salisbury University, where she received both a master's degree in Social Work as well as a bachelor of arts in Social Work.

She is a licensed master social worker in Maryland and a licensed clinical social worker in Delaware.

Founded in 1980, Coastal Hospice is a nonprofit health care organization that cares for individuals facing life-limiting conditions but who want to remain as active and engaged as possible. Coastal Hospice cares for patients in their home, nursing home, assisted living facility or at Coastal Hospice at the Lake.

The organization serves Wicomico, Worcester, Dorchester and Somerset counties.

Emeritus status

Four members of the Coastal Association of Realtors recently earned National Realtor Emeritus status.

Edie Brennan of Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices PenFed Realty in Ocean Pines, Bill Martin of ERA Martin & Associates in Salisbury, Bob Martin of Beach Real Estate in Berlin, and Linda Moran of Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices PenFed Realty in West Ocean City were approved as National Realtor Emeritus during the 2018 National Association of Realtors Annual Convention.

A Realtor is eligible for Emeritus status after holding membership in NAR and Coastal for a cumulative period of 40 years.

Emeritus members must also complete at least one year of volunteer service for an NAR committee. However, through 2019, the one-year service requirement may also be met through service at a local or state association.

Other Emeritus Realtor members of Coastal include Randall Bandler of Bandler Realty Corp in Ocean City, Lester Chandler of Coldwell Banker Residential on 64th Street in Ocean City, James "Bud" Church of Coldwell Banker/Bud Church Realty in Ocean City, Paul Faulstich of Century 21 New Horizon in Ocean City, Frederick Nicoll of Frederick Nicoll and Associates in Ocean City, Dean Richardson of Richardson Enterprises in Ocean City, Chuck Shorley of Shore-Lea Realty in Ocean City, and Michael Weisner of Weisner Real Estate in Salisbury.

For more information about CAR, visit www.coastalrealtors.org.

Earns designation

The Chesapeake Bay Landscape Professional program, announces that Suzanne Ketcham of Lower Shore Land Trust in Snow Hill, has

earned the Chesapeake Bay Landscape Professional designation.

The achievement of the CBLP Level 1 designation demonstrates an advanced level of professionalism and knowledge of sustainable landscaping practices for a healthier Chesapeake Bay.

Certification is voluntary and candidates must pass a comprehensive exam that assesses an individual's command of sustainable practices in the design, installation and maintenance of landscapes.

Advanced, Level 2 credentials are also available for highly experienced design (CBLP-D) and installation (CBLP-I) professionals.

CBLP-certified professionals have in-depth knowledge of sustainable landscape best practices and a focus on maintenance of stormwater best management practices.

As stewardship manager, Ketcham works to identify conservation and restoration projects that deliver water quality and wildlife habitat improvements.

Consumers are encouraged to ask for CBLP-certified individuals when selecting a landscaping company. For more information about becoming CBLP-certified or hiring a certified CBLP for sustainable landscaping services, visit www.cblpro.org.

Lower Shore Land Trust is a nationally accredited nonprofit land trust that is dedicated to preserving rural lands, promoting vibrant towns, and to building a healthier and more connected Eastern Shore. For more information, contact www.lower-shorelandtrust.org or 443-234-5587.

Bank honored

BauerFinancial, Inc., the Nation's Premier Bank Rating Firm, salutes 5-Star Taylor Bank, of Berlin, for its continued financial excellence.

Not only has Taylor Bank earned Bauer's highest (5-Star) rating for financial strength and stability, it has maintained that top rating for 115 consecutive quarters.

Earning a 5-Star rating indicates this bank excels in areas including, capital adequacy, profitability and asset quality.

Earning and maintaining this top rating continuously for over 25 years gives Taylor Bank the added status of being a "Best of Bauer Bank." This designation is reserved specifically for banks that have earned Bauer's highest rating consistently for 100 consecutive quarters, or longer.

Taylor Bank was established in 1890, and has been building personal relationships ever since. Taylor Bank operates through 11 conveniently located offices in all three states and can also be found online at taylorbank.com.

Happy Easter!

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8 A.M.-1 P.M. • \$9.99

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(2 Pc. Fried Chicken, Chicken Salad & 3 Oysters)

Yankee Pot Roast w/1 Side \$11.99

Fried Seafood Combo w/2 Sides \$20.99
(3 Shrimp, Clam Strips & 1 Crab Cake)

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Dinner Buffet

4:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Easter Egg Hunts

11:00am & 1:00pm

The Easter Bunny will be making an appearance during the hunts!

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\$12.95 Children 5-12
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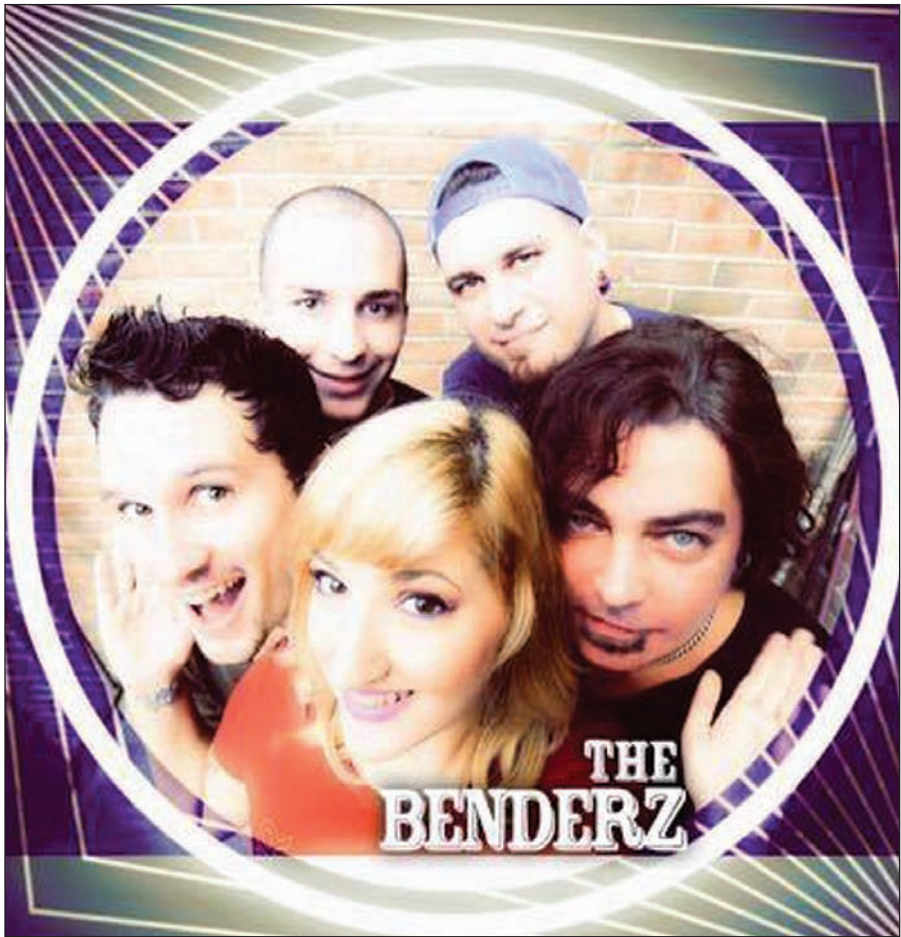
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TRANZFUSION
BJ's On The Water: Friday, 9 p.m.

BJ'S ON THE WATER

75th Street and the bay
Ocean City
410-524-7575
www.bjsonthewater.com
April 12: Tranzfusion, 9 pm.
April 13: Chest Pains, 9 p.m.
April 17: 2 Guyz & A Mama, 6 p.m.

BOURBON STREET ON THE BEACH

116th Street, behind Foutain Head Towers Condominium
Ocean City
443-664-2896
www.bourbonstreetonthebeach.com
April 12: Dave Sherman, 7-11 p.m.
April 13: Randy Lee Ashcraft, 7-11 p.m.
April 14: Bob Hughes, 6 p.m.

April 17: Reform School, 6 p.m.;
Open Mic, 9 p.m.
April 18: Chris Button, 7-10 p.m.

CAPTAIN'S TABLE

15th St. & Baltimore Ave.
Ocean City
410-289-7192
www.captainstableoc.com
Every Friday & Saturday: Phil Perdue,
5:30 p.m.

DUFFY'S TAVERN

130th Street in the Montego Bay Shopping Center
410-250-1449
www.duffysoc.com
April 12: Bob Hughes, 5-8 p.m.
April 13: Karaoke w/DJ Chuck D,



PHILL PURDUE
Captain's Table: Friday & Saturday, 5:30 p.m.

8 p.m. to midnight

HARBORSIDE BAR & GRILL

12841 S. Harbor Road
West Ocean City
410-213-1846
www.ocharborside.com
April 12: DJ Billy T, 4 p.m. to 2 a.m.
April 13: DJ Billy T, all day;
DJ Jeremy, 9 p.m. to 2 a.m.
April 14: Opposite Directions, 2-6 p.m.; DJ Billy T, 4 p.m. to 2 a.m.
April 18: Dust N' Bones, 6 p.m.

HOOTERS

12513 Ocean Gateway
West Ocean City
410-213-1841
www.hootersofoc.com
April 12: DJ BK, 4 p.m.
April 13: Classic Vibe, 4 p.m.
April 14: Blake Haley, 3 p.m.

JOHNNY'S PIZZA & PUB

56th Street, bayside
Ocean City
410-723-5600
www.johnnyspizzapub.com
April 12: Kevin Compher,
7:30-10:30 p.m.
April 13: Kevin Poole, 8 p.m.
April 17: Randy Lee Ashcraft, 6 p.m.

OCEAN CLUB NIGHTCLUB

In the Horizons Restaurant
In the Clarion Fontainebleau Hotel
101st Street and the ocean
Ocean City
410-524-3535
www.clarionoc.com
Every Friday and Saturday: DJ Dusty,
9 p.m. to 2 a.m.
April 12-13: New Censation, 9:30 p.m. to 2 a.m.

PICKLES

706 Philadelphia Ave.
Ocean City
410-289-4891
www.picklesoc.com
April 12: Beats By Jeremy, 10 p.m.

April 13: Feel Free, 10 p.m.
April 15: Beats by Jeremy, 9 p.m.
April 18: Beats by Wax, 9 p.m.

PURPLE MOOSE SALOON

108 S. Atlantic Ave.
Ocean City
410-289-6953
www.purplemoosesaloon.com
April 12: Slamm, 10 p.m.
April 13: CK the VJ/DJ, 2 p.m.;
Slamm, 10 p.m.

SEACRETS

49th Street and the bay
Ocean City
410-524-4900
www.seacrets.com
April 12: Opposite Directions, 5-9 p.m.; DJ Tuff, 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.; Lima Bean Riot, 10 p.m. to 1:50 a.m.
April 13: Whiskeyhickon Boys, 5-9 p.m.; DJ Bobby-O, 6 p.m. to 1:50 a.m.; Nowhere Slow, 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.; DJ Cruz, 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.; The Benderz, 10 p.m. to 1:50 a.m.
April 18: Opposite Directions, 5-9 p.m.

SKYE RAW BAR & GRILLE

66th Street, bayside
Ocean City
410-723-6762
www.skyebaroc.com
April 12: Marcella Peters, 4-8 p.m.
April 13: Anniversary Party w/Bryan O'Boyle (formerly of Mr. Greengenes), 4-8 p.m.

TRADER LEE'S LIVE

9935 Stephen Decatur Highway
West Ocean City
443-614-4119
April 14: Sunday Jam Sess, 7 p.m.
April 17: Open Mic Night, 7 p.m.

WHISKER'S BAR & GRILL

11070 Cathell Road, Suite 17
Pines Plaza, Ocean Pines
410-208-3922
www.whiskersbar.com
April 12: Karaoke w/Donnie Berkey

Youth basketball league coming to Berlin

By Josh Davis
Associate Editor

(April 11, 2019) A youth basketball summer league is coming to Dr. William Henry Park in Berlin on Saturdays from June 8 until July 27.

For eight weeks, play will run from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. at the park on 123 Flower Street.

The league is part of a growing number of Berlin recreation offerings thanks to an improved partnership between the town and Worcester County Department of Recreation and Parks.

Myro Small, recreation and parks program manager, told the Berlin Parks Commission last Wednesday the league would be for grades 4-12. He said county staff would run the program, with some assistance from local youth volunteers.

The charge will be \$35 per child, which covers all eight weeks, but financial aid could knock the cost down to just \$14, Small said.

“That will be a big help for the kids in that area,” he said, adding the recreation and parks has a 501(c)(3) nonprofit that helps with financial aid.

“It’s a worthy cause and we want to get those kids on the basketball court,” commission members Patricia Dufendach said.

Berlin Administrative Services Di-

rector Mary Bohlen, staff liaison to the committee, pointed to the recent announcement of drop-in tennis programs at Stephen Decatur Park as a sign the town and county were working well together.

“It’s so great that we’re going to be getting some programs in both parks,” she said.

Small said his department had been tight-lipped about plans up until now, adding, “we’re starting to get a little buzz” going.

“Tom Perlozzo, who is our new director, [has] got a lot of fresh ideas,” he said. “We’ll be implementing some new things throughout the county.”

The parks commission voted unanimously to support the program, which also earned an endorsement from the Town Council on Monday.

Signup for the youth basketball summer league can be done online, by mail, or in person. To register online, visit [www.WorcesterRecand-](http://www.WorcesterRecand-Parks.org)

Parks.org.
For more information, contact Small at 410-632-2144 ext. 2512, or email msmall@co.worcester.md.us.



JOSH DAVIS/BAYSIDE GAZETTE
Berlin Parks Commission Chairman Mike Wiley, left, and Myro Small of Worcester County Department of Recreation and Parks talk over the details of a new youth basketball league during public meeting, last Tuesday.

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Snapshots



PHOTO COURTESY D.J. LANDIS, SR.

KEY CLUB BREAKFAST

The Stephen Decatur High School Key Club, a Kiwanis Student Leadership Club for high schools, served guests during the organization's pancake breakfast on Feb. 23. Pictured, from left, are Kiwanis Club's liaison to the Key Club, Roy Foreman, and Key Club members PJ Venezia, Aly Braciszewski, Gabrielle Izzett, President Zehra Mirza, Skylar Cook, Kylie Sens and Hailey Bowden.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

EDUCATION FOUNDATION CHECK

i.g. Burton of Berlin recently presented a check for \$2,500 to the Worcester County Education Foundation, established in August 2013 as a 501(c)3 nonprofit proactive partnership between the community and the public school system linking community resources with the educational needs of its students to prepare them to succeed. Pictured are Pete Renzi, Wayne Weir, MJ Lofland all of i.g. Burton; Steve Price, assistant superintendent of safety and WCEF board member; Charles Burton, owner of i.g. Burton; Worcester County Public Schools Superintendent Lou Taylor; and Ray Thompson, Worcester County Education Foundation chair.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

PET FOOD DRIVE

The Stephen Decatur High School Kids Against Animal Abuse and Testing (KAAAT) club sponsored its annual pet food drive benefitting animals at the Worcester County Humane Society and Kenille's Kupboard and collected over 600 pounds of pet food. Pictured are Hanna Beck, Julissa Astudillo-Cuevas, Seth Zamm, Nicole Kornetti and Nate Bradford.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

KINDNESS CLUB DONATION

Berlin Intermediate School fifth grade Girl's Kindness Club recently adopted Isabella Candeloro, a fourth grade student's father, Frank, of the U.S. Air Force and his platoon. The group collected a variety of items such as Fisher's Popcorn, cookies, trail mix and playing cards, made cards for the platoon and mailed them to Kuwait, Ali Ai Salem Air Base where they are currently stationed. Pictured, in front, are Emma Walsh, Candeloro, Lexi Ruppel and Ellie Cheynet, and in back, Megan Kiser, Gigi Sallah, Madison Donaway, Aubrey Cooper and Michelle Bankert, school counselor.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

HUMMINGBIRD PRESENTATION

Maureen Kennedy, of "My Backyard" in Ocean Pines, left, gave a presentation on attracting hummingbirds at the March 14 meeting of the Ocean Pines Garden Club. The OPGC's next gathering will be at the club's Arbor Day Memorial Tree Planting Ceremony on April 11 in Pintail Park in Ocean Pines at 10:30 a.m. She is pictured with OPGC President Linda Baker.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

CAST OF 'ANNIE'

Intermediate students at Most Blessed Sacrament Catholic School performed "Annie, Jr.," March 21 and March 24-25.

Puzzles

HELP!
BY PETER A. COLLINS / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

Peter A. Collins is the chairman of the math department at Huron High School, in Ann Arbor, Mich., where he has been teaching for 39 years. He has been creating crosswords for The Times since 2006. This is his 108th. When he can, Peter likes to incorporate some of the black squares into his puzzle themes, as he ingeniously does here. - W.S.

ACROSS

1 It might end up in a sack

9 E neighbor

15 Nada

20 Robots

21 "Not exactly, but close ..."

22 Filmmaker Coen

23 Checkout devices

24 Tired tale

26 Seriously annoy

27 Roll out, as a flag

29 Stuff in a muffin, say?

30 Neighbor of Okla.

31 Exciting, in modern lingo

32 Rock, maybe

36 Danson's "Cheers" role

38 End of some hybrid dog breed names

39 N.Y.C. dance company

40 Hounds

42 Tidbits for aardvarks

43 Bearded beast

44 They go with potatoes in soup

46 Sting operator

49 Regarding

51 Vitamin stat

52 Hosts, in brief

55 Italian cheese

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

59 Peel place

61 Out at a library, say

63 "Yeah, why not"

64 Cyrus who sang the 2013 No. 1 hit "Wrecking Ball"

66 Once did

67 States, informally

68 Be prone

69 Radiated

70 Leafy salad ingredient

72 Didn't delay

74 Inexperienced

75 Fool

76 Something frequently found in pink lipstick

77 Pupil's location

78 Stabilizes with a heavy load

81 Lump in the throat

82 Geologic period

83 Get upset over

84 Lincoln-to-Madison dir.

85 Sunrise direction, in Stuttgart

87 River in a 1914 battle

90 Skim

92 Not a science, but _____

94 & 95 What often seems to disappear in a dryer

98 N.C. military installation

102 "____ Trois Mousquetaires"

103 Big do

104 Appealed to a higher authority?

107 Religious time in spring

109 Critical message that's a hint to the six longest entries in this puzzle

110 Circular components?

111 Cave dweller

113 Caruso and Pavarotti

114 It makes for a boring job

115 1973 Beach Boys song

119 "Three Stooges" insult

123 Sal of "Rebel Without a Cause"

124 Course of action

125 Stretched tight

126 Caribbean game fish

127 Changes back to 0000

128 Swollen

DOWN

1 Ballet step

2 They have lots for sale

3 Not exactly hit the ground running

4 PlayStation company

5 L.B.J. follower

6 Home of the Burj Khalifa; Abbr.

7 Showed 'em what we've got

8 "It _____ hit me yet"

9 State of abandonment

10 Traffic troubles

11 Where the phrase "To thine own self be true" comes from

12 What shocked people stand in

13 Raja _____, Indian author of "The Serpent and the Rope"

14 Ernie _____, Pulitzer-winning journalist of W.W. II

15 Keebler cracker brand

16 Member of TV's Addams Family

17 Something scientists make light of?

18 Rear

19 Some cameo stones

25 Obstacle for a fish

28 Dandies

31 Tour grp.

32 Bro

33 Cab alternative

34 Common Market org.

35 Starting point in logic

37 Swimmers' assignments

41 Slippery vendor

45 The Wildcats of the N.C.A.A.

47 Jason with the 2008 hit "I'm Yours"

48 Poet Lowell

50 Store window sign

52 Dress seller

53 Take root

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20								21						22				
23								24						25				
	26						27		28				29				30	
31				32	33						34	35		36		37		
38				39				40					41			42		
43				44			45				46			47	48			
49			50		51			52	53	54		55				56	57	58
		59		60		61	62					63						
64	65					66						67				68		
69						70					71			72	73			
74					75			76						77				
78			79	80				81						82				
83								84			85		86		87		88	89
			90				91			92				93		94		
95	96	97				98		99	100	101			102				103	
104				105	106		107					108					109	
110				111			112			113						114		
115			116				117	118					119	120	121			122
123						124						125						
126						127						128						

54 Sweet summer treat

56 1978 Dire Straits hit

57 The Ram

58 Doesn't just want

60 Word said in passing?

62 Headed up

64 "Morning Joe" aier

65 Rumor starter

71 Timecard abbr.

72 Prized pitcher

73 Please too much

75 "Unto us _____ is given"

79 Like a string bean

80 Blood-typing letters

86 Word with bay or family

88 Course registrant

89 Cars that disappeared during the Depression

91 "Don't know yet," on a schedule

92 Prefix with industry

93 Bit of shaming

95 Involuntary actions

96 Make official

97 House of cards?

99 "Wheel of Fortune" sextet

100 Eschewed home cooking

101 Mystery and romance, for two

105 Download for a tablet

106 Skilled judoist

108 Draft

112 Nicholas II was the last one

114 Big name in laptops

116 The Lion

117 "____, Imperator!"

118 "-y" pluralizer

120 Irk

121 W.W. II arena: Abbr.

122 Baseball Hall-of-Famer Roush

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HARD - 4

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

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

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

MAUDE	ONICE	CHITS	OAR
ELSOL	KASHA	HANOI	BRO
SLUNK	SNEER	ASPIRATES	
MEATS	SAUCE	GOSPEL	TUNE
ELLS	PRY	TAPE	RESTSON
RESHAP	CASTRO	STREET	
ORO	LOOM	HOBOS	
SCRUBS	SUITS	KRONA	TADA
TOAT	IVES	TIA	GRET
IMP	STUD	CONVOY	ADLAI
LPS	TELEV	ANGELISM	ALE
LOTTA	ARENAS	DEPP	NIN
UTAHNS	EEL	OILY	UTNE
PERI	AWARD	FREDS	SAVAGE
	SACHS	RAGS	TUB
PAID	RESPECTS	FOGLAMP	
LETS	DIE	ALAS	ERR
OREL			
ELHI	FLY	ROD	GRAY
SCALE			
PORT	WINE	S	ONLAY
AKRON			
ESO	ACUTE	MOOSE	LEANT
RIB	FETID	EBBED	ARTSY

Cuisine

The old microwaving the steak bit, huh?

I wake up starving. My stomach is grumbling as I stir in this comfortable bed in Atlantic City. Here for a food show, I think about the money I won on the blackjack table last night and then immediately my mind goes to dinner.



By Paul Suplee,
MBA, CEC, PC-3

Oh, dinner. Oh, you comedy of errors.

For the first time in many years, I asked for the manager and flat-out refused to pay for an ounce of food that was on our plate. As we stared down at our two steaks delivered at 12:30 a.m. at the casino's eponymous café (known for celebrating loud and raucous music), I could not believe that they would even serve them.

But let's back up to pre-dinner. After freshening up, we went to the lobby to get a drink. One round was \$36, so we decided to forego that activity and get a bite to eat. Three employees told us that nowhere was open, except for the burger joint on the second floor. After checking Yelp, we indeed found a restaurant that was open until 1 a.m. It was the hotel's flagship restaurant ... in their own casino. One security guard even looked at us when we asked and said, "Go walk to the back corner of the hotel and see if they're open." If only the man had a radio on his hip. Wait a minute; he did.

Now, understand that you will rarely, and I mean rarely see or hear me complain about food. However, my day looked something like this: Kick-off was at 6:00 a.m. I taught most of the day, set up the kitchen at my restaurant (my sous chef is in Greece for two weeks), worked until 7:45 p.m. and then drove three hours to Atlantic City. My schedule allows for little wiggle room these days, and I sunk into the booth, melting as I waited for dinner to come. Finally, I could relax.

As soon as the steaks were set on the table, my heart broke. I was crushed, knowing that this poor cow has given its life quite unwittingly for nothing. The grill marks were barely visible and these morsels were grey and steaming. They looked unappetizing, and I knew exactly why.

As I stared down at \$60, I knew what the line had done. They were irritated with their late guests, I guess. And this is precisely why they microwaved our "medium-rare" steaks. I cut into mine and a poof of steam reminiscent of a nuclear mushroom cloud bellowed from my well-done chunk of flesh; the steak literally curled when I cut it.

I wasted no time. I haven't gotten away since July 2018 and I was relaxed until this point, but a manager was needed. He was apologetic and certainly could not deny that the steaks were grossly mishandled. I know, maybe I'm taking this too far, but after 18 hours running, it hit me the wrong way.

Not one to let it ruin the evening, or at this point morning, I spent about 40 minutes playing blackjack. I finished ahead; we had the aforementioned burger, and went to bed.

The moment I woke up, I flashed back to seeing a billboard for Carmine's, that magnificent New York Italian eatery, upon entering Atlantic City. I



at once recalled the chicken piccata I ate at Carmine's in The Atlantis in the Bahamas. And now I'm starving. At least I know what I'm eating for lunch.

Chicken Piccata

serves 4

- 1.5 pound Boneless chicken breast, skin removed
- 1 Tbsp. Brown butter (recipe follows)
- 1 Tbsp. EV Olive oil
- 1/4 cup AP Flour, sifted
- 1 Tbsp. Trimix (recipe follows)
- 2 cups Fresh chicken stock
- Juice of 1 lemon
- 1 more lemon, cut into slices and seeded
- 1/2 bunch Italian parsley, minced
- 1/4 cup Capers, drained of their juice
- 1. Carefully cut the chicken into scaloppini
- 2. Pound them carefully, ensuring that you do not rip through them
- 3. Heat a sauté pan and add butter and the olive oil until hot, but not smoking
- 4. Combine the flour and trimix in a plate, and dredge the chicken breasts
- 5. Add the breasts to the oil mixture and sauté, flipping until they are cooked through, browned but not burned anywhere on the chicken. Adjust the heat accordingly
- 6. When the chicken is cooked, remove from the pan
- 7. Add the lemon juice and slices and cook for 15 seconds to deglaze the pan
- 8. Add the chicken stock, parsley and capers and

combine well

9. Divide among four plates and serve with sautéed asparagus, broccoli rabe, or your choice of refreshing greens

Brown Butter

makes about 1.5 cups

- 1 pound Unsalted butter
- 1. Melt the butter in a saucepan over a low heat until liquefied
- 2. As the butter melts, skim the foam off of the top
- 3. As the water cooks out of the bottom layer, it will start to darken. This is what you want
- 4. Allow this to cook until the butter starts to brown and develops a nutty, brown essence
- 5. Remove and strain through cheesecloth to remove any particulates
- 6. Refrigerate if not needed immediately, or use if you are ready to go

Trimix

- 1 part Kosher salt
- 1 part Ground black pepper
- 1 part Granulated garlic
- 1. Combine well and set aside until needed. Keep this on hand, and use it in most instances where you would use salt and pepper

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

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., April 11

NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK

Ocean City library, 10003 Coastal Highway. Special crafts, activities and prizes all week, April 7-12. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

AARP MEETING

Ocean City Senior Center, 104 41st St., 10:00 AM. Social time is at 9:30 a.m. The guest speaker will discuss good kidney health. An optional luncheon will follow at a local restaurant. New members welcome. Bob McCluskey, 410-250-0980

HOMEMADE DOG TREATS

Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 10:00 AM. Learn how to make some simple dog treats. Register: 410-208-4014. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

ANNUAL ARBOR DAY MEMORIAL TREE PLANTING CEREMONY

Pintail Park, Ocean Parkway near Pintail Drive, 10:30 AM. The ceremony is open to all. A tree will be planted in memory of loved ones who passed away during 2018. The ceremony includes a bagpipe musician, chorus, poems, proclamations and the tolling off a bell as each loved one's name is recited and soil placed around the memorial tree being planted. A luncheon at The Ocean Pines Yacht Club will follow at 11:30 a.m. The cost of the luncheon is \$22. Cost includes dessert, iced tea, coffee, tax and gratuity. Info: Ann Shockley, 410-641-5295 or rerann@gmail.com.

STEAM STORY TIME 'KINDNESS CRAFTS'

Snow Hill library, 307 N. Washington St., 10:30 AM. Stories and crafts for young children. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

STORY TIME 'EASTER'

Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 10:30 AM. Enjoy stories, movement, songs and crafts. For ages 2-5 years. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

O.C. WRITERS' GROUP

Ocean City library, 10003 Coastal Highway, 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM. Participants share their works and receive encouraging constructive feedback. Come in with something you're working on or participate in the suggested writing prompts and creative exercises. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

FRIENDS OF THE BERLIN LIBRARY GENERAL MEETING

Berlin library, 13 Harrison Ave., 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM. Meeting will include business and library information. Alice Paterra will talk on the history of libraries in America and about the new Berlin library. Snacks served. Everyone is welcome.

'HOPE IN BLOOM' BREAST HEALTH EVENT

Residence Inn by Marriott, 300 Seabay Lane, 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM. Featuring a free breast health dinner and discussion addressing early detection, treatment and survivorship with area experts and survivors. Vendors available from 5-6 p.m. Dinner at 6 p.m. Registration is required: www.agh.care/hope or 410-629-6820.

RESTORE VOLUNTEER RECRUITMENT NIGHT

ReStore, 9026 Worcester Highway, 5:30 PM. Typical volunteer ReStore duties include creating decorative displays, customer service, cashiering, stocking shelves, furniture up cycling, pricing and inventory, merchandising, donation pickups and greeting customers. The store is open Wednesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Info: www.habitatworcester.org/ReStore or volunteer @habitat-worcester.org.

BEACH SINGLES

Thursdays - Ropewalk Restaurant, 8203 Coastal Highway, 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM. Beach Singles 45-Plus meets for happy hour. Info: Arlene, 302-436-9577 or Kate, 410-524-0649. [BeachSingles.org](http://www.BeachSingles.org), <http://www.BeachSingles.org>

GRIEF SUPPORT

Thursdays - Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 11:00 AM. 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., April 12

FISH FRY

Bowen United Methodist Church, 8421 Newark Road, 4:30 PM - 7:00 PM. Patrons cost \$10 and include flounder filet, macaroni and cheese, green beans, corn bread and dessert. Beverage is included for those who eat in.

NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK

Ocean City library, 10003 Coastal Highway. Special crafts, activities and prizes all week, April 7-12. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

POTTERS HOUSE CHARGE

New Bethel United Methodist Church, 10203 Germantown Road, 9:00 AM. Food pantry give-away. Info: Cassandra Brown, 443-235-0889. Early registration: 410-641-2058 and leave message.

FIBER FRIENDS

Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 10:00 AM. Bring your lap work and join this informal get-togethers. Knitters, crocheters, embroiderers, etc. are welcome. Victoria Christie-Healy, moonlightknitting@gmail.com, 703-507-0708,

<http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

IPAD CHICKS

Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 10:00 AM. Explore the world of iPads while learning from each other. Register: Norma Kessler, 410-641-7017. Men are welcome. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

HOMESCHOOL CODING

Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 2:00 PM. Homeschool students off all ages are welcome. Register: 410-208-4014. Students who cannot read will need help from a caregiver. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

OCEAN PINES BOOK OF THE MONTH

Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 2:00 PM. Discussion on "When I'm Gone" by Emily Bleeker. Copies of books are available in advance at the library. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

OYSTER FRITTER SANDWICH

American Legion Berlin Post #123, 10111 Old Ocean City Blvd., 3:00 PM. Selling oyster fritter sandwiches for \$9. The public is welcome.

MARYLAND CRAB CAKE DINNER

Stevenson United Methodist Church, 123 N. Main St., 4:00 PM - 6:30 PM. Cost is \$12 for Maryland crab cake sandwich, green beans, baked potato and cole slaw or \$8 for a crab cake sandwich. Carryouts and bake sale table available.

2ND FRIDAY ART STROLL

Downtown Berlin, 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM. Featuring local artists, live music and most downtown shops will be open late. Contact the Berlin Welcome Center for an updated 2nd Friday map and list of events, 410-973-2051.

ART EXHIBIT OPENING RECEPTION

Worcester County Arts Council, 6 Jefferson St., 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM. Featuring a juried exhibit focusing on photography and digital media. Entries were submitted by professional and amateur artists. Monetary awards will be announced at 5:30 p.m. There will also be artwork by 25 local artists on display. Complimentary refreshments will be offered. Free and open to the public.

FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT "HOP" (2011)

Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 6:00 PM. Watch the movie and enjoy some snacks. Register: 410-208-4014. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

Sat., April 13

KOMEN MORE THAN PINK WALK

Inlet Lot and Boardwalk, 809 S. Atlantic Ave. The Celebration Village opens at 7:30 a.m., the Survivor Parade begins at

8:20 a.m. followed by the opening ceremonies at 8:30 a.m. The walk begins at 9 a.m. There is a \$20 registration fee. All survivors and walkers who have raised \$100 for more, will receive a complimentary T-shirt. All participants will receive a surprise gift to use during the opening ceremonies. 410-289-2800, http://www.info-komen.org/site/TR?fr_id=7506&pg=entry

BREAKFAST WITH THE EASTER BUNNY

Ocean Pines Community Center, 239 Ocean Parkway, 8:00 AM - 11:00 AM. Enjoy a special breakfast with the Easter Bunny, who will be available for pictures for an additional \$5. The menu will include pancakes, sausage, scrambled eggs, assorted fruit, pastries, milk, coffee and orange juice. Cost is \$7 for adults, \$5 for children ages 4-11 years and free to those 3 and younger. <http://www.oceanpines.org>

DEMOCRATIC CENTRAL COMMITTEE MONTHLY MEETING

Snow Hill library, 307 N. Washington St., 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM. Interested persons are encouraged to attend. 410-213-1956

FREE TAX PREPARATION

Ocean City Senior Center, 104 41st St., 9:30 AM - 3:00 PM. Call for an appointment: 443-373-2667. The service is open to all ages and non AARP members.

2ND ANNUAL TRASH FREE ASSATEAGUE EARTH MONTH CLEANUP

The program is focused on the North Point of Assateague Island, which is adjacent to the south side of Ocean City inlet, 9:30 AM - 1:00 PM. This event is only accessible by boat. Assateague Coastal Trust will shuttle several groups of four aboard the Coastkeeper boat, but you must register ahead of time at www.classy.org/event/2nd-annual-tfa-earth-month-cleanup-and-program/e226570. Those able to attend with their water vehicles are encouraged to meet at the back side of the island. A post event party will take place in the Taco Shop at Mother's Cantina. billy@actforbays.org

GLAMOUR DAY

Worcester County Recreation Center, 6030 Public Landing Road, 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM. Hair stylists, makeup artists and manicurists from Delaware Learning Institute of Cosmetology will provide services to students in grades pre-K through 6th grade. Families should register online at www.worcesterrecand-parks.org to reserve desired appointment times. Participants will have their picture taken with props included. A parent or guardian must accompany each child. Drinks and snacks provided. Trudy Porch or Kelly Buchanan, 410-632-2144

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Calendar

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PILLOWCASE DRESS PARTY
Berlin library, 13 Harrison Ave., 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM. Learn to make dresses for children out of pillowcases to be sent to developing countries. Pillowcases and sewing machines provided. Register: 410-641-0650. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

EASTER EGG HUNT
Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM. Crafts, games, Easter eggs, easter candy and an opportunity to meet, Sneaks, the Maryland Public Library mascot. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT CHICKEN AND DUMPLING DINNER
Bishopville Volunteer Fire Department, 10709 Bishopville Road, 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM. Menu includes chicken, hand rolled dumplings, coleslaw, green beans, sweet potatoes, water, tea and coffee. Soda, bottled water and desserts will be sold separately. Cost is \$12 for adults and \$6 for children 10 and younger. Eat in or carry out. 443-880-6966

Sun., April 14

ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT SPAGHETTI DINNER
Shenanigan’s, Fourth Street and Boardwalk, 4:00 PM - 7:30 PM. Cost is \$15 for adults and \$5 for children 8 year and younger and includes spaghetti, salad, bread, beverage and dessert. Cash bar available. There will be a pasta making demonstration and tasting as well as a silent auction. Proceeds benefit the Ocean City Downtown Association in honor of James Sapia. ocdowntownassociation@verizon.net

TENEBRAE SERVICE
St. John Neumann Roman Catholic Church, 11211 Beauchamp Road, 5:00 PM - 6:00 PM. The service will present periods of meditation and music to commemorate Christ’s suffering from the Last Supper to the Crucifixion. After each period a candle will be extinguished. The church is left in near total darkness while attendees depart in contemplative silence. There is no fee to attend but a free will offering will be accepted at the door.

Mon., April 15

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

GREAT BOOKS DISCUSSION
Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 2:30 PM. The group meets twice a month to discuss reading selections recommended by the Great Books Foundation. Lisa Harrison, 410-632-3970,

<http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

FREE TAX PREPARATION
Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM. Call for an appointment: 443-373-2667. The service is open to all ages and non AARP members.

DEMOCRATIC WOMEN’S CLUB MEETING
Ocean Pines Community Center, 239 Ocean Parkway, 10:00 AM. Coffee served at 9:30 a.m. Food donations for local food banks are encouraged.

MOTHER GOOSE ON THE LOOSE
Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 10:30 AM. A 30-minute interactive session that uses rhymes, songs, puppets, musical instruments and more to stimulate the learning process of babies and toddlers. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

LAP TIME
Snow Hill library, 307 N. Washington St., 10:30 AM and 2:00 PM. Children, under 2 years old, will be introduced to songs, stories, games and finger plays. <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

BREAD BAKING
Snow Hill library, 307 N. Washington St., 5:00 PM. Learn to make bread like grandma used to make while saving money. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

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., April 16

FREE ADVANCE HEALTHCARE DIRECTIVE PROGRAM
Berlin Nursing & Rehabilitation Center, 9715 Healthway Drive, 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM. Free program to highlight the importance of advance healthcare decision-making. Free information and assistance in preparing advance healthcare directive forms available. Appointments: 410-641-4400.

STORY TIME ‘BEING A GOOD NEIGHBOR’
Berlin library, 13 Harrison Ave., 10:30 AM. For 2 to 5 year old children. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

GENEALOGY WORKSHOP
Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 1:00 PM. Tom Dempsey will guide participants through the world of family research and give tips on how to find that long-lost ancestor. Register: 410-208-4014. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

UNDESTANDING MEDICARE
Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 1:00 PM. A representative from Atlantic General Hospital’s Patient Financial Services will help participants better understand the ins and outs of Medicare. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

PINE NEEDLE BASKETS
Ocean City library, 10003 Coastal Highway, 2:00 PM. Learn to make pine needle baskets from Native American artist Dawn Manyfeathers. Register: 410-524-1818. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

COLOR ME CALM
Berlin library, 13 Harrison Ave., 2:00 PM. Monthly adults coloring session. Explore a variety of patterns. Bring your own coloring pages or use the library’s. Colored pencils, gel pens and felt tips available, along with coffee and cookies. <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 and Cubetto. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

TED TALK ‘STAND UP TO BULLYING’
Ocean City library, 10003 Coastal Highway, 5:30 PM - 7:00 PM. Continuing the theme of civility, this hour investigates different experience with bullying. Come by and listen to these stories and participate in discussing them. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

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., April 17

WITTY KNITTERS
Berlin library, 13 Harrison Ave., 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM. Knitters, crochet enthusiasts and needle artists of all skill levels are encouraged to join this casual morning of sharing. Work on your favorite patterns and exchange ideas. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

MARYLAND VA REPRESENTATIVE
Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM. Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs representative Michelle Licata offers outreach services to veterans and their families on the third Wednesday of each month. No appointment necessary. 410-713-3482, <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

PLAY TIME
Ocean City library, 10003 Coastal Highway, 10:30 AM. Children learn the meaning of words, how to express themselves and other early literacy skills by playing with educational toys. For infant to 5 year old children. <http://www.worcesterli->

[brary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

BREAST CANCER SUPPORT GROUP
John H. ‘Jack’ Burbage Jr. Regional Cancer Care Center Conference Room, 9707 Healthway Drive, 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM. Women Supporting Women/AGH Support group for women and men who are battling breast cancer (current patients and survivors). Lunch is provided. RSVP: 410-548-7880.

HOMEMADE SUGAR SCRUBS
Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 2:00 PM. Learn how to make some simple sugar scrubs. Register: 410-208-4014. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

TEACH YOURSELF CALLIGRAPHY
Snow Hill library, 307 N. Washington St., 3:00 PM. The library will provide materials, instructions and books about calligraphy. Suitable for teens and adults. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

KIWANIS CLUB OF GREATER OP/OC
Wednesdays - Ocean Pines Community Center, 235 Ocean Parkway, 8:00 AM. Doors open at 7 a.m., meeting begins at 8 a.m. 410-641-7330, <http://www.kiwanisofopoc.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@delmarvahanddancing.com, 410-208-1151, <http://delmarvahanddancing.com>

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

ONGOING EVENTS

ITALIAN BUFFET FUNDRAISER
Ocean Pines Chapter AK of P.E.O. will hold an Italian Buffet Fundraiser on May 15 from 5:30-8:30 p.m. at the Ocean Pines Yacht Club. The cost is \$40 with proceeds benefiting educational projects for women. There wil also be a silent auction, gift baskets, mystery wines and gift card boxes. Attendees must respond by May 4. Checks should be made payable to PEO, Chapter AK and mailed to Marian Bickerstaff, 29 Wood Duck Drive, Ocean Pines, MD 21811. Info: 410-201-2508.

14TH ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT
The First State Detachment golf tournament will be held June 6 at the Ocean City Golf Club, Newport Bay Course. Deadline for signing up is May 31. The cost is \$90 per player and is tax deductible. Fee includes greens fees with cart, range balls, beverages, lunch and many giveaways. Men’s, lady’s and mixed teams welcome. . Info: John Lowery, 410-206-1551 or Jack Watson, 302-436-8733. www.firststatemarines.org

CALL

410-723-6397

BY MONDAY

5 P.M.



MARKETPLACE

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

HELP WANTED



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Must work Saturdays.
Contact 410-641-7717 or email rmeyer@oceanpines.org

HELP WANTED



SEASONAL POOL TECHNICIAN
for the Pool Management Division for the 2019 summer season. CPO not required. Must have a good driving record. May 1 - Labor Day. *Can train.*
POOL ATTENDANTS *No certification required.*
LIFEGUARDS *Certification required.*
for community pools in the Bethany Beach and Long Neck areas. Must be self-motivated & responsible, with good communication skills. FT and PT opportunities available. Excellent salary & pleasant work environment.
Email resume to: Jodi@wilgusassociates.com

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Property Management Assistant Needed
We have a busy rental department. We are looking for someone to assist in organizing maintenance calls, dispatching vendors, and helping in the office. Maintenance knowledge a plus.

- ☐ Professional/Friendly
- ☐ Must travel to properties mostly in Ocean Pines and Ocean City.
- ☐ Must work most weekends as needed
- ☐ Minor maintenance abilities a plus.
- ☐ Good clear handwriting

Please fax resumes, letters, references & inquiries to
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We are seeking to fill a hotel Maintenance position, full time, year round. Experience in hotel or condo maintenance preferred. Competitive pay and excellent benefits.
Please apply in person at
The Comfort Inn Gold Coast on
112th Street Ocean City, next to the Gold Coast Mall
No phone calls please

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Looking to work for a family run business where people care? We are looking for motivated individuals with experience. Good attitude and appearance is a must. Weekends are required. Salaried pay for qualified individuals. Located at 8th Street on the boardwalk, Ocean City, MD.
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Franchise Management Services, one of the fastest growing restaurant organizations in the Delmarva region, has an immediate opening Administrative Assistant.
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• Issue checks for account payable
• Support accounting personnel
• Input, invoices, checks, account statements, reports and other records
• Provide front desk customer service
• Match invoices to work orders
• Utilize computer systems to run databases, pay bills and order supplies
• Order Parts and Supplies as needed
Education and Experience:
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• Previous office experience preferred but this can also be entry level position
• Competent computer skills including MS Office, internet skills including use of e-mails, group messaging and data collection, Numeracy and literacy skills
Required Key Competencies
Organization and planning skills, Work management and prioritizing skills, Verbal and written communication skills, Problem solving ability, Attention to detail, Accuracy, Flexibility, Reliability, Teamwork
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Applicant must be detail oriented and computer literate, proficient in Excel, Word & Publisher. Sales CRM experience a plus. Exceptional people skills, professional phone & email etiquette a must. Excellent benefits, working conditions and salary (commensurate with experience). Qualified applicants only, forward resume with salary requirements to:
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P.O. Box 3500
Ocean City, MD 21843
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Ocean City, MD
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Sat. & Sun. 11-2pm	Muirfield Lane., River Run	3-4BR/2-3.5BA	Single Family	\$399,900-\$479,900	Ed Wehnert/Coldwell Banker
Thurs-Mon 10-4pm	9800 Mooring View Lane, Unit 32, OC	3BR/2.5BA	Duplex/Townhouse	From \$299,900	Kathleen Clark/Monogram Realty
Saturday 11-3	141 Pine Forest Ct., The Point - OP	4BR/3.5BA	Single Family	\$484,900	Cindy Poremski/Berkshire Hathaway PenFed
Fri. 2-4, Sat. 11-1	13141 Royal Lytham La., River Run	4BR/3BA	Townhome	\$399,900	Pam Wadler/Shamrock Realty
Fri. & Sat. 11-2	14135 Sea Captain La., Ocean City	4BR/3BA	Single Family	\$659,900	Pam Wadler/Shamrock Realty
Sunday 12-3	21 Sassafra La., Ocean Pines	3BR/2BA	Single Family	\$230,000	Pam Wadler/Shamrock Realty
Saturday 1-4	10300 Coastal Hwy., Atlantis	2BR/2BA	Condo	\$259,000	Karen Oass/Long & Foster
Sunday 11-2	119 Old Landing Rd., Our Place At The Beach	2BR/2BA	Condo	\$295,000	Karen Oass/Long & Foster
Saturday 11-1	4 Bunker Ct., Ocean Pines	3BR/2BA	Single Family	\$385,000	Cam Bunting/Bunting Realty
Saturday 11-2	132 Parkside Crl., Ocean Pines	4BR/3.5BA	Single Family	\$416,900	Carole Spurrier/Berkshire Hathaway PenFed
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