



APRIL 25, 2019

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FREE



JOSH DAVIS/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

HUNT IS ON!

Several hundred children dash through a field full of Easter eggs during Berlin's annual Spring Celebration event, last Saturday. The egg hunt was part of a daylong event hosted by the Berlin Chamber.

Tax rate increase gets first reading

Business owners, residents again storm Town Council meeting to voice opposition

By Rachel Ravina
Staff Writer

(April 25, 2019) Despite strong opposition from residents, organizations and businesses, the Berlin mayor and Town Council presented a 20-cent increase in the property tax rate on the first reading of the enabling ordinance Monday night.

Nearly every seat in the Town Hall room was filled, as several people expressed their staunch opposition to the proposed rate of \$.88 per \$100 of assessed value.

The 29 percent increase from 68 cents to 88 cents won't become official until a second reading of the ordinance occurs and the council votes to approve it.

Representatives of 50 Berlin businesses signed a letter written by Salt Water Media owner Stephanie Fowler, who read the letter to the town officials during the public comment portion of the meeting.

"We are here because we see the incredible potential of this town,"

Fowler said in the letter. "You have asked for our input and claimed that our absence from Town Hall is a silent approval. Let us fix that now: we are asking that you do not make it harder to live and work in Berlin."

Cameron Drew, a member of the Coastal Association of Realtors' Board of Directors' also presented a petition with approximately 200 signatures from real estate professionals, businesses and residents.

"The real estate industry is a huge factor in your town's overall economic health, and you are scaring away both prospective homebuyers and current homeowners," Drew said.

At times, comments seemed to be directed at the mayor and council as individuals, prompting Councilman Dean Burrell to respond to a charge that he did not take his job seriously.

"When someone questions my integrity as to why I and how I cast my vote, I have to take exception to that," Burrell said. "You may not agree with how or when I vote, but rest assured my votes are my best vote at that time and I would never improperly cast a vote for anything that's not above board and not ethical."

Fowler said she was asked to write the letter at a meeting of Berlin merchants on April 11. She then sent out a revised copy of the letter last Friday, which quickly drew support from other businesses.

"The residents deserve better. The business owners deserve better," Fowler said in the letter. "Please do better."

The tax increases would also amount to a \$600 increase on the annual tax bill for a home assessed at \$300,000.

Resident Laura Arenella who has lived in Berlin for 12 years, said the proposed tax increases would make it difficult for her family to stay.

"I'm disappointed. I'm scared. I don't want to move, but I'm going to have to move if this goes on," Arenella said.

Town officials said during a March public meeting the tax rate must be raised because the town has been borrowing from its general fund to subsidize water and wastewater utility rates that have been well below the cost of operation for years.

Initially, the council had said the tax rate could go as high as 98 cents, See TOWN COUNCIL Page 3

Trendic proposes referendum during town hall meeting

By Morgan Pilz
Staff Writer

(April 25, 2019) Former Ocean Pines Board of Directors member Slobodan Trendic continued his pitch for a referendum on certain capital projects Monday night, as he told a packed room of like-minded residents that at least two major undertakings would not survive if submitted for membership approval.

About 100 residents joined Trendic for a town meeting at the Ocean Pines Library to discuss the board's \$3.185 million plan to expand the police and administration building, rebuild the country club and build a new golf cart barn.

The board had voted in favor of the motions, while Trendic abstained from police station vote, and opposed awarding contracts to rebuild the country club and golf cart barn, and then resigned in protest on April 11 when he couldn't get a second on his motion to consider the referendum approach.

According to Trendic's presentation Monday, the renovation of the administration building was originally expected to cost \$800,000, but had climbed to See REFERENDUM Page 5

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A large crowd gathers at the start of a Berlin Town Council meeting on Monday, many of which were there to oppose plans for a tax rate increase.

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Town Council approves another budget mtg.

Continued from Page1
but later indicated that it might not happen, as Mayor Gee Williams urged the council to stretch out replenishing the general fund as long as possible.
The council's attempt to explain itself during its April 8 session, however, did little to mollify tax increase opponents.
"I have a real problem with over a 29 percent increase in my taxes," res-

ident Larry Smith said during the April 8 meeting. "The council and you, mayor, are the 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?"
Still, many residents appeared to have reservations and took a stand against the elected officials' decision.
"We have heard [the mayor and council] will consider every possibility

and all we have seen from this mayor and council is the proposal unprecedented tax increase, and the same mentality that the burden of fixing the mess that you made falls on us," said Berlin resident Jeff Smith. "I say no."
Despite having several work sessions, Council member Zack Tyndall asked Williams for more time to discuss the matter.
"What would it take for us to have another work session where we could

sit down as a group and discuss the budget?" Tyndall said. "Because I mean, honestly, I think it's a good foot forward, but I can't vote for it in the way that it is right at this moment."
Tyndall's motion to hold another work session at 6 p.m. next Monday was unanimously approved.
A public hearing for the tax rate and constant yield rate is scheduled for 7 p.m. on May 13 at the Town Hall on William Street in Berlin.

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Referendum would halt golf project

Continued from Page 1
\$1.276 million by the first week of April.
“That’s about 50 percent over the approved budget,” Trendic said.

The clubhouse amount remained the same at \$1.6 million, but the golf cart barn, which started at \$120,000, according to Trendic, had climbed to \$430,000 by the time the bid was awarded.

Trendic asked whether homeowners should be asked to approve a \$2 million capital expenditure to replace the golf club house and the cart barn, and whether there should be a strategic long-term sustainable plan for the golf course amenities to be developed and shared with the homeowners?

“My answer is yes, and I think that’s why we’re all here tonight ... we’re ready to talk about that,” Trendic said.

Trendic also presented a survey taken of homeowners in 2008 and 2018 to show the disparity between the years and residents’ discontent with the clubhouse.

According to Trendic’s data, in 2008, a survey produced 3,601 responses, or 40 percent of the population, many of whom didn’t play golf because of the price, while 36 percent of Ocean Pines residents did play golf outside the association.

In 2018, the numbers drastically changed: around 80 percent of homeowners did not return their surveys and of those who did, only 10 percent were in their 40s or younger.

Trendic told the audience that 70 per-

cent of the respondents said golf was not or was only somewhat important. When asked if they would agree to an increase in assessment to improve amenities and services, more than three fourths of the responders said they would not.

Trendic also pointed out that 77 percent of respondents rated the board as poor, fair, or no opinion.

“If you are running, you better be prepared for some critiquing,” Trendic said. “Believe me, I was on the board ... it’s not easy. I have some former colleagues here,” he said of directors Steve Tuttle and Frank Daly, who were in the audience. “And I know they would say the same. It’s a tough job to be on the board.”

Trendic then revealed his proposed petition seeking a referendum on whether the membership supports the board’s plans to build a new golf clubhouse and golf cart barn, and whether property owners want a referendum-based approval for any single capital expenditure worth \$1 million or more.

The petition needs 10 percent of the association membership, or 845 signatures to be recognized by the board.

“What the board passed on April 6, two of those would not have been possible without the membership approval,” Trendic said, referring to the country club and police expansion projects. “The second [question] is here because of the cart barn building ... I don’t know about you,

but \$430,000 on a cart barn ... I just don’t see how that would cost so much money.”

He also opened the forum to questions. “I live near the golf course and I went in there this evening, and I don’t golf,” one resident began. “Why would we need to build a new one? It doesn’t make sense. It just needs some new carpeting and paint. Why would we shut it down to the people that do like to golf and then go even more in the hole, and why spend all this money when it doesn’t generate a lot of revenue?”

“What the board and the association tried to do years ago is to renovate,” Trendic responded. “The mindset was that it can be renovated to the point where it will meet the needs of the association and that’s why we spent \$520,000.”

Joe Reynolds, another association member, asked about the legitimacy of the referendum.

“Without suggesting your referendum questions or petition questions are right, wrong or indifferent ... I think you need to go back to the drawing board on these three issues,” he said. “Primarily based on the bylaws. If you ask a question and it goes to referendum, do you approve the board spending the money and the answer comes back no, what’s going to prevent the board from ignoring it?”

Reynolds also recommended the use of an attorney to read over the bylaws and make sure the language complies with the bylaws. Trendic agreed.

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Golf committee refutes many town hall claims

Members argue information about golf clubhouse false, misleading for homeowners

By Morgan Pilz

Staff Writer

(April 25, 2019) Ocean Pines Golf Committee members were not thrilled with information shared about golf clubhouse operations during former board member Slobodan Trendic's town hall meeting on Monday.

On Tuesday, committee members shared their frustrations about what they saw as inaccuracies being distributed to homeowners.

"All of this misinformation is getting out there and, after looking at numbers ... it's sad how these people are being led down this path," com-

mittee member Olga Novy said.

There were complaints during the town hall about how much money was being put into the clubhouse, how the golf course only benefitted roughly 100 members who use it, and how the operation had failed to turn a profit in several years.

According to the golf committee, that information was misconstrued.

"What they're not telling you is five or seven years ago, someone sprayed agent orange over the greens," interim General Manager John Viola said. "It takes a long time to recover all that play, but people are coming back. The numbers are showing better, but nobody's saying that."

Weather has also been a factor.

"If we didn't have the third-wettest fall on record, I really believe we would have broke even," Viola said.

Committee members were also unhappy about reports of low golf membership.

"The other thing that is always put out there is, 'They only have 100 members,'" Novy said. "Nothing was said about how 1,700 rounds were played by Ocean Pines residents last year. Nongolfers don't understand – having a membership just means I'm prepaying my golf. Other people decide they'll pay as they go, and they're the ones who come time after time because they live here."

The cost to residents is not that high, according to the committee, with fees of \$12-15 a month to maintain the greens – and that is expected to drop to \$10. Moreover, anyone who lives in Ocean Pines is allowed to use the facility.

"Everybody is a member," committee member Anne Shockley said. "Really, everybody in Ocean Pines is a member of aquatics, a member of golf, whatever amenities we have."

"It's amazing how the golfers get vilified and they're the ones who played it," Viola said. "They don't tie up the tee times. They don't get a set guaranteed tee time."

Some residents at the town hall wondered why the clubhouse could not just be renovated.

Committee liaison Frank Daly, a board member who was at the town hall, expressed

his frustration regarding the lack of proper information, especially regarding the costs needed to repair and rebuild the clubhouse.

Daly even shared a story with the committee about the importance of maintenance.

"This has been painted as something for golf. In my mind, that is not true," Daly said. "On our orientation tour [for new board members], I toured a building in Ocean City that belonged to a homeowner's association. I had been told that it was valued at \$34 million."

"When we went there, it was obvious the place had not been renovated for a number of years," he continued. "The second-floor windows were leaking, which could cause eventual mold intrusion. The first-floor doors had deteriorated where they couldn't be locked. The person responsible for that property had to make to make arrangements with the OC police to come by every 15 minutes and check

to make sure no one entered the property."

The property he was describing was none other than the Ocean Pines Beach Club, which was recently renovated and will be ready for use during the summer season.

"All that stuff has been taken care of [now]," Daly said. "Using that as the template, you can go to the golf course clubhouse. [The] second floor is unusable, the first floor has mold, it has a leaky roof ... it's not about golf. It's about the responsibility of the homeowner's association to maintain its facilities in good working order."

"It is a building that we have, that we need to take care of," he continued.

Costs are being considered and about \$150,000 worth of equipment might be salvageable for the new building, according to Viola.

Finally, the committee spoke about the golf cart barn, which was listed as a separate expense from the country club.

"Out of an abundance of caution ... we sent the request for design build, not only for the three low bidders, but to all other contractors," Daly said. "In conjunction to that, the cart barn became a part of it because we thought we could reduce cost."

Designs for the country club are tentative and still in the drawing process. Construction is expected to begin in September, with two months anticipated to receive the permits needed to begin.

A board press conference is likely to be scheduled sometime next week, with contractors and other experts available to answer questions from the public. The meeting is expected to occur in the Assateague Room at the Ocean Pines Community Center.

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Mayor weighs in on property tax, utility increases

The following was released by Berlin Mayor Gee Williams:

There is no one cause, but there are multiple reasons that the Mayor and Council are considering increases in the Town's property tax rates and water utility rates.

These can be summarized under three different topics.

- Sewer System Upgrade Debt Retirement
 - Capital Projects
 - Economic Development
- First, let's start with...

1) Sewer System Upgrade Debt Retirement

• The Town of Berlin has an immediate need to create a customer sewer utility fee that provides a consistent, reliable way to:

— Retire the debt on our wastewater treatment plant capacity investments and spray irrigation operational costs.

— And to provide reliable funding for ongoing capital projects that are necessary for both growing service demands and ever increasing environmental requirements.

• An annual fee to all 1950 sewer customers would ensure that there is a consistent and reliable source of revenue for the retirement of sewer utility debt and to fund ongoing capital projects.

• For many years the Town has relied exclusively on new development to provide the funding to pay off outstanding wastewater utility debt that totaled \$15 million as of June 30, 2018.

• But, as residential and commercial development is at its very nature always cyclable, a more dependable source of revenue for wastewater that includes debt retirement and capital projects, is absolutely necessary.

• The Town's approach to significantly upgrade the capacity and quality of wastewater treatment over the past decade has relied on new development to offset the debt service and ongoing capital projects.

• While much underserved demand has been met, there is a growing resistance in Berlin to continuing residential and commercial development at the pace the town has experienced since our economic recovery from the great recession of 2007-08.

• Even with Berlin's revitalized growth, there is not enough revenue to retire the current sewer debt, or to fund other ongoing capital projects that are needed in a town with much old infrastructure.

• This has required borrowing that, when combined with much higher-than-projected spray irrigation operating costs, have caused most of the depletion of Berlin's general fund reserves over the past five years.

See MAYOR'S Page 8

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Mayor's statement on tax, utility increases

Continued from Page 7

• To correct this problem the Town must take two steps. First, to raise the current water utility fees over the next five years to end any further reduction of general fund reserves.

• The second step is that Town of Berlin must institute a permanent sewer customer utility fee charge to provide consistent funding for capital projects for the sewer utility. The Town needs to work with a financial expert to help us complete the analysis and implement the fee.

• According to our engineering consultants, this is a common practice in other communities with a sewer utility. This fee would be calculated annually and fluctuate based on the capital needs and the amount of EDUs (Equivalent Dwelling Unit) fees collected each year.

2) Other Capital Projects

• The second largest capital project the Town has incurred in the past several years was the purchase of the property and building of a new police station. The \$3.2 million project was long overdue and had been needed since before the start of this century.

• Again, town general fund reserve funds were used to purchase the property, then construct and equip our new police facility on US 113. Town Slots revenues are being used to pay off this cost, which is expected to

be completed within eight to 10 years.

• We have also received a request to increase the amount the Town budgets for capital expenditures for the Berlin Fire Company. An additional \$300,000 is being requested for Fire, Rescue and Emergency Medical Services. This would bring the total from the current level of annual funding of \$605,000 to \$909,000 representing a 33 percent increase.

3) Economic Development

• The pushback from the Berlin business community is disappointing given the Town's longstanding annual commitment of \$330,000 for Economic and Community Development.

• Berlin has successfully supported economic development within our town. Since upgrading our Economic and Community Development Department from one part-time position to two full-time town employees, the number of Downtown Berlin businesses has doubled to over 70 in the past 10 years.

• The town's support for businesses in Berlin includes:

— the purchase and operation of a Berlin Welcome Center on Main Street.

— sponsorship or support for 45 special events in downtown Berlin.

— plus the organization and promotion of the Berlin Farmer's Market on Sundays from May through Sep-

tember.

— extensive multi-media messaging and advertising, including continuous and highly effective online promotion and marketing of Berlin.

• I would hope that businesses in Berlin consider the benefits of our town's outreach and support that is significantly greater than most small towns throughout our region.

• It is not feasible that the Berlin Chamber of Commerce could take on the financial responsibility of our town's ongoing and successful economic development investments.

Sustainability

• One thing that all three of these investments have in common is to ensure the sustainability of Berlin amid rapidly changing circumstances.

• These expenditures for sewer system upgrades, public safety of police, fire and EMS, and Economic Development coincide with rising public expectations to accelerate the upgrades of our streets and sidewalks and to speed-up mitigating flooding issues, which each represent multi-million dollars of expenses.

• If there is a way to enact incremental tax and water utility fee increases over three to five years, that would not put our town's financial position in jeopardy by further reducing the general fund reserve balance, then

I know we would all gladly do that.

• To implement property tax increases over three years, at 15 percent the first year, 10 percent the second year; and 5 percent the third year, or a total of 30 percent over three years• The borrowing from the General Fund reserves would be at the following levels:

— \$1,523,150 as of July 1, 2019

— \$ 290,960 as of July 1, 2020

—\$ Expect to break even as of July 1, 2021

• This represents an additional \$1,853,785 that would be borrowed from reserves this year and next, leaving a balance of only \$1.8 million at the start of Fiscal Year 2022.

• A reserve balance of \$4.5 million equals 1 year in town operational expenses and is the amount the Mayor and Council believe should be maintained over time.

• The irony is that spending from general fund reserves has not been, nor does it continue to be for frivolous purposes.

• All the expenses represented by these investments are essential for both our current quality of life and to ensure that we remain a community that has as its underlying value, the need to adapt to change to meet new opportunities and challenges.

Mayor Gee Williams
Town of Berlin

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BCIA calls for participation ahead of parade festivities

By Rachel Ravina
Staff Writer

(April 25, 2019) Preparations for the Old Fashion Memorial Day Parade in Berlin are underway, but organizers are calling for additional participation ahead of the May event.

DJ Lockwood, chairman of the Berlin Community Improvement Association, said organizers need help setting up, sees the need for more food and arts and crafts vendors.

“This parade [is] ... a major outdoor event for the town for the town, for the east side of Berlin,” Lockwood said. “We don’t really have a major outdoor event.”

The parade starts at 11 a.m. on May 27, and the lineup will begin at 9 a.m. at Stephen Decatur Middle School on Seahawk Road in Berlin.

Lockwood said this year’s theme is “Celebrating Women of Service,” where we will recognize some of the women’s success and service in our community.”

Lockwood also encouraged people to come out because “the more the merrier.”

He said attendees could expect vendors, food, a dance competition and games at Dr. William Henry Park, in addition to the parade itself.

“This [event] brings patriotism to our neighborhood,” Lockwood said.

Lockwood said the association also is looking for photos, articles or other Memorial Day memorabilia related to past Memorial Days that the organization can display at the multipurpose building on Flower Street.

Lockwood is also hoping for sunny skies on parade day.

“Pray for good weather,” he said. “That’s the one thing that kills the parade is rain.”

He added that parade participants need to show an American flag, and attendees should don red, white and blue.

Applications for participation are

due May 13.

Anyone who has questions or interest in participating should contact Lockwood at 443-497-3242, or via email at djlockwood334@gmail.com.

Delaware couple injured in crash on Route 113 in town

By Rachel Ravina
Staff Writer

(April 25, 2019) Two people were seriously injured in a crash that shut down a portion of Route 113 in Berlin Saturday morning, state police said.

Delaware residents William Odell Frazier, 71, and Mae B. Frazier, 79, were taken to Peninsula Regional Medical Center in Salisbury following the crash.

Several agencies including the state police, Worcester County Sheriff’s Office, State Highway Administration, and Berlin Emergency Medical Services responded to the single-vehicle wreck around 11:21 a.m. near the intersection of Route 113 and Goody Hill Road.

A 2003 Cadillac Deville was reportedly seen swerving numerous times through lanes, according to police.

The Cadillac then reportedly swerved from the first lane, rotated into the second lane and collided with the guardrail in the left shoulder of the highway.

William, the driver, sustained life-threatening injuries, and Mae, the front seat passenger, suffered serious injuries, according to police.

The road was blocked for about one hour, police said.

The circumstances leading up to the crash are unclear and remain under investigation, police said.



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One more step for ops director Colby Phillips

By Morgan Pilz
Staff Writer

(April 25, 2019) Longtime Ocean Pines resident Colby Phillips, 44, has been a part of the community since 1994, worked for several years in several occupations in Worcester County and has now taken on the role of the Ocean Pines Association's operations director.

The position was created during the Saturday, April 6, board meeting. Phillips was officially appointed to the role that Monday by interim General Manager John Viola.

Having been the association's aquatics director for several years, as well as recently taking on the roles of director of parks and recreation and racquet sports, Phillips described how she handles her new responsibilities and helps keep the community operating smoothly.

"One of my main focuses, besides day-to-day oversight, is communication and customer service with the community," Phillips said. "I have overseen several of the departments I do now prior to my new role and public works. Working with the Ortt group on the operational/maintenance stuff they need, has also been added to my umbrella."

Phillips credits her success in her current and past roles to team effort.

"The structure of the top manage-

ment team of John Viola as general manager, Steve Phillips, John Malinowski, Chief (Chief of Police Dave) Massey, Michelle Bennett and myself, has really shown to be working very well," Phillips said. "The team as a whole is amazing. Everyone has an important role here no matter what their job title is."

Preparing for the summer, Phillips listed three major projects: finalizing the plans for the \$3.185 million expansion of the police and administration building, rebuilding the country club and building a golf cart barn.

Another project will be the Crafts Building in White Horse Park. It will be demolished for additional parking space and relocated to another section of the park. Phillips also wants to focus on the bulkheads and the drainage issues the association has been facing.

"I think it's important the community knows that the team truly cares and wants what is best for the association," she said.

Born in Charleston, South Carolina, and raised in Annapolis, Phillips had plenty of experience helping people.

Phillips spent 26 years as a surf rescue technician at the Ocean City Beach Patrol and 10 years working in Ocean City at the Special Events De-



JOSH DAVIS/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Newly named Operations Director Colby Phillips stands outside of the Ocean Pines Swim and Racquet Club on Tuesday. Phillips also oversees aquatics, parks and recreation and racquet sports for the association.

partment. She also spent three years with Carl Freeman working on homebuilding.

"All the jobs I have worked have had a large customer service aspect so it's really helped me to recognize that we need to acknowledge people, even if we are telling them something that they don't want to hear," Phillips said. "I truly believe everything starts with communication and that has helped me with every job I have ever had."

Ocean Pines has been one of her favorite places to work, Phillips said. This is her sixth season working in the association.

"Ocean Pines is a very unique place," Phillips said. "I took a management class in March with [Community Associations Institute] and when we discussed the HOAs where we each worked, people could not believe all that we had to offer between a police force, fire department, golf course, five pools, recreation, public works, restaurants, a beach club and the list goes on."

"People kept referring to us as a small city and how lucky we were," she continued. "I love Ocean Pines and all we have to offer and can honestly say to date this has been my favorite place to work."



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Site plan for Burley Oak beer garden needs revision

By Rachel Ravina
Staff Writer

(April 25, 2019) It's back to the drawing board for Burley Oak owner Bryan Brushmiller, after members of the Berlin Planning Commission last Wednesday panned his site plan presentation for a proposed beer garden at the brewery.

Commission members said they needed more information to approve the project.

"My personal feeling is I like your concept, but I think you need to give us a lot more to get there," planning commission member Pete Cosby said.

Brushmiller said a reason for expanding the outdoor area was to increase the space's permeable area.

"This is our concept of our site and the plan of what we want to do," he said.

Brushmiller planned to incorporate storage containers into the design and cover them with vegetation, which is "conducive to being called a beer garden."

He also envisioned the space as a respite from the hustle and bustle of Ocean City, especially on rainy days.

"We're busy when it rains," Brushmiller said. "These will also act as shelters to get out of the rain."

Site plans show an expanded beer garden and covered stage, as well as a new bar and canning facility in the brewery's existing structure.

However, several officials wondered how the containers and existing vegetation would fare in inclement weather.

Brushmiller said he had it covered. "For us, we feel it's our responsibility... to think about these large rain events," he said.

He added the vegetation would help to slow rain events and they'd be able to utilize the excess rainwater for their rain gardens.

Planning Commission member Ron Cascio appeared perplexed and had some reservations.

"We need to be assured that it does work," he said.

Brushmiller was also unsure if the venture would be successful.

"That's the greatest thing, is we're actually doing something we don't know works," he said.

Cascio appeared to require a definitive answer.

"I need somebody who knows what they're doing to do the calculations ... not just we hope it works," Cascio said.

Brushmiller countered the project was a win-win. If successful, it would allow for positive feedback, but he added the town wouldn't "lose anything" if it didn't work.

He went onto say there would be many improvements, including 3,500 square feet of sodded area from concrete and rock, as well as other rain gardens.

"I just need to see someone who's certified and qualified to make those determinations," Cascio said. Planning commission member Barb Stack also emphasized the need for a site plan approval for the entire driveway, as

stormwater issues plague the area.

"I'm just kind of concerned that ... this was turned into a complete gravel driveway parking lot and stormwater had not been calculated, what, eight or nine years ago?" she asked.

The town has completed several stormwater improvements and is currently working on the Graham Avenue Submerged Gravel Wetland Project, which is near the brewery.

Brushmiller argued the property wasn't under his ownership during that time, and he had filled holes in the area.

As for those measures, Cosby said, "it might be an opportune moment to fill that gap and just do it."

"Of course, [if] that's the next step," Brushmiller said.

Several planning commission members agreed the area would need to be assessed at the developer's cost.

Members of the planning commission asked for public comment from the audience and resident Wayne Harrison offered his card – and some advice for Brushmiller.

"If you don't put down a membrane first, you're kidding yourself," Harrison said.

The commission tabled the matter, requesting more detailed information and engineering work, including stormwater calculations.

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RACHEL RAVINA/BAYSIDE GAZETTE
Land owner Troy Purnell and Developer Justin White meet with homeowners of Purnell Crossing and Austin Circle to discuss updated plans to a proposed new development last Tuesday evening.

Homeowners frustrated with proposed new development

Group met with land owner, developer, but still harbor concerns with rental units

By Rachel Ravina
Staff Writer

(April 25, 2019) Purnell Crossing and Austin Circle residents remained steadfast in their opposition to a nearby proposed development project.

A group of homeowners from the two neighborhoods met with landowner and Berlin Town Council member Troy Purnell and Developer Justin White last Tuesday evening by the central mailbox on Sunlight Lane in Purnell Crossing.

The residents' biggest concern: rentals.

"Well, this is Berlin, not Salisbury," said resident Paul Chambers. "We don't want apartment houses."

Homeowner Sharra Watson said she'd moved to the area from the Philadelphia suburbs, and saw what can happen with rental development.

"This is not what we signed up for," Watson said. "This is not what we bought into."

White, owner of Live Oak Builders LLC., was prohibited from speaking during a March meeting at Stephenson United Methodist Church in Berlin.

"We probably made a mistake by not letting him present his plan then, so we're going to let him present his plan now, and take it forward," said resident Wayne Harrison.

White added he wanted to use the opportunity at last Tuesday's meeting to explain some of the revisions that were made to the plans

— but he was met with numerous questions and visible anger from residents.

"I understand nobody likes rentals, but if everyone talks over me the whole night, there's no sense of me being here, and I[ve] come here at the request to try and work with everyone," White said.

At one point, the property had plans for a 100-unit assisted living facility and 19 new townhomes, with the townhomes then becoming a part of the association. However, proposing five new rental apartment buildings, which included one 30-unit building and four 24-unit buildings, brought ire from several residents.

While he revised the plans to include 60 apartments, and 35 two-story townhomes, they were still rentals, and some said they felt it wasn't enough.

"There's no difference between that and apartments in my opinion," Harrison said.

Overall, resident Kim Fraser said she was pleased with the discussion.

"From what I understand from the last meeting to this meeting, the plans were changed," she said.

Fraser said she was worried about how a three-story apartment building would "kill property values in Austin circle," and added she was happy with the unit's one-story decrease.

Still, Fraser said she had to be realistic.

"Granted, they'll be rentals, but I don't know if we can fight that fight," she said.

When asked about the meeting's outcome, Purnell said it went "as expected."

"I think changes have already been made because the same concerns have been voiced over and over. We heard them the first time," Purnell said. "So we made a bunch of changes in order to accommodate them."

The plans have yet to go before the Town of Berlin's Planning Commission,

however, the saga continued Wednesday evening during a Planning Commission meeting, when several residents voiced their concerns.

Purnell and White were also in attendance, but the matter was not on the agenda.

"We intentionally did not plan for this meeting to come through," White said in the meeting last Wednesday.

White also clarified to the commission members that he "abandoned the concept of apartments on Sunlight Lane. They are townhomes."

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Berlin Fire, EMS present quarterly report to council

By Rachel Ravina
Staff Writer

(April 25, 2019) Representatives from the Berlin Fire Company and Emergency Medical Services presented a quarterly report during the Town of Berlin's Mayor and Council meeting Monday night.

David Fitzgerald, president of the Berlin Fire Company's board of directors, said there were 114 in-town fire and rescue call responses calls between July 1, 2018 and March 31.

Firefighters averaged busiest between 2-3 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays, but there were still more calls coming from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., according to reports.

Firefighters' average response time was 3 minutes and 14 seconds, as compared to the county's "response check time [being] six minutes," according to February and March statistics from Worcester County reporting systems.

Fitzgerald highlighted how the fire company could generate revenue through fundraisers, and using county funds, town funds and banking interests.

He said the agency's expenses were driven by building improvements, physicals for new members, fire prevention, fuel, insurance, communications, and equipment maintenance and repairs.

Fitzgerald emphasized the fire department is "monitoring budgets in [the] last quarter to adjust as needed." He also praised efforts "to hold certain purchases to [the] last quarter in case of unexpected

expenditures." As for the Emergency Medical Services department, there were 792 in-town EMS call responses, with 590 transports, and 202 non-transports, according to reports.

EMS appeared on par with the fire department's call volume during 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., according to reports, but the agency's busiest days take place from 1 to 2 p.m. on Mondays and Wednesdays.

The average response time for EMS calls is 1 minute and 34 seconds, according to reports.

Fitzgerald said the department's "overall expenses were slightly higher" at 80 percent as compared to 75 percent. He added EMS had expenses from several facets from the department including professional fees, training, volunteer incentives, payroll and career personnel, medical equipment maintenance and repairs, building maintenance and repairs, and vehicle maintenance and repairs.

Fitzgerald also said a fiscal report is due by "close of business" on May 6.

As for the cash flow, Councilman Zack Tyndall said discussions needed to occur.

"I think we need to talk about the way the payments are released, so we don't fall short," Tyndall said.

Mayor Gee Williams agreed a concrete plan needed to be put in place.

"We're all gonna learn as we go here, and [if] there's some tweaking we can do ... we can get it all resolved," Williams said.

Correction

Some calculating errors and mistakes were made in an article about Deeley Insurance becoming the broker for Ocean Pines. The following information is correct:

- Deeley Insurance Group is an agency, not a company.
- General liabilities are covered for \$2 million occurrence and \$4 million aggregate, not \$2.4 million.
- Auto insurance will be written with Philadelphia.

- Crime includes theft of money and securities for \$50,000, not \$3.15 million
- Cyber protective is through Axis, not Access
- Marine insurance covers \$2.8 million equipment scheduled and additional, \$600,000 in hardware and \$900,000 in software, not \$100,000 for additional
- Coverage for general liability last year was incorrectly described as \$1.2 million and this year for \$2.4 million. The correct number is \$2 million occurrence and \$4 million aggregate.

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Buckingham unveils new outdoor classroom

By Rachel Ravina
Staff Writer

(April 25, 2019) Buckingham Elementary School unveiled its new outdoor classroom at a ribbon-cutting ceremony last Thursday after taking steps to go green over the past several years.

“It’s been a joy to watch this vision grow as more people become invested,” said second grade teacher April Eichelberger.

Eichelberger, the green team coordinator, said the school was recognized as a Maryland Green School last May by the Maryland Association for Environmental and Outdoor Education.

Eichelberger said the program began in 2015 when she was talking with teacher (the late) Sheryl Mitrecic, who received a grant to create a vegetable garden for pre-kindergarten students. Eichelberger added she had prior experience with environmental programs when teaching at a school in Oregon.

Eichelberger said the school has received about \$13,500 in grants, as well as construction assistance from local organizations and businesses. Elementary school students and staff also volunteered.

Principal Karen Marx praised Eichelberger’s efforts in making their environmental dreams a reality.



RACHEL RAVINA/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Buckingham Elementary School second grade teacher April Eichelberger and students pose for a photo following the ribbon cutting of the new outdoor classroom last Thursday.

“We are so proud of the passion and leadership, perseverance and dedication that Mrs. Eichelberger has demonstrated over the past four years,” Principal Karen Marx said of Eichelberger.

“Even through very trying personal circumstances, she has fulfilled our dream of becoming a Maryland Green School and created this beautiful

learning space for all of our students and staff to enjoy,” she continued.

Eichelberger was diagnosed with Non-Hodgkin’s lymphoma last April and said she’s currently in remission.

Mitrecic lost her battle with cancer in May 2017, but a bench in the classroom was dedicated in her honor during last Thursday’s ceremony. Her husband, Worcester County Commissioner Joseph Mitrecic, and his daughter, Madi, were present for the dedication.

A group of elected officials, members of the Board of Education, students, teachers, and parents also attended the event.

For Jeff Smith, president of the parent-teacher association at Buckingham Elementary School, he said he feels this project could act as a respite from the confinements of devices used indoors.

“Technology really can restrict our world and I think something like this teaches the kids at a very young age that we don’t have to be stuck inside looking at our phones all the time,” he said.

Additionally, several educators

said the outdoor classroom also could be used to teach subjects such as English and science.

Karen Conner, an English learner teacher at Buckingham Elementary School, said they received a \$750 grant to study the life cycle of monarch butterflies, as well as

Conner added a “story walk” and migration station were integrated into the new outdoor classroom.

“We were able to, because of this outdoor learning space, ... participate in authentic learning experiences while we were still celebrating the heritage and the culture of our Spanish-speaking students,” Conner said.

Eichelberger said she hoped the lessons from the green school initiatives lessons would stick with the children long after they leave the classroom.

“The culture at our school is becoming more aware of the environ[mental] footprint that we leave behind, and I’m excited to see how our Buckingham graduates make a difference in our community in the years to come,” Eichelberger said.

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Volunteer for Berlin Clean-Up Day, April 27

(April 25, 2019) Every spring in Berlin, right around Earth Day, the town sponsors Take Pride in Berlin Week and Berlin Clean-Up Day at Stephen Decatur, Henry and Berlin Falls parks.

This year, the town is partnering with the Kiwanis Club, Comcast and the Department of Natural Resources for Clean-Up Day on Saturday, April 27, starting at 8:30 a.m.

“Volunteers help by picking up litter, weeding, planting flowers and just generally sprucing up the parks for spring,” said Mary Bohlen, administrative services director for the Town of Berlin. “It’s a chance to give back to the community, meet your neighbors and make some new friends.”

For more than a decade, volunteers have dedicated a few hours on an April Saturday to help give Berlin’s parks and neighborhoods a spring cleaning.

Individuals and teams are needed to help with planting, weeding, raking, mulching and whatever else needs attention. Students can also earn community service hours for participating.

Comcast will be working with the Parks Commission to incorporate Comcast Cares Day into the annual Clean-Up. The Department of Natural Resources will sponsor a Backyard Buffer tree giveaway. There will also plantings of pollinator gardens and tours of Berlin Falls Park.

Volunteers can sign up ahead of time at www.comcastinthecommunity.com, or at one of the town parks on Saturday. Free T-shirts will be provided as supplies last.

The Maryland Forest Service will also hold its Backyard Buffer tree giveaway. Bundles of trees will be available on a first-come-first-served basis to any

Worcester County landowner; those living near streams, creeks or ditches especially are encouraged to plant.

Pre-register by April 26 by emailing Bohlen at mbohlen@berlinmd.gov or call 410-641-4314 to reserve a bundle.

The Berlin Falls Park Advisory Committee will be planting pollinator gardens and will offer information and tours of the park.

Free lunch for all volunteers will be provided by the Ocean City Kiwanis Club at Henry Park starting at 11:30 a.m.

The main clean-up areas are Stephen Decatur Park on Tripoli Street and Henry Park on Flower Street, as well as Berlin Falls Park on Old Ocean City Blvd. Some supplies will be available for use, but participants are encouraged to bring their own. Rakes, shovels and wheelbarrows are always needed.

Clean-up of Hudson Branch will also

be needed; this activity is not for young children. Heavy clothes and boots are recommended. For general park clean-up, sign up at any of the parks starting at 8:30 a.m. The Hudson Branch sign-up is at Henry Park.

Residents and business owners can also choose to spend their time anywhere they feel needs attention.

Trash pickup will be available; items for pickup will need to be placed in one location at the clean-up area and the town must be contacted so crews can collect everything following Clean-Up Day.

For more information, contact Bohlen at 410-641-4314 or mbohlen@berlinmd.gov. Information can also be found on Facebook at “Take Pride in Berlin Week” and on the town’s website at www.berlinmd.gov/department/parks.

Fête en Blanc

DATE: Sunday June 2nd, 2019

TIME: 5:00PM – 8:00PM

LOCATION: Confidential – Notified 24 hours prior to the event

BENEFITTING: ECPAT – USA and Diakonia

DESCRIPTION:

Real Hospitality Group’s first Annual Fête en Blanc is an invitation only French inspired pop up BYO Picnic to bring together the community and celebrate summer while benefiting ECPAT-USA and the Diakonia. Guests bring their own tables, chairs, food and drinks. You can decorate your table with flowers, candles, china and glassware or keep it simple with take-out.

Everything MUST be white including attire.

SURPRISE LOCATION:

Guests will be emailed and messaged one day in advance with the location.

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YOU BRING THE ELEMENTS:

Guests bring their own food & drink, tables & chairs, as well as tableware, glasses, flowers, candies, etc. Hints and tips will be provided on the event site.

COME PREPARED:

Make sure you wear white. Table covers and decorations should also be white.

BENEFITTING:

Our first ever Fête en Blanc will benefit ECPAT-USA and Diakonia

ECPAT-USA: As the leading policy organization in the United States seeking to end the commercial, sexual exploitation of children, ECPAT-USA focuses on awareness, advocacy, policy, and legislation. To protect every child’s basic human right to grow up free from the threat of sexual exploitation and trafficking, ECPAT-USA advocates for federal and state legislation that prevents exploitation, protects children, and guarantees that any child who is subjected to sexual slavery or sex trafficking will not be prosecuted in the courts for prostitution. Promotes corporate responsibility among private companies with a strong focus on the tourism sector.

Diakonia: For more than forty years Diakonia has been helping individuals and families in Worcester County and on the Lower Shore by providing shelter, food, clothing and the resources to rebuild their lives. Diakonia is the only comprehensive provider of emergency and transitional housing for men, women and families on the Lower Shore. Diakonia is dedicated to building a foundation for those in crisis or who are homeless while maintaining their dignity and respect, providing hope and assistance and helping them change the direction of their lives, one step at a time.

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All proceeds from ticket sales will be divided equally between ECPAT-USA and Diakonia.

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Birding Weekend events set for April 26-28, countywide

(April 25, 2019) The 2019 Delmarva Birding Weekend invites hundreds of nature enthusiasts to the shore, April 26-28, to enjoy the full complement of mid-Atlantic birds as the region welcomes warblers, tanagers, and other spring migrants and prepares to say goodbye to its loons, falcons and waterfowl as they head northward.

Nature lovers can register for just one field trip, or multiple events each day.

On Friday, start the morning at Redden State Forest and enjoy a songbird and shorebird spectacle at Prime Hook National Wildlife Refuge or a new private property in northern Worcester County in the afternoon. The day could finish with a paddle along the Ayres Creek.

Exploring the bald cypress swamps by kayak around Snow Hill on Saturday morning and see colorful warbler species and a shorebird-laden boat trip behind Assateague and Ocean City in the afternoon will add to the avian extravaganza. Loons in breeding plumage are a big draw on this trip.

The walking tours, boat trips and canoe and kayak paddles will accommodate visitors from the curious nature lover to fowl fanatics. Every year, birdwatchers from surrounding states flock to the event.

"This is one of our biggest nature-oriented weekends," Lisa Challenger, tourism director for Worcester County, said. "People go crazy over the number of eagles and herons, but they will see a lot more than that birding with our guides around Assateague Island and our cypress swamps near Snow Hill. Delmarva Birding Weekend trips are so good that the governor issued a tourism award for them last year."

Social events for new and experienced birders are scheduled throughout the weekend. These "Tally Rallies" are held at local breweries, bars and restaurants, and allow participants to add to the species checklist and swap nature stories with new friends.

Participants recount the event in terms of experiences rather than simply observing birds – a majestic Bald Eagle soaring over the marsh, a tri-colored heron in breeding plumage catching fish, or the eerie hoot and shadow of a barred owl at dusk. An outdoor experience is the true draw.

The Delmarva Peninsula is one of the country's premier birding areas, because of an extensive variety of habitat protected by coastal parks, refuges and wildlife management areas.

More than 400 bird species have been recorded in the region and previous event tallies have topped 200 species.

"It's our vast shallow bays and large tracts of protected marshes and bald cypress forests that make the Delmarva Peninsula one of the finest birding regions in the nation," said guide and organizer Jim Rapp. "During the weekend, our guests will hike on private farmland and woodland that are normally off limits to birders, and our waterborne trips go where the birds are."

Co-organizer Dave Wilson added that most trips are not physically taxing and that the event provides a rare opportunity to tally 100 species in a day in places that are normally inaccessible to the public.

Sponsors for the events include Worcester County Tourism, Southern Delaware Tourism, the Boardwalk Hotel Group, Jolly Roger Amusement Park, the Delmarva Almanac, the Maryland Coastal Bays Program, the Delaware Center for the Inland Bays, Somerset County Tourism, My Backyard, Redfin.com, and J&L Ocean Dream rentals. Special thanks also go to the private property owners who allow access to their properties for this weekend.

Registration information, field trip descriptions and other resources for Delmarva Birding are available at www.delmarvabirding.com or call Rapp at 443-614-0261 or Wilson at 443-523-2201.

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Equestrian teens compete at nationals in PA

By Morgan Pilz
Staff Writer

(April 25, 2019) Two Worcester County teens will participate in the Inter-scholastic Equestrian Association Nationals at the Pennsylvania Farm Show Complex & Expo Center in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, this weekend.

Olivia Brown, 16, a sophomore at Stephen Decatur High School, was the highest point earner in the Open Division in Zone 3 of the Interscholastic Equestrian Association to advance to the national finals. She will compete in the Varsity Open Championship.

Zone 3 encompasses North Carolina, Virginia, Maryland and Delaware.

“To receive high point rider in this zone is an amazing accomplishment, particularly for such a young rider,” Coach Hilary Gibbons-Neff, who trains Brown with her teammates at Little Clovelly-C-Line Stables in Easton, said.

She competes in the Open Varsity Division with other high school riders.

“I got into horses when I was 5 years old,” Brown said. “It’s been a passion of mine ever since.”

Brown rides every day whether it’s her own horse or someone else’s and has never missed an opportunity to be at the barn, she said.

“It’s an honor to go to the national championships but at the same time, I look at it as just another show where you go in the ring and focus on the course and do the

best you can,” Brown said. “It’s all about how much time you put into your riding... not all about the colors of the ribbons.”

Brown works daily with her trainer, Marianne Roth, in Bishopville at Endeavor Farm. She will compete against each high point rider from all 11 zones in the country.

Also performing during the finals is Lilly Paquette, 13, of Ocean City. Paquette is one of 22 youth in the country to qualify for the Interscholastic Equestrian Association Nationals in the Future Novice Over Fences Class.

The top riders in the region competed at Garrison Forrest School on Feb. 16 to earn a spot at the Zone 3 Finals, at Liberty University in Lynchburg, Virginia, March 30-31.

Paquette finished first in her class during the regional finals and came in second at zone finals. The top two in each class moved on to the next level. She competed against 18 other riders at both regional and zone finals.

“When I was in Pre-K, my class took a trip to Autumn Grove Stables in Berlin and I loved it so I asked my mom if I could start taking lessons,” Paquette said.

The Stephen Decatur Middle School seventh grader has been riding horses at Autumn Grove ever since.

“I’m really excited and a little nervous to represent the Autumn Grove Stables Equestrian Team at IEA Nationals,” Paquette said. “I’m also looking forward to



PHOTO COURTESY SHAWN MCMILLEN
Olivia Brown, 16, riding Lapis, has qualified for the national finals Varsity Open Championship in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, April 27.



Lilly Paquette, 13, is one of 22 youth in the country to qualify for the Interscholastic Equestrian Association Nationals in the Future Novice Over Fences Class.

watching all of the others riders that will be there. I would like to thank my coaches, Kristy Naughton and Kirstin Marzbanian, for all of their time and effort that they put into preparing me for this weekend.”

Paquette has been riding at Autumn Grove Stables and trained by Kristie and Katie Naughton since she was 5 years old.

The two equestrians actually know each other through Autumn Grove Stables.

“It’s really cool that Olivia Brown will be competing at nationals too,” Paquette said. “I have always looked up to Olivia and admired her riding.”

Both riders will begin their nationals’ journey today. The event runs through Sunday.

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WCPS honors anniversary, seals time capsule

By Rachel Ravina
Staff Writer

(April 25, 2019) Future students and staff of Worcester County Public Schools will get a blast from the past when they open a time capsule, which was filled and sealed during last Tuesday's Board of Education meeting, in 50 years. Carrie Sterrs, coordinator of public relations and special programs for Worcester County Public Schools, said the time capsule was created for the district's 150th anniversary to honor the past, present and future. "The installation of a time capsule was one of those forward-thinking ideas, and we couldn't be happier with how it has turned out," she said.

Student representatives, board of education members and Superintendent Lou Taylor participated in filling the time capsule. Sterrs said each student brought two items, ranging from yearbooks to car chargers. William L. Gordy, president of the board of education, put a photo of the board in the time capsule, and Taylor contributed a letter, Sterrs said. "While many of us won't be around when the capsule is opened 50 years from now, those present will be able to look back and reflect on the school system's past with very clear memories of this anniversary year," Taylor said.



Snow Hill Elementary School Principal Mary Anne Cooper and Superintendent Lou Taylor smile as Snow Hill Elementary School kindergartener Emmett Richardson places an item into the time capsule. It was made in honor of Worcester County Public School's 150th anniversary and will be displayed in the lobby of the board of education building and opened in 50 years. RACHEL RAVINA/ BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Worcester Technical High School Principal Tom Zimmer said his school included a Maryland Skills USA gold medal and a list of this year's medal winners from the school. "It was a great idea on the 150th anniversary of the school system," he said. "It's neat that it will be opened up in 50 years." Several school officials praised H. Clay Reister's craftsmanship in making the time capsule, including Zimmer.

"Thank you Mr. Reister for your hard work in creating a lasting memory for the Worcester County School System," Zimmer said in a Facebook post. Reister, an interactive media instructor at Worcester Technical High School, said he appreciated the opportunity to contribute to the school district in this way. The time capsule is made of birch veneered plywood and poplar boards, he said, and is about 28 inches tall by

18 inches wide. The now-sealed time capsule will be featured in the lobby of Board of Education's office in Newark. "That space also has a significant number of exhibits concerning the original 1953 function of that building which was the county's segregated high school," Reister said. "It's a good space to rekindle any visitors' awareness of the importance of education and the importance of wholeness in our community."

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Opinion

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

If they hadn't built it, nobody would've come

The irony of the Town of Berlin's budget and taxation predicament is if it had focused on maintaining a financially self-sufficient water and wastewater operation 10 or 15 years ago, kept tax rates closer to that of other area towns, and not devoted so many resources to infrastructure improvements and revitalizing the town's economy and image, the current protest over a substantial tax increase would not exist.

There would be no need for a spike in the tax rate, and many of the businesses aggrieved by the mayor and council's current proposals would not have set up shop in Berlin had not town government devoted time, energy and money to revitalizing what had become a typically somnolent, economically stagnant Eastern Shore town.

Businesses don't open where people don't visit and shop, neither of which featured prominently on anyone's agenda during the lull between the town's heyday as an agricultural and commercial center and its rebirth as a tourist destination.

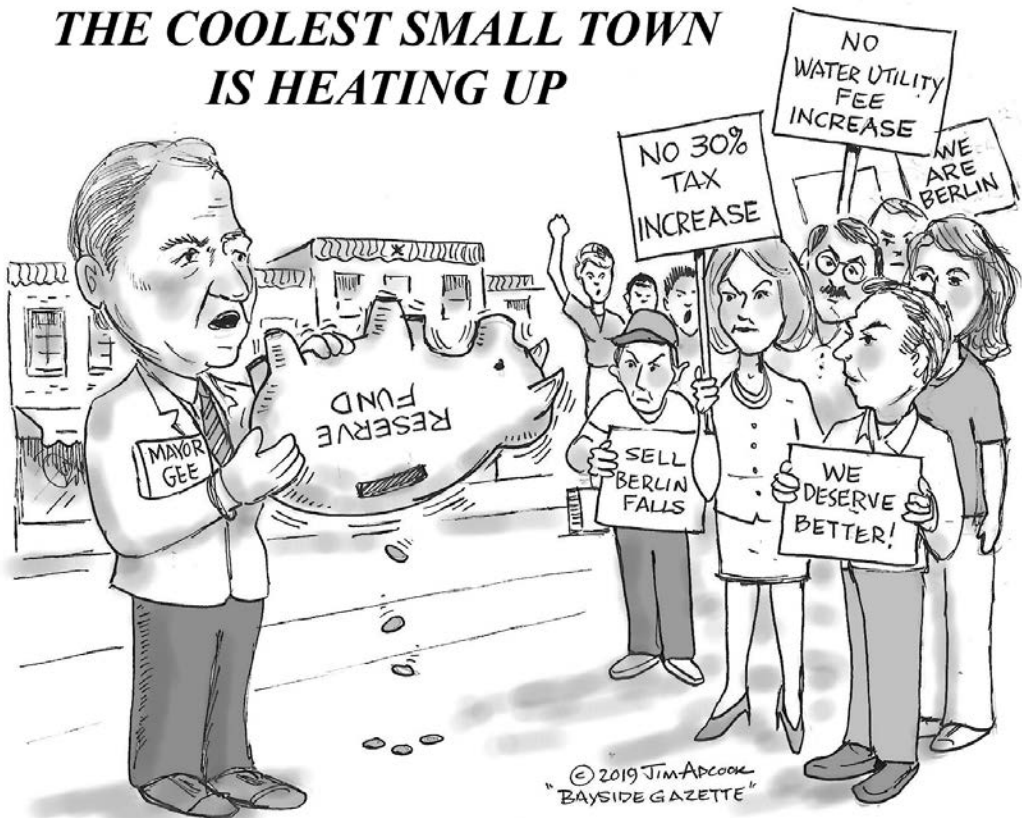
Unfortunately, the town rolled the dice on its finances, when it elected to keep some utility rates lower than they should have been by subsidizing them with money from the general fund, which it also used to cover some other capital projects.

Officials apparently figured that debt would be repaid eventually by new revenue produced via the renewed economic vigor it helped to bring about.

Obviously, that hunch did not work as hoped, but it can also be argued that the same ambition that caused the town's current difficulty also helped it accomplish something that few, if any, other Eastern Shore communities have been able to do — reestablish a vibrant downtown.

It shouldn't be argued that town officials don't care about businesses or raising Berlin's profile, because pursuing those goals at the expense of other needs is the cause of the current situation.

THE COOLEST SMALL TOWN IS HEATING UP



Letters

Snow Hill candidate forum, next Monday

Editor,

Snow Hill Now hosts its candidates forum on April 29 at 6:30 p.m. at Snow Hill High School.

All candidates seeking office in the May 7 general election are invited along with the public.

Don Rush, news director Public Radio Delmarva (SCL/WSDL) Salisbury University, will be the moderator for the forum. Don is an award winning journalist, covering developments, the environment, and local politics.

Almost 200 residents of Snow Hill participated in two community forums held by SHN. The first forum convened at the middle school, Feb. 6 addressed the issues of how to revitalize the Town of Snow Hill.

Four outcome statements were presented to the attendees by the organizers. The attendees were subdivided into discussion groups, at the close, each group reported out their findings to the larger body.

The data from the first forum was analyzed and

placed into five categories. This information was posted online for participants, which attended the first forum, to prioritize and rank.

The second forum, April 1 was built upon the first forum by asking the attendees to prioritize the finding from the data and rankings.

The outcome of this process established the top five priorities that the citizens have determined are the issues they want their elected officials to address.

We found that we all shared a greater number of concerns and aspirations then we might have realized, but there were still areas that needed to be addressed. Specifically, the sense that there are two distinct Snow Hill's divided along lines of class and race.

Addressing this concern [during the second forum], the attendees were again subdivided into discussion groups and later reported out their findings.

These sessions were intense and emotional, but this is where we can be encouraged. People listened to each other. They heard others pain and felt the scars

that were inflicted by racism and separation dating back to childhood and high school days. People shed tears.

Nevertheless, this is Snow Hill now. The same people, black and white, that attended the forums want to heal the divide and be a part of the revitalization effort.

The number one issue, which came out of the community forums, was Communications! What the forums demonstrate is this community's capacity to listen and its desire for change.

The question is what about our government? Have they heard what the people said they want? Are those seeking office willing to move government toward a business friendly and open government

The candidates forum is your opportunity to hear from the candidates in whom you will place your trust on May 7 to lead the town's revitalization effort.

Regardless of your choice or who you vote for, without concerted leverage there will be no true accountability. Snow Hill Now is committed to continue its mission of engaging the community in

See LETTERS Page 21

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Letters

Continued from Page 20

helping the town to thrive and grow. We hope to have your support and see you April 29 at the High School.

*Edward S. Lee, Facilitator
Snow Hill Now*

To fix Berlin, everyone needs to work together

Editor,

My father often told me: failing to plan is planning to fail.

Berlin's recent budget predicament—I loathe to call it a crisis because that word implies something unexpected and dire—seems not only predictable but the predictable result of both a failure to plan and a failure to stick to a plan.

Getting us out of this mess, and moving Berlin toward a healthy future, will require planning. So far, I haven't seen any such plan coming out of City Hall, our Town Council, or our mayor.

Urban planning is an art and a science, and in recent years the Town of Berlin has planned poorly.

The purchase of Berlin Falls Park—a potential future boon to this town—along with the ill-conceived development and annexation of Oceans East, the recent approvals of annexation requests for parcels along the route 50 corridor—the Gerardi property, and the Athena property—as well as the resulting overbuilt water treatment plant, are clear demonstrators of Berlin's lack of planning, or even adherence to an existing plan.

Rather than follow our own strategies, Berlin reacts on a case-by-case basis without regard to the current state of the town and its finances, and without regard to current or future growth.

Berlin's response to annexation criticism usually falls along this line: "If we don't make it part of Berlin then we have no say over what happens there."

That argument is flawed on several levels. Berlin town limits don't have to expand in order for the town to have input over development of property contiguous to our corporate limits.

The implication that we have no sway over county policies, that the county board will discount the sovereignty of the Town of Berlin in favor of private development, is ridiculous. Restrictions are placed on businesses all the time through the use of zoning restrictions, water regulations, building codes, and, most importantly, strategic, long term planning.

We as a community get to decide if we want more gas stations along Route 50. We choose if we want the welcome sign for Berlin from the west to be a Wawa with a wall of pamphlets.

Do we want another car dealership? A McDonald's? Chain hotels? More apartments? Do we want to develop a second business district away from Main Street?

Stick to the plan.

We need more than a plan. We need leaders who are willing to follow a plan, who are not influenced by the belief that a particular developer is a "good man," or by flashy demonstrations and promises of tax "revenue" without consideration of future monetary and non-monetary costs.

A well planned community is not one that relies on "nice" developers who will "do the right thing." A well planned community equally enforces rules and regulations for all businesses and developers, no matter the builder, no matter the business owner, no matter the land owner.

This uniform and consistent application of codes and ordinances is lacking in Berlin.

All this is to say that Berlin, to get itself out of its current financial mess—and keep itself out—needs strategic financial and comprehensive plans for the future. Not just the for next 10 years as required of a comprehensive plan, but the next five years, then 15 years, then 20 years down the road, and beyond.

Berlin needs all of us—elected officials, committees, town employees, and administrators, along with residents, business owners, and community leaders—to work together to ensure that as a town, as a community, we are willing to make changes, to abide plans and goals, all toward ensuring Berlin's long term health, financial and otherwise.

*Jeff Smith
Berlin*

State once again failed to act on CAFO legislation

Editor,

This year a very important piece of legislation to study the air quality around industrial chicken houses or CAFO's failed to get out of committee for the 3rd year in a row.

Despite testimony from many Eastern Shore citizens who live near these facilities and suffer from the air and deal with asthma and related respiratory illnesses and who once again traveled to Annapolis to share their stories, nothing happened.

The Community Healthy Air Act would have required monitoring of several different facilities and then an analysis by scientists from the University of Maryland School of Public Health, University of Maryland College of Agriculture and Natural Resources and the Bloomberg School of Public Health and their report would have been presented to Maryland legislators.

Instead, the Maryland Department of the Environment and the Delmarva Poultry Industry teamed up to perform air quality monitoring of just two locations: one upwind and one downwind of a CAFO, but with no independent scientific analysis of the data and no indication that the results will be shared with either the public or anyone else.

*Nancy Tuttle
Ocean Pines*



US Army Corps
of Engineers

PUBLIC NOTICE

Army Corps Seeking Public Comment on Draft Final Proposed Plan
for the Assateague Island Formerly Used Defense Site
Public Meeting: May 2, 2019, 6:00-8:00 p.m.
Assateague Island Environmental Education Center
7206 National Seashore Lane, Berlin, MD 21811.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) has completed a Remedial Investigation and a Proposed Plan for the Assateague Island Formerly Used Defense Site (FUDS) in Worcester County, MD. The public is invited to provide feedback on the draft final Proposed Plan for the Assateague Island FUDS site and USACE is conducting a public meeting on May 2, 2019 where the public can learn more.

Assateague Island is a 37-mile-long barrier island along the eastern shore of Maryland and Virginia. From 1944 to 1947, the U.S. Navy and the U.S. Army Air Corps established two separate rocket ranges on Assateague Island, a Northern Range (Munitions Response Site [MRS] 01) and one in the South (MRS 03), which were used during World War II for target practice by land-based aircraft. No live munitions have been discovered on either range at the Assateague Island National Seashore in Maryland or at the Assateague Island Maryland State Park, where the target ranges were located. Only munitions debris have been uncovered. The Proposed Plan summarizes the remedial investigation and proposes a preferred approach of no further action.

The Proposed Plan and RI Report will be available for public review beginning April 24, 2019 by hard copy and electronic copy at the Worcester County Library – Berlin Branch at 13 Harrison Ave., Berlin, MD. For more information about the library location or hours, please call (410) 641-0650. It will also be available online at:

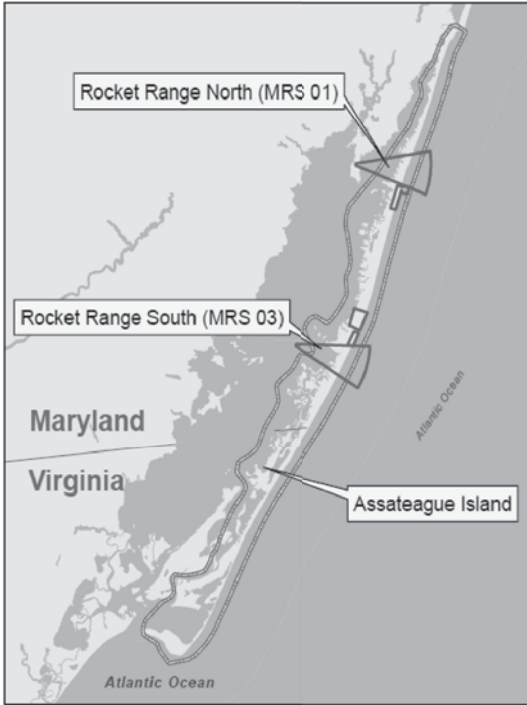
www.nab.usace.army.mil/Missions/Environmental/Formerly-Used-Defense-Sites/

Public Comment Period – April 29, 2019 to June 3, 2019

The USACE will hold a public comment period for the Proposed Plan from April 29 to June 3, 2019. The USACE will consider all formal relevant comments prior to making a final decision. You may submit formal written comments by email or mail postmarked by June 3, 2019 to Christopher Gardner, USACE Baltimore District (address and e-mail below).

Public Meeting – May 2, 2019

A public meeting will be held on May 2, 2019 from 6:00-8:00 p.m. at the Assateague Island Environmental Education Center at 7206 National Seashore Lane, Berlin, MD. The public meeting will include a presentation, and poster sessions, where community members can review individual poster stations, discuss completed activities, meet with project team members, and submit comments.



Meeting Agenda

- 6:00 pm - 6:30 pm: View displays and speak with staff
- 6:30 pm – 7:30 pm: Formal presentation followed by a question and answer session
- 7:30 pm – 8:00 pm: View displays and speak with staff

For more information regarding the public meeting for the Assateague Island Formerly Used Defense Site, please contact either:

Liza Finley (CENAB-ENE-C) Project Manager USACE Baltimore District 2 Hopkins Plaza Baltimore, MD 21201 Ph: (410) 962-2683 Liza.Finlev@usace.army.mil	Christopher Gardner (CENAB-CC) Public Affairs Specialist USACE Baltimore District 2 Hopkins Plaza Baltimore, MD 21201 Ph: (410) 962-2626 Christopher.P.Gardner@usace.army.mil
--	---

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Statue unveiling for baseball hall of famer Judy Johnson

By Greg Ellison

Staff Writer

(April 25, 2019) Worcester County native son and baseball legend William Julius “Judy” Johnson, member of both the Negro League and National Baseball hall of fames, will be honored with a memorial statue unveiling and dedication in front of the Snow Hill Library on Saturday at 2 p.m.

Worcester County Historical Society President Newt Weaver said the Judy Johnson Memorial, a five-foot plus granite statue, is the culmination of nearly two years of effort to remember the heights reached by Johnson, who was born Oct. 26, 1899 in Snow Hill.

“Judy Johnson had a compulsion and obsession to get everything right on the field,” he said. “This developed into a precision that led to excellence.”

Weaver said a large contingency of dignitaries would be on hand, with scheduled speakers including: Diana Purnell, Worcester County Commissioners president; Rev. Dr. Roxie Dennis Acholonu, Worcester County NAACP President; and Dr. Kirkland Hall Sr., University of Maryland Eastern Shore professor/coach and former president of the Somerset County NAACP.

Shifting to a youthful perspective, Snow Hill High School senior Orlando Dennis will highlight the cross-generational interest in Johnson’s achievements.

Dennis was selected for inclusion after recently being awarded top design honors among 44 entries in a school bulletin board contest to honor Johnson’s memory.

The visually engaging, data-rich display also netted Dennis four tickets to an upcoming game at Delmarva Shorebirds Stadium.

Long aware of Johnson’s standout professional career, Weaver, a member of the Society for Professional Baseball Research, said although the Town of Snow Hill had discussed a potential memorial as far back as 2013, the undertaking caught fire two summers ago.

After reading an essay about Johnson penned for an academic project by Cole Mumford, who was completing his senior year at Stephen Decatur High School, Weaver said the lingering notion to commemorate the Worcester born baseball standout grew legs.

“Cole Mumford wrote the essay that sparked the effort,” he said.

Credited as one of the most intelligent men ever to compete on a baseball diamond, Johnson was also one of the best athletes to surface from Worcester County, Weaver said.

Putting aside the stark racial divisions that restricted freedoms for all people of color during Johnson’s playing days, Weaver said the hall of famer was at first discouraged when attempting to play semi-pro baseball in 1918, because of his limited physical stature.

Initially deemed too small to play at 5 feet 6 inches and 120 pounds, within a few years Johnson gained 25 pounds and grew to 5 feet 10 inches, eventually signing on with the Philadelphia-based Hilldale Club. That first contact afforded a monthly salary of \$134.

After this, Johnson quickly built a reputation as a clutch-hitting, sure-handed third basemen, and despite only having a few years in the league was named Hilldale team captain in 1923.

“He was one of the youngest Negro League team captains,” Weaver said.

Johnson’s ascension sparked a three-year post season run by the Hilldale Club, who won three consecutive Eastern Colored League pennants between 1923-1925.

In addition to hitting over .390 during two of those seasons, in 1924 Johnson had the top batting average (.364) during the inaugural Negro League World Series.

During Johnson’s last campaign with Hilldale, before departing to become a player-manager for the Homestead Grays in 1930, he batted .416 for the season and was named both MVP and Player of the Year.

In 1932, Johnson became team captain with the Pittsburgh Crawfords, where he played on, arguably, the best Negro League team ever, which Weaver said included the likes of Josh Gibson, Oscar Charleston, Cool Papa Bell and Satchel Paige.

“They were like the 1927 Yankees,” Weaver said.

In 1975, Johnson become the sixth former Negro League player inducted into the National Baseball Hall of Fame, and subsequently served on a selection committee that nominated several peers, including Satchel Paige and Josh Gibson.

During his Hall of Fame appointment, then Commissioner Bowie Kuhn compared Johnson’s prowess at the hot corner to contemporary legend Brooks Robinson.

Weaver said the years-long campaign would not have been fruitful without diligent fundraising efforts by Worcester County Historical Society board members, who sourced private donations to finance the statue’s more than \$13,000 price tag.

Weaver said the legacy left by Judy “Mr. Sunshine” Johnson, putting aside gaudy baseball statistics, boils down to exhibiting a positive demeanor.

Famous for a perpetual smile, Johnson, who teammates tagged with the sunshine nickname, had a fast reply when anyone inquired about the joy clearly evident in his expression, Weaver said.

“He would reply, ‘because the sun is shining somewhere and I’m on the ball field,’” he said. “He always thought the sun was shining somewhere when he was on a ball field.”

‘Ward World’ returns to resort for 49th year

By Josh Davis
News Editor

(April 25, 2019) The 49th annual Ward World Championship Wildfowl Carving Competition and Art Festival returns to the resort this weekend, April 26-28, at the Roland E. Powell Convention Center on 40th Street in Ocean City.

The event began at the Ward Museum in Salisbury and later outgrew that venue, necessitating the move to Ocean City.

Today, the Ward World Championship brings artists from across the globe to the resort to showcase their talents in several categories of competition.

Ward Museum Executive Director Dr. Kristin Sullivan said original event organizers had high hopes for the competition, but no one expected it to become as big as it has.

“Across the Eastern Shore and across the country, there were some other competitions, but nothing really of the scale that this was to become,” Sullivan said. “It started as a way to recognize and honor the legacy of [museum founders] Lem and Steve Ward, who of course are Eastern Shore boys.

“The draw of decoy carving on the Eastern Shore was huge,” she continued. “People across the country were interested from the get-go in

this event and it grew to, I think, bigger proportions than anyone could have imagined.”

This year, more than 1,4000 wildfowl carvings will be on display, from beginning youth artists to former world champions, each competing for a share of almost \$65,000 in cash prizes. Since its inception, the Ward World Championship has given out more than \$2.6 million in prize money.

Sullivan said the event is unique for being “an international competition with world-class carvers.”

“I think the integrity of the competition is really important for its longevity,” she said. “I think the community of decoy carvers and wildfowl carvers that have formed around the competition is a huge

See WORLD Page 25



Competing in the Ward World Championship's Decorative Lifesize Division, last year, this great horned owl was carved by Kenneth Alvey of Evansville, Indiana.

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Entertainment

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Saturday, May 4th

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10am - Snow Hill High School Jazz Band

Noon - U.S. Jazz Band Commodores

3pm - Timbason La Original

South Stage

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10:30am - Earl Beardsley Dixieland Jazz

1:30pm - Lower Case Blues

4:30pm - Anthony Swamp Dog Clark

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410-524-7575
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April 26 & April 27: Full Circle, 9 p.m.
April 28: Teenage Rust & the Fabulous Rustettes, 2 p.m.
May 1: Old School, 6 p.m.
May 2: Dust N Bones, 8 p.m.

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116th Street, behind Fountain Head Towers Condominium
Ocean City
443-664-2896
www.bourbonstreetonthebeach.com
April 26: Randy Lee Ashcraft, 4 p.m.; Dave Sherman, 7-11 p.m.
April 27: 33 RPM, 7-11 p.m.
April 28: Bob Hughes, 6 p.m.
April 29: Just Jay, 6 p.m.
April 30: Jack Worthington, 6 p.m.

May 1: Reform School 6-9 p.m. & Open Mic 9 p.m.
May 2: Chris Button, 7-10 p.m.

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410-289-7192
www.captainstableoc.com
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Phil Perdue, 5:30 p.m.

COCONUTS BEACH BAR AND GRILL

In the Castle in the Sand Hotel
37th Street oceanfront
Ocean City
410-289-6846
www.castleinthesand.com
May 2: Taylor Knox Band, 4-8 p.m.

DUFFY'S TAVERN

130th Street in the Montego Bay Shopping Center
410-250-1449



DJ BK
Hooters: Friday, 4 p.m.

www.duffysoc.com
April 26: Bob Hughes, 5 - 8 p.m.
April 27: Karaoke w/ DJ Chuck D, 8 p.m.-12 a.m.

HARBORSIDE BAR & GRILL

12841 S. Harbor Road
West Ocean City
410-213-1846
www.ocharborside.com
April 26: DJ Billy T, 4 p.m.-2 a.m.
April 27: DJ Billy T, All Day;
DJ Jeremy, 9 p.m.-2 a.m.
April 28: Opposite Directions, 2-6 p.m.;
DJ Billy T, 4pm-2am
May 2: Opposite Directions, 6 p.m.

HOOTERS

12513 Ocean Gateway
West Ocean City
410-213-1841
www.hootersofoc.com
April 26: DJ BK, 4 p.m.
April 28: Blake Haley, 3 p.m.

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Ocean City
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DJ Dusty, 9 p.m.-2 a.m.
April 26-27: On The Edge,
9:30 p.m.-2 a.m.

PICKLES

706 Philadelphia Ave.
Ocean City
410-289-4891
www.picklesoc.com
April 26: Beats by Jeremy, 10 p.m.
April 27: Rogue Citizens, 10 p.m.
April 29: Beats by Jeremy 9 p.m.
May 2: Beats by Wax, 9 p.m.

PURPLE MOOSE SALOON

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April 26 & 27: CK the VJ/DJ, 2 p.m.;
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SEACRETS

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Ocean City
410-524-4900
www.secrets.com
April 26: Whiskeyhickon Boys, 5 p.m.-9 p.m.; JJ Rupp Band, 9 p.m.-1 a.m.; DJ Tuff, 9 p.m.-1 a.m.; Gypsy Wisdom, 10: p.m.-1:50 a.m.
April 27: Jon Maurer, 5 p.m.-9 p.m.; DJ Cruz, 9 p.m.-1 a.m.; JJ Rupp Band, 9 p.m.-1 a.m.; Crash the Party, 10 p.m.-11 p.m.; DJ Bobby-O, 10 p.m.-1:50 a.m.; Steal The Sky, 11:30 p.m.-1:50 a.m.
April 28: Ocean 98's 13th Annual Best Bloody Mary Contest, 12-3 p.m.
May 2: Opposite Directons, 5-9 p.m.
DJ Tuff, 9 p.m.-1:50 a.m.

SKYE RAW BAR & GRILLE

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Ocean City
410-723-6762
www.skyebaroc.com
April 26: Monkee Paw, 4-8pm
April 27: Test Kitchen, 4-8pm

TRADER LEE'S LIVE

9935 Stephen Decatur Highway
West Ocean City
443-614-4119
April 28: Sunday Jam Sess, 7 p.m.
May 1: 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 26: Karaoke
w/Donnie Berkey

World Carving Championship this weekend

Continued from Page 23
part of the longevity of the event. But really, the quality of the pieces that go into the competition [is unique].”

According to Sullivan, contest entries range from functional hunting-style decoys that are tested in tanks in the convention center and on the Assawoman Bay, to “really fantastic interpretive pieces” of museum-quality art.

She said those later works tend to “take the essence of the species and interpret that in wood” and bronze.

“There was a piece that won best in world in the interpretive division [in 2017] by a man named Jeff Krete ... and the piece was a bird that morphed into an old World War II style bomber plane,” she said. “On one wing it looked very much like a real, anatomically correct bird, but as the sculpture progressed over the bird it turned into an airplane, showing the aerodynamics of both the airplane and the bird as well.

“It was a really fascinating piece to look at and make you think about flight and the physics of flight, beyond just the artistry of the piece,” Sullivan added.

This year, for the first time, Ward World kicked off with an “Artist After Hours” on Thursday at the Art League of Ocean City on 94th Street.

The Ward Museum is also working with the art league to present some of the films shown during the recent Ocean City Film Festival.

“We will be showing those in the Performing Arts Center of the convention center. Anyone that has a ticket for the world competition is welcome to go in and view those films,” Sullivan said.

On Friday, the Ward Museum will recognize artists Lynn Branson,

Keith Mueller and Peter Palumbo with its 2019 Living Legend Awards, during a dinner and presentation from 5:30-9 p.m. at the Grand Hotel and Spa on 2100 Baltimore Avenue. Tickets cost \$75.

A live auction is scheduled at 2 p.m. on Saturday in the Performing Arts Center at the convention center, followed by an awards ceremony at 5:30 p.m.

The museum is also collaborating

with the Salisbury Zoo, which will present live birds of prey demonstrations on Sunday.

Standard exhibit hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sunday. Tickets cost \$10 for adults and \$8 for seniors and students.

For tickets or more information, visit www.wardmuseum.org or call 410-742-4988.

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*2018 OPA Survey

Puzzles

THE INSIDE STORY

BY GRANT THACKRAY / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

Grant Thackray (rhymes with "daiquiri") is 25 and lives in Portland, Ore. He lists his day jobs as writing pub trivia, designing T-shirts and house-managing live theater. To create this puzzle's theme, he spent countless hours poring over lists of (well, you'll see) to find combinations that worked. This is Grant's fourth crossword for The Times. — W.S.

ACROSS
1 [Hah!]
6 Something that might be packed with juice, informally
12 Home of Velázquez's "Las Meninas"
17 Forerunners of MP3s
20 "Do ____!" (emphatic agreement)
21 1958 No. 1 hit in a foreign language
22 Concern for a samurai
23 One situp, e.g.
24 Who has trouble reaching a windshield to place a ticket? [1989, 1982]
27 Who once boasted, "I'm so mean, I make medicine sick!"
28 Enthusiastic Spanish cry
29 Lao-____
30 Smack
31 Protest any involvement
33 Former Wisconsin senator Feingold
34 Sore
36 Bill ____, "Oliver Twist" thief
38 Shout at a pool
39 Major leagues
42 Talk show host Johnny's children? [2015, 2006]
45 "There's the catch!"
47 Moist towelette

DOWN
49 Flavor of much black candy
50 Vietnamese New Year
52 Traitor who gets on one's nerves? [2006, 2002]
55 Noir weapon
56 Catches flies
58 Detox
59 The planets, before 2006
61 Item that may accompany chopsticks and a ramen bowl
63 Baghdad's ____ City
64 TV ad
66 Long building project, in a cliché
69 Montezuma's foe
70 Small screen superimposed on a large screen ... or a hint to this puzzle's shaded squares
75 Venomously biting
78 Forked over
79 Med. plans
80 "____ first you don't succeed ..."
84 Cheetah mascot of Cheetos
86 Chinese greeting
88 Still not caught
91 Line often in Latin
92 Big ____ (praise, slangily)
95 Prepares for guests who don't like their coffee black? [2017, 1996]
97 Lead-in to Pen
98 Seat in the classic photograph "Lunch Atop a Skyscraper"

ACROSS
100 Preceder of "And that's final!"
101 Laddie's refusal
102 Initiated global conflicts? [1977, 2012]
106 Visits during a vacation
108 Bendy blades
109 Huffs
111 Singer Sumac
112 Spill something
115 Sister of Moses
117 School-cafeteria food, pejoratively
118 Chart
120 Broad Australian accent, informally
122 Unexplained ability
123 Selection of billfolds for medical professionals? [2016, 2008]
127 Chicken ____ king
128 Let float, as a currency
129 Ticker lines?
130 That is
131 "Dragons' ____" (British equivalent to "Shark Tank")
132 Ones picked out of lineups
133 Slobbery kiss
134 Flies in the face of someone?

DOWN
1 Its name means "three strings," but it can have up to 21
2 ____ jacket
3 Blew out of proportion
4 Enjoy
5 Chicago paper, informally
6 Beetle Bailey's rank: Abbr.
7 Eat quickly
8 Draft picks
9 Demand from a police interrogator
10 "Black-ish" father
11 "Boatercycle"
12 That of this clue is awkward
13 Blowout
14 Santa ____ winds
15 "Is the risk worth it?"
16 Carnivora and Rodentia
17 Good manners in kindergarten drawing? [1997, 2004]
18 Supermarket section
19 Command from a dentist
25 Meddles (with)
26 Justice Kagan
32 Superior to a 6-Down
35 Most bohemian
37 "Uh, that is to say ..."
38 A brigantine has two
40 Actor Bremner of "Wonder Woman"
41 Mona Lisa, for one
43 Org. based in Langley, Va.
44 "That reminds me ..." is one
45 Fundamentals
46 Spanish greeting
48 Muscle builder
51 Recipe amts.
53 Plucky sort?
54 "Leave no ____ unstoned" (jocular phrase)

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

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56 Hershey toffee bar
57 "Yoo-hoo!"
60 Accompaniers of canes
62 Prefix with puncture
65 Young seal
67 Popular brunch options
68 Prefix with terrorism
71 :
72 "Weekend Update" co-anchor beginning in 2014
73 "Sounds good!"

74 Russia, once
75 Fictional company behind earthquake pills and dehydrated boulders
76 Outlets, of a sort
77 Smaller piece of cookware? [1953, 2017]
81 Where the action is
82 Contents of the Rio Grande
83 Head to France?
85 Unsophisticated sorts
87 Bank job

89 50 before
90 Where to be among Hmong
93 ____ Xing
94 Snores
96 Urban layout
98 Agenda topper
99 Stately residence
103 Bee: Prefix
104 Do research (on)
105 It cuts along the grain
107 Wear down
110 "Good thinking!"

113 Bad feeling
114 Borscht base
115 Drink at Valhalla
116 Catalina, e.g.
117 Flight part before a landing
119 Lead-in to stratus or cumulus
121 Take a fall
124 Nurse's training, for short
125 "____ is me!"
126 Suffix with legal

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HARD - 2

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

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

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G	A	S	P		M	E	D	A	Y		C	H	A	I	M		E	C	I	G
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O	P	U	S		A	C	E	S			S	O	F	A			M	O	T	O
P	T	A		S	S	T	S		A	D	S		F	U	S	S		T	I	P
L	E	T		P	S	A		S	P	E	C	S		N	S	A		C	A	R
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O	D	E		A	N	T	I	N	I	A		I	S	I	S		S	T	U	
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T	A	N	K	U	P		M	A	W		T	I	M		A	I	K	M	A	N
A	S	T	I		O	B	E	S	E		O	N	E	N	D		I	A	G	O
T	H	I	S		G	E	N	I	E		K	E	N	Y	A		S	H	O	O
E	A	C	H		O	N	T	A	P		E	S	T	E	S		H	A	N	D

‘Rock for Recovery’ to benefit Worcester Warriors, this Sun.

By Josh Davis
Associate Editor

(April 25, 2019) Tranzfusion is set to headline the third annual “Rock for Recovery” concert, raising money for the Worcester County Warriors Against Opiate Addiction, Sunday, April 28.

Tickets for the event, scheduled to begin at 1 p.m. at the West Ocean City Greene Turtle, will be \$10 at the door.

Two local mothers, Jackie Ball and Heidi McNeeley, founded the Worcester County Warriors in 2016 after learning each had children who struggled with heroin addiction.

That year, the nonprofit’s initial public meeting in the Ocean Pines library drew about 50 people. By their second meeting, held a month later, attendance had swelled to several hundred, solidifying both the Warriors as a group and the belief that the opioid epidemic had indeed reached Worcester County.

McNeeley said Rock for Recovery was started after one of the Greene Turtle managers reached out to her husband, Jamie.

“He had possibly some personal connections to addiction, and he talked about having customers come in that were obviously using and he wanted to give them some information and some help,” she said.

Funds raised during the event help local people get into treatment – and to stay there.

“We continue to get requests from people who are living in a sober home and have lost their jobs, so they’re unable to keep up with the rent. Or, they’re just moving in and looking for a job, so we’ll guarantee a couple weeks’ rent,” McNeeley said.

For years, McNeeley has stressed the urgency of an addict who is asking for help, and much of the work the Warriors have done involves getting people into treatment before they get cold feet or use again.

“I think our biggest thing is we don’t want [to see] people who have that window of opportunity where they say they’re ready to get help, they’re ready to go into treatment, but they can’t get there,” she said. “If they can’t find a ride there or they can’t afford whatever the associated costs are, we’ve purchased plane tickets to get people to a rehab [facility] and we’ve found ways to get them where they need to be.

“That really become our primary focus,” McNeeley continued. “We added it last year, and we’ve spent almost \$20,000 helping 60 people into recovery. We’re pretty excited about that.”

Rock for Recovery will feature door prizes and silent auctions, including hotel and golf packages, restaurant gift certificates and other items donated by local businesses. For information on donating door prizes or silent auction items, call or text McNeeley at 202-409-6537.

Several local restaurants have also committed to donating food for the event, McNeeley said, and information about the Worcester County Warriors

will also be made available.

“Addiction affects all of us. We have to lose the stigma, so that we can all just help each other,” she said.

McNeeley said she’s excited this year with the addition of popular local classic rock group Tranzfusion to the entertainment lineup.

The band began in 1977 in Cambridge as “Just Us,” and was renamed Tranzfusion in 1983. They’ve been playing classic rock by The Doors, The Rolling Stones, Led Zeppelin and The Who in the resort community for four decades.

Drummer Bobby Malaby said the band has played with virtually the same lineup since it began, with Hank Koenig on lead guitar and Bob Davis on keyboard. Al Cook joined as the bass player about two years ago, replacing original bassist Tom Malaby, who is now working full time as an electrical engineer for Northrup Grumman at NASA’s Wallops Flight Facility in Virginia.

The band has added several songs from 1980s to their set list, including Tears for Fears’ “Everybody Wants to Rule the World” and “Every Little Thing She Does is Magic” by The Police.

“We like to give back to the community and we feel like [The Worcester Warriors] are a real worthy cause,” Malaby said.

For more information on the Worcester County Warriors Against Opiate Addiction, visit www.wocowarriors.org or www.facebook.com/WorcesterCountyWarriors.

N’tl Prescription Drug Take Back Day on Saturday

(April 25, 2019) The Maryland State Police in partnership with the Drug Enforcement Administration are asking citizens to dispose of unwanted prescription drugs during the National Prescription Drug Take Back Day this Saturday, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at state police barracks.

State police barracks throughout Maryland will be participating in the National Drug Take Back Day. Those in the local area can bring their unwanted prescription drugs to the Maryland State Police, Berlin Barrack “V,” at 9758 Ocean Gateway, Berlin, Maryland 21811.

Each barrack will act as a collection station giving citizens an opportunity to dispose of all unwanted and unused prescription drugs.

The National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day aims to provide a safe, convenient and responsible means of disposing of prescription drugs, while also educating the general public about the potential for abuse of medications.

Second only to marijuana, non-medical prescription drugs are the most commonly used drug in the country. For info, contact, Det. Sgt. John Revel at 410-641-3101.



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OCEAN CITY RESTAURANT WEEK

April 28th - May 11th • \$35.⁰⁰ per person

APPETIZERS (SELECT ONE)	ENTREES (SELECT ONE)	DESSERT (SELECT ONE)
Soup of the Day Served with a seasonal garnish	Veal "Oscar" Scalloped potatoes with sautéed, jumbo lump crab topped with hollandaise	Key Lime Pie Tart & sweet topped with whipped cream
Spring Salad Mixed greens, candied walnuts, dried cranberries, mandarin oranges with Balsamic Vinaigrette	Dunes Manor Signature Crab Imperial Mashed red skin potatoes, spring veggies topped with fancy tartar sauce	Flourless Chocolate Torte Raspberry Coulis topped with whipped cream
Caesar Salad Classic Caesar dressing & parmesan chips	Seared Diver Scallops Large plump sea scallops served with spring veggies & creamy risotto	Raspberry White Chocolate Brûlée Cheesecake
Toasted Ravioli Lightly breaded & topped with shredded parmesan cheese	Roasted Rosemary Half Chicken Served with scalloped potatoes & spring veggies	
Bloody Mary Shrimp Ceviche Crisp cold shrimp served with fried wontons		



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April 26th- May 12th



TWO FOR \$20.00

CHOICE OF SOUP OR SALAD

CHOICE OF ENTREE:

Chicken Alfredo served with garlic bread

Crab Cake with chef's choice sides

Prime Rib with chef's choice sides

Beverages not included Beer, Wine and Cocktails can be ordered from the bar • plus tax and gratuity

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Cuisine

Unwind with some cheeky tunes, deviled eggs

The eggs are on the stove as we wait for some friends to come over. I am gladly sweating over my home stove instead of the one at work; a needed respite on this rare occasion. Not planning on making much more than a few bites or hors d'oeuvres, I gather necessary ingredients while talking to the kids.



By Paul Suplee,
MBA, CEC, PC-3

Lately, it is not very often that I can relax with my family and laugh and share quality time. I am truly looking forward to the semester's end so that I may unwind a little bit and spend more time with the tykes.

It is difficult to believe how quickly they are growing, especially considering that in a mere five months, my 13-year-old and I will be the only occupants in our humble abode, and I honestly can't picture what that is going to be like. Truthfully, I can only imagine that it's even stranger for him with all of his siblings in college or beyond.

True, we have a mountain of pets, but I count them as little more than a nuisance with a high price tag. Well, that is except for Winston, our chocolate labradoodle. If you know me or my kids, you know Winston. I can't believe that I'm saying that, but he's even cooler than Sadie was, and she was my baby. But, moving on.

Tonight we are just sitting around talking about various concerts that we want to try to go to this summer. It has been a while since we have been to one with this whole restaurant thing taking up our time. And as we scroll through our mental Rolodexes to find some common ground, my daughter plays a song that we all find hysterical — a contemporary remake of Boys II Men's End of the Road. While the song itself might not be terribly humorous, we get the bright idea to watch the original video from decades ago, and rest assured it did not disappoint. Oh, it's nice to laugh again.

My kids and I enjoy listening to the band in question: Me First and the Gimme Gimmes, a Southern Californian Punk Cover Supergroup containing members of Bad Religion, Foo Fighters, Lagwagon, NOFX and Swingin' Utters. They are literally an incredibly successful side project with some of the greatest players in that music scene.

The best part is that they cover a



dizzying array of artists, including John Denver, Johnny Cash (the only artist who can make me feel good about waking up with a hangover), Dixie Chicks, Boys II Men, Arlo Guthrie, Elton John, Whitney Houston et al. They all just rather make you want to smile.

The eggs are done and cooling, and now it's time to devil them. I love deviled eggs, as do the kids, and we set out to knock a batch out. Of course, we do so with the music blaring and the shutters rattling. It is definitely nice to be home.

Deviled Eggs

makes 24 pieces

1 doz. Fresh eggs
1/3 c. Duke's mayonnaise
Salt & Pepper, as needed
1/2 c Pickled mustard seeds (recipe follows)
1 Granny Smith apple
Pickled onion (optional)
Greens or micros for garnish

1. Place the eggs in a pot with water 2 inches higher than the highest egg
2. Bring to a boil (not a simmer)

and immediately remove from heat but allow to rest on the stovetop.

3. Set up an ice bath (enough ice water to cover the eggs and not melt)
4. Allow the eggs to sit for 12 minutes and then remove from the hot water and place in the ice bath.
5. Once cooled, crack the shells all over on the counter and peel away.
6. I like to cut the eggs in the non-traditional manner. Instead of making ovals (if you're looking from the top down), cut them across the 'equator' so that they look round if you're looking at them from the topside.
7. Carefully remove the yolks keeping the whites intact. Place the yolks in a bowl
8. Add the mayonnaise and whisk until smooth, seasoning with the salt and pepper.
9. When you are satisfied with your filling (I'm a purist and I do not like relish in mine), split the filling amongst the eggs.
10. Top with the pickled mustard seeds and a tiny spear of crisp, tart apple. These really set off the richness of the filling.
11. Try to save some for the party. I know you are going to eat at least one

Pickled Mustard Seed

makes a little more than 1 cup

1/2 c. Yellow mustard seed
1 c. Champagne vinegar
1/4 c. Granulated sugar

1. In a saucepan, cover the mustard seeds with cold water and bring to a boil.
2. Strain the liquid and repeat step one four more times (this is the only way to remove that bitter nastiness from the seeds. They're super-acrid).
3. When you have gone through this, taste one to ensure that the bitter is gone. It will have a nice bite to it now.
4. For the final cooking, add the vinegar and the sugar and cook until absorbed There will be a little bit of liquid left but for the most part it will absorb or evaporate.
5. Cool before using and keep refrigerated. These keep for a very long time.

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

Calendar

Submit calendar items to: editor@oceancitytoday.net. Submission deadline is 5 p.m. Monday, the week of publication. Local submissions have priority. Area event listings are subject to space availability.

Thurs., April 25

PLAYTIME
Snow Hill library, 307 N. Washington St., 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.worcesterlibrary.org>

STORY TIME ‘CATS & DOGS’
Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 10:30 AM. Children, ages 2-5 years, enjoy stories, movement, songs and crafts. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

MAKE AND TAKE ‘DIY BATH & BODY SCRUBS’
Ocean City library, 10003 Coastal Highway, 11:30 AM. The will be a variety of essential oils and dyes so that participants can customize their products. There will be music and light refreshments. The program is for adults only. Reserve your spot: 410-524-1818. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

SOUNDTRACK OF THE ‘60S
Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 2:00 PM. Reminisce about some of the great local radio stations and charismatic disc jockeys in Maryland during the 1960s. Explore the popular music that defines a generation. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

STROKE SUPPORT GROUP
Atlantic General Hospital, Conference Room 1, 9733 Healthway Drive, 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM. Providing physical and emotional support for survivors and caregivers to share personal experiences and challenges. Coping strategies also discussed. Anne Waples, awaples@atlanticgeneral.org, 443-614-5720

FIRESIDE CHAT
Berlin library, 13 Harrison Ave., 3:00 PM. Join this lively chat about favorite good reads and get some ideas for new authors and genres to explore. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

FAMILY TIME ‘PUZZLES’
Berlin library, 13 Harrison Ave., 4:30 PM. Teams of 5 participants, including at least one adult and one school age child compete to see which team can complete a 200 piece puzzle the faster. Register: 410-641-0650. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

ARTIST AFTER HOURS
OC Center for the Arts, 502 94th St., 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM. Mingle with fellow artists and arts lovers from across the Peninsula and across the globe, while enjoying drinks

and treats. 410-742-4988. Ext. 120. <http://www.wardmuseum.org>

DEMOCRATIC CLUB MEETING
Ocean Pines Community Center, As-sateague Room, 239 Ocean Parkway, 7:00 PM. Senator Mary Beth Carozza will talk about the results of the 2019 Maryland General Assembly. The public is welcomed.

Fri., April 26

MARYLAND INTERNATIONAL KITE EXPO
Beach and Boardwalk from Fourth to Sixth streets, All day. There will be exhibitions and demonstrations including stunt and power kite lessons, free children’s games and activities and more. The festival will showcase some of the best kite flyers from around the world. 410-289-7855, <http://www.kiteloft.com>

ARBOR DAY CELEBRATION
Ocean City Elementary School, 12828 Center Drive, 9:30 AM. The American Legion Color guard will open the ceremonies. Second grade children will perform skits, songs and poems and a tree will be planted to commemorate the event. OCPD Mounted and K-9 Patrols will entertain the children. Light refreshments served. 410-289-7060.

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>

WARD WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP WILDFOWL CARVING COMPETITION
Ocean City convention center, 4001 Coastal Highway, 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM. An international event where carvers, collectors and visitors convene. From highly decorative works of art to functional hunting decoys, about 1200 different wildfowl carvings representing more than 150 species from around the world can be viewed at this event. There are more than 40 different divisions in which artists can compete. Admission costs are \$10 for adults, \$8 for seniors and students and free to those 11 years and younger. Group rate for 6 or more is \$6 per person. These are multi-day passes. The Living Legends Award Presentation and Dinner will be held at the Grand Hotel from 5:30-8 p.m. Tickets cost \$65 for members and \$75 for non-members.

BERLIN BOOK OF THE MONTH
Berlin library, 13 Harrison Ave., 1:00 PM.

This month’s selection is *Defending Jacob* by William Landay. Copies of books are available in advance at the library. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

HOMESCHOOL BOOK CLUB
Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 2:00 PM. Discuss books chosen by the club. Discussion questions will be shared after the meeting. For children reading at middle-grade level. 410-208-4014, <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

OCPS RIBBON CUTTING
Ocean City Chamber of Commerce, 12320 Ocean Gateway, 3:00 PM. The Ocean City Power Squadron is joining the OC Chamber for an official ribbon cutting ceremony. Information about our squadron and membership registration included. Complimentary refreshments and beverages. dcchristensen@jandjconst.net

ANNUAL WINE TASTING AND AUCTION
Ocean Pines Community Center, 239 Ocean Parkway, 4:30 PM - 7:30 PM. Enjoy wine, food, silent auction and live music by Still Rockin. Tickets cost \$15. Must be 21 or older to attend. Proceeds to Kiwanis Club of OP-OC Scholarship Fund. For tickets or information call 443-896-4914.

4TH FRIDAY SEASON KICKOFF
Downtown Pocomoke, 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM. Civic Night will feature sidewalk vendors, food sales, beer and wine, children activities, live music by Audio Tribe and more. There will be a special performance by All About Dance Academy at 6:30 p.m. Vendor registration: DowntownPocomoke.com

NEW ENGLAND SHRIMP ROLL DINNER
Selbyville Elks Lodge 2173, 13324 Worcester Highway, 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM. Dinner includes New England shrimp roll, two vegetables and dessert. Cost is \$12. Guests are welcome. Cocktails and beer available. Susan Lewis, doylesrest@yahoo.com, 302-542-9205

Sat., April 27

MARYLAND INTERNATIONAL KITE EXPO
Beach and Boardwalk from Fourth to Sixth streets, All day. There will be exhibitions and demonstrations including stunt and power kite lessons, free children’s games and activities and more. The festival will showcase some of the best kite flyers from around the world. 410-289-7855, <http://www.kiteloft.com>

ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT BREAKFAST BUFFET
Whaleville United Methodist Church, 11716 Sheppards Crossing Road, 7:00 AM - 10:00 AM. Buffet includes pancakes, bacon, sausage, scrapple, scrambled eggs, chipped beef, hash brown potatoes, toast, fruit and assorted beverages. Cost is \$8 for adults and \$4 for children.

CHURCH RUMMAGE SALE
Ocean City Presbyterian Church, 1301

Philadelphia Ave., 7:00 AM - 1:00 PM.

ISLAND TO ISLAND HALF MARATHON/5K
Ocean City Inlet Parking Lot, 809 S Atlantic Ave., 7:00 AM - 1:00 PM. Packet pickup and registration is April 26, 2-9 p.m. Under large white entertainment tent, closest to the beach. Cost is \$95 for half marathon, \$75 for half marathon military and \$40 for the 5K. <http://octrirunning.com>

BERLIN CLEAN UP DAY
Stephen Decatur Park, 17 Burley St., 8:30 AM. Take pride in Berlin and help with planting, weeding, raking, mulching and more. Free t-shirts and lunch will be provided for all volunteers. Clean up locations are Stephen Decatur Park, Henry Park, and Berlin Falls Park. Volunteers can sign up ahead up time at www.comcastinthecom-munity.com. mbohlen@berlinmd.gov, 410-641-4314.

CRAFTY SATURDAY MAKE & TAKE ‘HERE COMES THE SUN’
Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM. For all ages. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

WARD WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP WILDFOWL CARVING COMPETITION
Ocean City convention center, 4001 Coastal Highway, 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM. An international event where carvers, collectors and visitors convene. From highly decorative works of art to functional hunting decoys, about 1200 different wildfowl carvings representing more than 150 species from around the world can be viewed at this event. There are more than 40 different divisions in which artists can compete. Admission costs are \$10 for adults, \$8 for seniors and students and free to those 11 years and younger. Group rate for 6 or more is \$6 per person. These are multi-day passes. World Class Art and Carving Benefit Auction in the Performing Arts Center at 2 p.m. Award ceremony in the Performing Arts Center at 5:30 p.m.

NATIONAL PRESCRIPTION DRUG TAKE BACK DAY
Maryland State Police, Berlin Barrack “V”, 9758 Ocean Gateway, 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM. The Maryland State Police in partnership with the Drug Enforcement Administration are asking citizens dispose of unwanted prescription drugs. Each barrack will act as a collection station. The National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day aims to provide a safe, convenient, and responsible means of disposing prescription drugs, while also educating the general public about the potential for abuse of medications. Contact Detective Sergeant John Revel, 410-641-3101

WORLD TAI CHI & QIGONG DAY
Northside Park, 200 125th St., Ocean City, MD, 10:00 AM. Join in on mass Tai Chi and Qigong teach-ins and exhibitions. This educational event brings people together across ethnic, racial, religious and geopolitical borders in a celebration of personal and global

CALENDAR

Continued from Page 29

health and healing. The group will be meeting at the patio in back of the building. kim@radiantmotionforhealth.com, 410-213-2822,

SATURDAY STORY TIME

Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 11:00 AM. Featuring books, singing, dancing and fun. Stay to do the Saturday Make & Take craft afterwards. For all ages. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

MOUNTED UNIT OPEN HOUSE

Bay Point Equestrian Center, Beauchamp Road, 12:00 PM - 4:00 PM. Fee open house featuring the Ocean City Police Mounted Unit. Attendees will have the opportunity to meet each.

STEM

Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 1:00 PM. For ages 5-12 years. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

18TH ANNUAL KENNEDY-KING DINNER

Atlantic Hotel, 2 S. Main St., 5:30 PM. In support of the Democratic Central Committee of Worcester County. Reception begins at 5:30 p.m. dinner is at 6:30 p.m. Keynote speaker will be Democratic State Party Chair Maya Rockeymoore Cummings. Tickets cost \$75. Reservations: 410-600-0552

SECOND-CHANCE PROM

Ocean Pines Community Center, 239 Ocean Parkway, 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM. Prom-goers, ages 21 and older, are encouraged to don their favorite formal attire and enjoy music, dancing, snacks and punch. Alcoholic beverages will not be provided but are permitted. There will be a crowning of a prom king and queen. Cost is \$20. Pictures will be available for an additional \$5. Tickets can be purchased at the community center or by calling 410-641-7052. <http://www.ocean-pines.org>

Sun., April 28

MARYLAND INTERNATIONAL KITE EXPO

Beach and Boardwalk from Fourth to Sixth streets, all day. There will be exhibitions and demonstrations including stunt and power kite lessons, free children's games and activities and more. The festival will showcase some of the best kite flyers from around the world. 410-289-7855, <http://www.kiteloft.com>

WARD WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP WILDFOWL CARVING COMPETITION

Ocean City convention center, 4001 Coastal Highway, 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM. An international event where carvers, collectors and visitors convene. From highly decorative works of art to functional hunting decoys, about 1200 different wildfowl carvings representing more than 150 species from around the world can be viewed at this event. There are more than 40 different divisions in which artists can compete. Admission costs are \$10 for adults, \$8 for seniors and students and free to those 11 years and younger. Group rate for 6 or more is \$6 per person.

OCEAN CITY BEACH PATROL TESTING

Sports Core Pool, 11144 Cathell Road, 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM. Pre-employment physical skills evaluation. No pre-certification requirements or experience needed to apply. Must be 17 years or older. Proof of age is required for all candidates. Contact 410-289-7556, <http://www.oceancitymd.gov/ocbp>

INDOOR YARD SALE FUNDRAISER

American Legion Post #166, 2308 Philadelphia Ave., 10:30 AM - 3:30 PM. Food will be available for purchase. Open to the public. Tables available for \$15. Reserve a table at the post or call 302-494-7499 or 302-494-7973. Proceeds benefit the Al Harmon Memorial Scholarship Fund. Set up begins at 8:30 a.m.

6TH ANNUAL WALK FOR KIDS

Hooters, 501 Atlantic Ave., 11:00 AM - 11:59 PM. Registration begins at 11 a.m. A \$25 fee includes walk, a commemorative token and admission to an exclusive reception at Hooters from 1-3 p.m. Trophies awarded to top fund raisers. Register online at thecrick-etcenter.com or call 410-641-0097. Proceeds benefit abused children in Worcester County.

ITALIAN DINNER

Church of the Holy Spirit, 10001 Coastal Highway, 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM. The feast, catered by Carrabba's, includes chicken Bryan, penne pomodoro, Caesar salad, garlic breadsticks, iced tea and lemonade. Desserts will be available for \$1. Tickets cost \$15 and are available at the church in advance and at the door. Info: 410-723-1973 or Monica, 443-235-8942.

MID-ATLANTIC SYMPHONY PERFORMANCE

Ocean City convention center, 4001 Coastal Highway, 7:00 PM. The symphony will present Ravel: Piano Concerto In G Major, and Beethoven: Symphony No. 9. Also featuring a superstar cast of soloists as well as a performance of Ode to Joy by a 100-person choir. Tickets cost \$50 and can be purchased at midatlanticsymphone.org, by calling 888-846-8600 or at the box office one hour before the performance.

Mon., April 29

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. www.worcesterlibrary.org

LAP TIME

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

MOTHER GOOSE ON THE LOOSE

Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 10:30 AM. A fun-filled, 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>

GROUNDBREAKING CEREMONY

St. Mary Star of the Sea, 1705 Philadelphia Ave., 12:00 PM. Ceremony celebrating the launch of a major restoration and expansion project the will include a new building, constructed on the site of the old rectory, in addition to a meditation garden located just off Baltimore Avenue. Donna Santoni: 410-289-0652.

PARACORD KEY CHAINS

Snow Hill library, 307 N. Washington St., 3:45 PM. Learn how to tie a paranoid knot and make your own key chain. Register: 410-632-3495. For ages 6 years and older. <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. 410-641-0157,

SNOW HILL CANDIDATE'S FORUM

Snow Hill High School, 305 S. Church St., 6:30 PM. All candidates, seeking office in the May 7 General Election, are invited along with the public. Sponsored by Snow Hill Now.

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 30

'THE KINDNESS BUS'

Berlin library, 13 Harrison Ave., 10:30 AM. The goal of The Kindness Bus is to teach people to perform One Million Acts of Kindness in their life. Adults and teenagers can set the example for young children to emulate. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

STORY TIME 'THE KINDNESS BUS'

Berlin library, 13 Harrison Ave., 10:30 AM. For 2 to 5 year old children. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

FLYING OVER DELMARVA

Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 2:00 PM. In this presentation, Joanne Guilfoi details the history of spray planes, banner planes and bi-planes in the region and the local pilots that touched the sky. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

FAMILY TIME 'CRAFTS'

Ocean City library, 10003 Coastal Highway, 3:00 PM - 6:00 PM. Join the group for crafts and activities. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

'THE KINDNESS BUS'

Snow Hill library, 307 N. Washington St., 4:00 PM. The goal of The Kindness Bus is to teach people to perform One Million Acts of Kindness in their life. Adults and teenagers can set the example for young children to emulate. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

TED TALK 'HOW TO TAP INTO OUR

COLLECTIVE EMPATHY'

Ocean City library, 10003 Coastal Highway, 5:30 PM - 7:00 PM. In the final discussion in the kindness series, the group will consider the concept of empathy. <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., May 1

WITTY KNITTERS

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

'THE KINDNESS BUS'

Ocean City library, 10003 Coastal Highway, 10:30 AM. The goal of The Kindness Bus is to teach people to perform One Million Acts of Kindness in their life. Adults and teenagers can set the example for young children to emulate. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

HYPERTENSION CLINICS

1:00 PM - 3:00 PM. Sponsored by Atlantic General Hospital and takes place at Rite Aid, 10119 Old Ocean City Blvd., Berlin and at Rite Aid, 11011 Manklin Creek Road, Ocean Pines. Free blood pressure screening and health information. Michelle: 410-641-9268

RAG RUG WITH UPCYCLED FABRIC

Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 2:00 PM. Use up pieces for fabric, old sheets, shirts or dresses and make a colorful rug. Register: 410-208-4014. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

FREE HEALTHCARE LECTURE

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

'THE KINDNESS BUS'

Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 5:00 PM. The goal of The Kindness Bus is to teach people to perform One Million Acts of Kindness in their life. Adults and teenagers can set the example for young children to emulate. <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>

CALL
410-723-6397
BY MONDAY
5 P.M.



MARKETPLACE

Classifieds now appear
in Ocean City Today &
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each week and online at
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Daily	Assateague Point., Berlin	1BR/2BR/3BR	Mobile	From \$100,000	Tony Matrona/Resort Homes
Sat-Mon, 11-4pm	Heron Harbour, 120th St., Bayside	1BR/2BR/3BR/4BR+	Condo, Towns & SF	—	Nanette Pavier/Holiday Real Estate
Thurs-Mon 11-5pm	9800 Mooring View Lane, Unit 32, OC	3BR/2.5BA	Duplex/Townhouse	From \$299,900	Kathleen Clark/Monogram Realty
Friday 2-4	310 Oyster Ln., Montego Bay	2BR/1BA	Mobile Home	\$250,000	Lauren A Smith/Keller Williams
Saturday 11-2	2 48th St. #1012	3BR/3BA	Condo	\$829,900	Ryan Daniher/Keller Williams
Sunday 12-2	5 Locust Ct., Ocean Pines	4BR/3BA	Single Family	\$249,900	Donna Frankowski/Shamrock Realty
Saturday 1-3	71 Sierra Ct., Selbyville, DE	3BR/2.5BA	Single Family	\$344,900	Rosie Beauclair/Shamrock Realty
Saturday 11-2	31 Canal Overlook Ln., OC	2BR/2BA	Single Family	\$324,900	Bonnie Brown/Berkshire Hathaway PenFed
Saturday 11-2	325 Yacht Club Dr., Ocean Pines	3BR/2.5BA	Townhome	\$269,900	Carole Spurrier/Berkshire Hathaway PenFed
Sunday 11-2	827 Little John Dr., Salisbury	3BR/3BA	Single Family	\$228,900	Mark Decker/Berkshire Hathaway PenFed
Sunday 11-2	38 Alton Point, Ocean Pines	5BR/5FB/2HB	Single Family	\$1,590,000	The Britts Team/KellerWilliams
Sat. & Sun. 1-4	162 Winter Harbor Dr., OC	4BR/3BA	Single Family	\$539,900	Karen Oass/Long & Foster
Saturday 10-1	32 Fort Sumter, The Parke	3BR/2BA	Single Family	\$214,900	Anna Spann/PO2 Hileman
Saturday 10-1	10017 Orchard Rd., Berlin	3BR/2BA	Single Family	\$299,900	Taylor Bakke/PO2 Hileman
Friday 3-6	2 Burlington Ct., The Parke	2BR/2BA	Townhome	\$219,900	Cameron Drew/PO2 Hileman
Saturday 11-2	11 54th St., Key Largo #101	5BR/4.5BA	Condo	\$624,900	Justin Gearhart/PO2 Hileman

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