



OPVFD must scramble for new recruits

Scarcity of volunteers becomes greater issue

By Greg Ellison
Staff Writer

(Feb. 6, 2020) The Ocean Pines Volunteer Fire Department, which was established on a shoestring budget nearly a half century ago, now faces mounting challenges to recruit and retain members.

President Dave Van Gasbeck said area demographics have traditionally added a layer of difficulty to recruit volunteers.

"We have a relatively older volunteer group," he said. "The demographics in this community are 37 percent of the people ... are over 65 [and] probably about 50 percent are part-timers.

"Most of the people we've been getting over the last couple of years have been retired out of Baltimore ... and other locations," he said. "They were career or volunteer somewhere

See OP Page 10

It's all skate on second floor at Berlin Fire Co.

By Morgan Pilz
Staff Writer

(Feb. 6, 2020) The Berlin Fire Company will install a portable synthetic ice rink inside its facility for use for the entire month of March, the organization said during a quarterly report to the Berlin mayor and Town Council last Monday.

"We are in the process of

See FOR \$5 Page 6



PHOTO COURTESY THOM GULYAS

Crews work well into the early hours of Sunday morning, Feb. 2, to replace an aging water valve that failed on the intersection of Broad and West streets in Berlin.

Bad valve gets 18-hour repair job

Water main problem proves to be one major leak govt. can fix with a little digging

By Morgan Pilz
Staff Writer

(Feb. 6, 2020) Employees of the Berlin Water Resources Department spent approximately 18 hours repairing a leaking water valve on the intersection of Broad and West streets last weekend.

The leak was investigated at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday, Feb. 1, and a majority of the work needed to patch the leak was completed around 4:30 a.m. on Sunday, Feb. 2.

"It was aging infrastructure ... the valve that failed was installed in the

late '50s early '60s," Berlin Town Administrator Jeff Fleetwood said.

The failed valve was one of four located in the four-way intersection on Broad and West Streets. One valve was replaced years ago, Fleetwood said, and another two (including the one that failed) were replaced Saturday evening.

The fourth valve was replaced Monday evening to avoid failure in the future.

"It's unfortunate, but its aging infrastructure and what the crew did Saturday and what they [did on Monday] ... it's a bit proactive since it's been opened to go ahead and fix and replace the aging infrastructure to avoid another issue," Fleetwood said.

Water for that section of the town

was shut off temporarily in order to complete the task.

"The entire time [the crew was] working, people were not without water," Fleetwood said. "They worked around the leak for quite some time and when they got to the point where they needed to shut water down, they did."

The water department continued to make repairs to the area on Tuesday between 4:30 a.m. and 2 p.m., with detours marked for passengers traveling between Board and West Streets. Water was shut off in the immediate area of the construction between 5:30-8 a.m.

The roads were expected to be closed once again for repaving on Wednesday between 8 a.m. and 1 p.m., weather permitting.

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Drainage repairs near Borderlinks

Contractor replaces culvert pipes in three spots, with work slightly altering traffic

(Feb. 6, 2020) Contractor Goody Hill Sand & Gravel Inc. of Berlin last week began replacing culvert pipes under the road in the area of Borderlinks, Harborview Drive and Clipper Court in Ocean Pines.

The job should last several weeks and require some slight changes to traffic patterns.

According to Director of Amenities and Operational Logistics Colby Phillips, work will start in the Borderlinks area.

“The culvert pipes at Borderlinks will take a few days to a week and See OP Page 4

SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Contractor Goody Hill Sand & Gravel Inc. of Berlin recently began replacing culvert pipes under the road in the area of Borderlinks, Harborview Drive and Clipper Court in Ocean Pines.

OP weighs effluent at golf course

Wastewater advisory cmte. gets county permission to examine merits of spraying

By Greg Ellison
Staff Writer

(Feb. 6, 2020) Although the Ocean Pines Service Area Water & Wastewater Advisory Board received permission last month from the Worcester County Commissioners to explore the possibility of spraying treated sewage effluent on the Ocean Pines Golf course, the approach remains under consideration pending further investigation.

Water advisory board member Fred Stiehl said after broaching the topic in a Dec. 11 letter to Commissioner Joe Mitrecic that permission was granted in early January to research the matter further.

“Some of the issues are is this going to be safe, can it be done, who’s going to bear the cost and how will this relate to the environment?” he said.

Of the highest importance are po-

tential impacts on the St. Martin River.

“We’re concerned obviously about run-off going into the river,” he said.

OPA Environmental and Natural Assets Committee Chairperson Ken Wolf echoed those apprehensions.

“Our committee is very concerned about the St. Martin River,” he said. “We revised our charter on the basis that the primary focus was really on the health of the St. Martins.”

Wolf said clarity is still needed regarding potential water quality issues prior to discharging into area waterways.

“I’m not clear on all the drivers here,” he said.

Stiehl said one aspect of the investigation will involve assessing other area golf courses, such as Eagle’s Landing near the Ocean City Airport, that have employed effluent for irrigation purposes.

“What’s their experience been and how successful have they been?” he asked. “There’s a bit of a record there.”

Stiehl said the Ocean Pines Wastewater Treatment Plant is in optimal

operating condition.

“The discharge from our plant is one of the best in the state,” he said. “We’re not talking about discharging anything with pathogens.”

Wolf said despite those initial reassurances, the matter requires further consideration.

“I’d like to know more about what the effluent coming out of that treatment plant really does to that river,” he said. “I have more questions than answers.”

The approach would end the practice of watering greens with drinking water.

“Right now the golf course takes water from the aquifer we use for water for Ocean Pines,” he said.

Stiehl said using water from the aquifer has other ramifications.

“The more water you take from an aquifer the more likely it is that you’re going to start getting saltwater intrusion from the local bays and river,” he said. “We want to make sure we have a good source of drinking water for as long as we possibly can.”



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Proposed one year extension to pool passes

Legacy cards bought prior to May 2019 would have extra time to use balances

By Greg Ellison
Staff Writer

(Feb. 6, 2020) Included among a host of proposed changes for Ocean Pines' new fiscal year is a one-year extension of the Beach Club parking and pool coupons set to expire this April. The change is intended to streamline parking passes and pool coupon processes.

Ocean Pines Association President Doug Parks said the proposal would apply to legacy coupons or cards obtained prior to last May.

"The ones that were purchased prior to May 1, 2019 that had balances on them, we felt that it was important to have them not expire this year," he said. "We thought that April 30, 2020 was just too soon."

If the terms under consideration are approved during the budget process, residents with remaining balances on legacy cards obtained prior to May 2019 would need to con-

tact the OPA Administration Membership Department to take advantage of the bonus year.

Unreturned cards would expire on April 30, 2020 and the offer would not apply to cards purchased since last May.

"The cards that were purchased from May 1, 2019 going forward ... it was made very clear to people that were buying them these cards expired on April 30, 2020," he said. "If you purchase one right now, it's going to expire April 30, 2020."

Based on a board request to differ-

entiate parking and pool passes at the beach club, a work group was formed by OPA leadership comprised of Senior Executive Secretary Michelle Bennett, Aquatics Manager Kathleen Cook, Membership Supervisor Ruth Ann Myer, Director of Amenities and Operational Logistics Colby Phillips and Director of Finance and Operational Logistics Steve Phillips.

Among the workgroup's recommendations are increasing the price of beach club parking-only passes from \$165 to \$180, while beach club

See OPA Page 4

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OP drainage work continues for weeks at three locations

Continued from Page 2

have a minor impact to traffic in and out of that area,” she said.

“These culvert pipes are over 40 years old and deteriorating, and will be replaced with a poly pipe,” she said. “This will help improve not only the drainage issues at Borderlinks and the golf course, but will help with the many sinkholes that have had to be patched in the roads in that area.”

Goody Hill will also install a new culvert at Harborview Drive and Clip-

per Court.

Phillips said homeowner complaints and an engineering study by Showell firm Vista Design Inc. caused Ocean Pines to pursue the work, which is part of the fiscal year 2019/2020 budget.

“We received several complaints of drainage issues in that area and we feel that putting this in will help improve that,” she said. “None of this will completely solve our drainage issues, but we are working hard to improve them.”

OPA board considers adding time for legacy pool passes

Continued from Page 3

parking passes purchased with wider memberships would increase from \$115 to \$125.

The workgroup also recommended discontinuing selling beach club parking passes with pool coupons, along with abandoning Realtor bundles.

If adopted, the workgroup plans would permit beach club pool access through traditional pool memberships, cash entry or via coupons

loaded onto membership cards.

While the recommendations are still under discussion, Parks espoused the merits of providing residents an extra year to burn off previous legacy card balances.

“People weren’t instructed there would be an expiration date and it wasn’t fair to the membership for that approach,” he said. “We figured another year would give everybody enough time to use up the passes.”

Ocean Pines Aquatics Briefs

By Greg Ellison
Staff Writer

(Feb. 6, 2020) The Ocean Pines Aquatics Committee on Monday discussed limiting the time patrons can lay claim to chairs and tables at pool facilities, talked about safety concerns during peak evening usage and welcomed three proposed members awaiting board approval.

Tables and chairs policy

Committee Chairwoman Kathy Grimes said pool regulations for next season were recently reviewed by the group after concerns were raised about patrons saving chairs and tables, specifically at the yacht club pool.

“It’s stated that in two hours the stuff has to be moved,” she said. “The question I have is who is going to pick up somebody else’s stuff and move it?”

OPA pool policies state, “belongings left unattended on pool furniture for more than two hours is subject to being moved.”

Committee member Brooks Ensor said the issue became evident last season while he was assisting with lifeguarding.

“I noticed, especially on weekends at the yacht club, people would come in, plant stuff, disappear and leave others without seats,” he said. “There was one weekend they had a line and wouldn’t let anybody else in because there were no more chairs available.”

Ensor suggested the policy could be promoted to pool users by front desk agents and lifeguards.

“We need to educate them when they come in,” he said.

In other instances, patrons make a beeline when pool facilities open simply to mark territory.

“We do have people come in early in the morning put their towels there and maybe they’ll show up at three in the afternoon,” he said. “We’ve got to be fair to all.”

The matter needs to be properly communicated as people enter pool facilities, Ensor said.

“We need to train guards and staff to be proactive,” he said. “If there’s 15 people in the pool and I see 30 chairs with towels on [them], something’s not right.”

Prime-time scheduling

Ensor also raised concerns about crowded conditions at the Sports Core Pool during evening hours.

“We are having issues with so many things going on in the pool that I’m worried about a little bit of safety,” he said.

Ensor related a scene where four pool lanes were being used by swim teams and a group of teenagers were having a free swim period.

“I’m really worried as an instructor of having somebody from recreation swim jumping in on one of my kids in lessons,” he said.

Fearing the crowded scene was an accident waiting to happen, Ensor brought the issue to the committee for scheduling considerations.

“We’re maxing out where we don’t have enough pool space to put things in,” he said. “On Fridays it can be very hectic if there’s a birthday party.”

Grimes said both matters would be investigated and discussed at a subsequent meeting.

New members

Three proposed new committee members, Ellen Hench, Kim Meekins and John Reeves attended the meeting to observe.

Grimes said the trio who expressed interest in joining the committee would not be eligible to vote until they are approved by the OPA Board of Directors.

Grimes said in all likelihood the group would be approved this same week during the board meeting on Wednesday.



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MORGAN PILZ/BAYSIDE GAZETTE
Peninsula Cleaners moved from Williams Street in Berlin to the Berlin Shopping Center at 10452 Old Ocean City Blvd. It opened for business last Monday.

Peninsula Cleaners moves to Berlin Shopping Center

By Morgan Pilz
Staff Writer

(Feb. 6, 2020) Peninsula Cleaners has moved from Williams Street in Berlin to the Berlin Shopping Center on Old Ocean City Blvd.

The company, which has operated for 45 years and has six locations, had taken over Venable Cleaners in 2018.

“We had a lot of our service being appreciated in the community and our business was doing well,” Nick Kypreos, a partner in Peninsula Cleaners, said. “We gained back all the customers that [Venable Cleaners] lost.”

The Venable Cleaners company, which opened in 1924, nearly shuttered all of its locations for financial reasons.

Peninsula Cleaners was told in December to find a new location after the property was sold to Burbage Funeral Home owner Kirk Burbage, who wants to renovate the building.

“They called me up and said, ‘We’d like to renovate this space. When would it make sense to renovate?’ I said normally in the winter, because when business is slow, you can make some renovations,” Kypreos said. “The place is really old; it’s got a leaky roof ... a lot of things need to be ad-



Nick Kypreos

dressed.”

Clothes will continue to be cleaned at the company’s plant in Seaford, Delaware. Additional services offered in Berlin include shoe repairs, tuxedo rentals and alterations, as well as drape, rug, linen and tablecloth cleaning. Peninsula Cleaners also offers a free pickup and delivery service as well. This service is extended throughout Worcester County.

The store, which opened last Monday, will continue to run from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday and offer the same services it did at the Williams Street location.

“Nothing changes,” Kypreos said. “We have the same people, we have the same quality, the same service, the same hours, only the location is different.”

The new location also has a long-term lease, he added, saying the store would not be going anywhere anytime soon.

For more information about Peninsula Cleaners, visit www.peninsulacleaners.com or call the Berlin store at 443-513-4715.

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PHOTO COURTESY BRIANNA DIX
Children, many of whom were first-time skaters, broke in the new synthetic ice rink during the Elves on the Loose event at the Worcester County Recreation Center in Snow Hill on Dec. 20.

For \$5, it's cheap skating upstairs at Berlin Fire Co.

Continued from Page 1
bringing [the ice rink] to the town of Berlin, and that will be at the Berlin Fire Company's second floor," President of Berlin Fire and EMS David Fitzgerald said. "We are going to use it for fundraisers."

The 32 by 52 feet rink can be used for parties, fundraisers and other special events. The Berlin Fire Company will have a \$5 charge to use the rink on Thursday through Sunday evenings as well as Saturday afternoons.

"We appreciate any support we have from the community to come up and enjoy that rink in March while it's still cold out," Fitzgerald said. "Our hall is heated and uses synthetic ice. You can have a nice evening or afternoon."

Specific dates for the rink's installation had not been determined at the time of the meeting, but Mayor Gee Williams looks forward to the ice rink's arrival.

"It's an opportunity for the town to get some visitors and be here," Fitzgerald said. "

In November, the Worcester County Commissioners agreed to allow the Recreation and Parks Department to reallocate funds from special event sav-

ings to buy the synthetic ice rink. The purchase cost was \$69,000, but with donations, the amount was brought down to \$49,000, according to Director of Worcester County Recreation, Parks, Tourism and Economic Development Tom Perlozzo.

Perlozzo told Worcester County Commissioners during their Tuesday, Jan. 7 meeting that they were scheduling the ice rink all around the county, with the next stop being in Berlin. Other locations of interest are Pocomoke Middle School and the West Ocean City outlet mall.

Given the size of the rink, approximately 2,800 square feet of indoor open space is required, which could be difficult for towns with limited space like Pocomoke City.

The rink made its debut at the Worcester County Recreation Center in Snow Hill on Dec. 20. Around 600 skaters attended the "Elves on the Loose" event.

The recreation center also held open skate days from Dec. 21-23 and Dec. 26 and 27, with a combined 1,000 skaters coming through for the open skate and Elves on the Loose.

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Pine’eer Craft Club to open fresh structure on Saturday

New building offers more display space, far brighter interior in White Horse Park

By Greg Ellison
Staff Writer

(Feb. 6, 2020) Although a larger celebration is slated for April, the Pine’eer Craft Club will officially open its new building for business on Saturday.

Pine’eer Craft Club President Sharon Puser said the new Artisan & Gift Shop is located directly across from the previous locale in White Horse Park

“We’re open for business starting Saturday,” she said. “We’re very happy with the new store. It’s very bright and airy.”

Puser said following the soft opening this week, a ribbon-cutting ceremony is slated for April.

Patrons will discover the new building has increased display space and improved lighting, Puser said.

“We have a lot more window space than we had in the other shop,” she said.

Since being established in 1974, the Pine’eer Craft Club has operated a retail location in the soon-to-be-demolished structure that was built to service the earlier campground in White Horse Park.

“The back closet were the old showers,” she said. “They used to sell bread and milk to the weekenders that would come in the campground.”

Puser said over the decades, the club has donated funds from sales to support the community.

“We purchased water fountains, playground equipment and lots of

things over the years,” she said.

While admittedly an educated guess, as precise dollar totals from yesteryear are not always available, the club has funneled significant financial backing to the community over the years.

“We’re over \$160,000 that we’ve given back to the community,” she said.

Puser said after spending the better part of half a century in its previous locale, club members are thrilled to launch the new space.

“It’s been a lot of years and it’s been a long time coming,” she said.

For more information on the Pine’eer Artisan and Gift Shop, visit www.oceanpines.org/amenities/pine-neer-craft-shop.



PHOTO COURTESY OCEAN PINES ASSOCIATION

The Pine’eer Craft Club will officially open its new location in White Horse Park on Saturday.



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Berlin Fire and EMS stats, financial reports

By Morgan Pilz
Staff Writer

(Feb. 6, 2020) Berlin Fire Company and Emergency Medical Services presented their quarterly updates to the Berlin mayor and Town Council meeting on Monday, Jan. 27.

The reports covered statistics and costs for Oct. 1 to Dec. 31 of last year as well as revenues and expenses from July to December.

Within that quarter, EMS responded to 240 calls, of which 171 were transports. The busiest days for EMS were Saturdays and Mondays, followed by Tuesdays and Fridays. The busiest timeframe for calls were

1-2 p.m. and most calls were made on average between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. The response time was also recorded to be within the 60-second standard.

For the six-month period, EMS recorded lower donations at 43.79 percent with a continuing trend, though it expected these numbers for the report. The organization did receive 100 percent reimbursement, or \$142,500 for calls made in 2018 from the county. It also receives half of its funds from the town per an agreement with Berlin.

As for expenses, higher costs were incurred as expired or outdated medical supplies and equipment were replaced. Payroll was up slightly as were

fuel costs because of increased use. A new ambulance was ordered at the cost of \$285,000, and a loan was required from the bank to fund this purchase. The older ambulance is expected to be sold, with President of Berlin Fire and EMS David Fitzgerald telling the council the last time an ambulance was sold, the company received \$20,000.

For Berlin Fire and Rescue, there were 39 in-town calls during the quarter and 40 out-of-town calls. The fire company's busiest days were Wednesday and Saturday followed by Thursday and Friday. The busiest times of the day reported were 1-2 p.m.

Most calls came in between 1-5 p.m. The response time was recorded to be within the six-minute standard at 5.3 minutes.

Berlin Fire's revenues reported a 30 percent decrease in donations but a slight increase in fundraising as a result of rental services. The company recently received state aid, which will be used for fire gear replacement.

Some expenses were up, as the company needed to replace a boiler, unexpected equipment repairs and higher-than-usual fuel costs. Berlin Fire also replaced a 15-year-old rescue air bag system, which was anticipated in the budget.

Community Briefs

Dean's list

Elsa Quillin of Berlin, was recently named to the Dean's List at the College of William & Mary for the fall 2019 semester.

In order to achieve Dean's List status, a full-time degree seeking undergraduate student must take at least 12 credit hours and earn a 3.6 Quality Point Average during the semester.

William & Mary, in Williamsburg, Virginia, is the second oldest institu-

tion of higher learning in the United States.

Dean's list

Riley Dickerson of Ocean Pines, has been named to the Champlain College Dean's List for the fall 2019 semester.

Students on the Dean's List have achieved a grade point average of 3.5 or higher during the semester.

Founded in 1878, Champlain Col-

lege is a small, not-for-profit, private college in Burlington, Vermont, with additional campuses in Montreal, Canada, and Dublin, Ireland.

Earns degree

The following Worcester County residents have earned their degree from Western Governors University.

Amanda Fleming and Christy Runge, of Berlin, both received a Bachelor of Science degree in nursing.

Julia Shockley, of Ocean City, also

earned a Bachelor of Science degree in nursing.

The online, nonprofit university has graduated over 167,000 students from across the country since its inception in 1997.

WGU has recognized 5,617 undergraduate and 4,302 graduate degree recipients, who have completed their degrees since Oct. 2, 2019. Their areas of study include business, K-12 education, information technology, and health professions, including nursing.

OP fire department responds to commonly asked questions

(Feb. 6, 2020) The Ocean Pines Volunteer Fire Department sees calls for service increase every year, thus increasing contact with residents throughout the area.

The department is often asked a variety of questions. Below are some of the most popular.

Q: "I called for an ambulance, but I got an ambulance and a fire engine. Why?"

A: When you call 911, the dispatcher will ask many questions to help them determine what exactly

you need, and the resources the fire department will need in order to help you.

Sometimes, you may get an ambulance, an engine, a supervisor's vehicle, or all three. The fire department crews work together as a team, to best serve our community. We may need extra manpower for lifting or helping with a critical patient. Sometimes we are just there to lend a hand to the crews on the scene.

Q: "How can I help the fire department?"

See QUESTIONS Page 11



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Eight students from Snow Hill Middle School participated in the school competition of the National Geographic GeoBee on Jan. 21. Seventh grader Dominic Kuipers won first place and eighth grader Eli Labesky came in second. Pictured, from left, are Social Studies teacher Maria Thompson, eighth grader Sean Alvarado, Social Studies teacher Joanie Shumate, eighth grader Conner Elliot, sixth graders Savannah Wertz and Xander Wakefield, seventh grader Luke Bickford, Kuipers, Labesky, eighth grader Adam Hunter, and Social Studies teacher Sean Wilson.

SHMS students win in GeoBee

(Feb. 6, 2020) Eight students from Snow Hill Middle School participated in the school competition of the National Geographic GeoBee on Jan. 21.

Dominic Kuipers, a seventh grade student, won first place. Eighth grader Eli Labesky came in second place.

The school competition is the first round in the annual National Geographic GeoBee, a geography com-

petition designed to inspire and reward students' curiosity about the world.

School champions will take an online qualifying test. Up to 100 of the top test scorers in each state then become eligible to compete in their State GeoBee.

Kuipers recently completed the online exam and the results will be posted on the National Geographic website on March 2.

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Pines Police face predatory recruiting practices in area

By Greg Ellison
Staff Writer

(Feb. 6, 2020) Reflecting the recruiting struggles of law enforcement agencies nationwide, Ocean Pines Police Chief Dave Massey has seen other departments employ increasingly aggressive hiring tactics due to stiff competition for candidates on the shore.

“In my career, I’ve seen it become much more competitive,” he said. “We’re getting fewer applicants to be police officers.”

To add to recruiting challenges, retention issues have also plagued the department.

“The officers, when we hire them, have a three-year contract,” he said. “Unfortunately, some police departments are now what I call ‘predatory,’ which means they look at taking officers from other departments ... before their contracts are due.”

According to a December 2018 report by the Police Executive Research Forum, a national membership organization of law enforcement executives, the number of people entering the field has diminished, while an increased percentage are exiting the profession, often in scant time.

The report noted in August 2018 the U.S. Department of Justice’s Bureau of Justice Statistics found the number of full-time police officers had dropped by 3.2 percent between 2016-2018 from roughly 725,000 to 701,000, which reversed a steady annual uptick dating back to 1997.

The statistics have caused some area agencies to resolve hiring challenges by luring recruits from close to home, with Massey noting all 19 staff members who have left in recent years were hired in either Worcester or Wicomico counties.

“This is unusual, because it never used to happen this way, [but] certain police departments are now instead of hiring a new trainee and sending them to the academy, they’re literally looking to prey on other police departments and take their experienced

officers,” he said.

In many instances, hiring agents elicit interest by offering higher compensation or increased benefits, which Massey said is sufficiently enticing for some to forgo prior contractual terms.

“I’m an honorable man and my word is my word,” he said. “Unfortunately, some of the younger officers are tempted to leave before their contract is up.”

While severing employment earlier than agreed does include financial penalties, the measure has done little to deter migrations.

“It’s a sad state of affairs when police chiefs and other law enforcement people won’t even let a person finish their contract,” he said. “I’ve been in law enforcement for many years and never violated a contract from another department.”

Despite a year-round populace sufficient to warrant 24 officers based on national law enforcement standards, Massey has continued to operate with a staff of 16, which makes staff turnover especially problematic.

To address the challenge, during pending fiscal budget 2020/2021 budget discussions, Massey proposed increasing the defined benefit pension to help with recruiting and retention.

“What I would like to see is it dramatically slow the turnover we have and help us keep a core of trained and experienced officers,” he said.

Massey highlighted other intangibles to cultivating resources internally.

“When I was police chief in Ocean City basically we hired from within, meaning seasonal officers stayed around and were hired,” he said. “What I found is people that you hire that way are more loyal to the department because they know you gave them a chance.”

Loyalty has bounds, with Massey acknowledging people are more prone to relocate than in past times.

See OP Page 11

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OP fire department finds volunteers scarce

Continued from Page 1
else and want to continue their affiliation.”

Van Gasbeck said maintaining the current complement of 50 volunteers, who are bolstered by roughly a dozen full- and part-time firefighter or paramedics staff members, becomes more daunting as aging members step aside.

“If you look at that package together, it’s a great challenge for us to recruit and with the aging of our department, it’s a challenge to retain,” he said. “We lost three members this year.”

Chief Steve Grunewald said the focus has shifted to developing a recruitment and retention package over the last few years.

“It’s a slow process,” he said. “We want something that’s going to be worthwhile.”

The department has several classifications for volunteers: firefighters who must be full-time pines residents and over 18 years of age; associates from other emergency organizations living in the area; administrative positions open to anyone with free time to support operations; and a cadet program for youths ages 14-18 with parental permission.

“We’re trying to come up with a retention package that can be presented to the members once they join

... and also the ones that have been here for 5, 10 or 20 years,” he said.

Van Gasbeck said attracting younger members through the largely underutilized cadet program is another focus.

“Even with the families that are raising their young ones around here, we do get very few cadets,” he said. “We have two now.”

Grunewald said the department is looking to work with Worcester Technical High School in Newark through its fire/EMT training program offered for juniors and seniors.

“We’re always looking to start cadets young and get them through training,” he said.

Van Gasbeck has prepared a PowerPoint presentation outlining the merits of pursuing a career in emergency response to inform students about the cadet program in Ocean Pines, which meets a training program prerequisite.

“If they sign up for the program in the high school, they have to affiliate with a department,” he said.

Grunewald also said the recruitment and retention package under development would likely be a tiered program that would include state tax credits by the third year.

“We have an open house, but also want to do a recruitment night,” he



Ocean Pines Volunteer Fire Department President Dave Van Gasbeck, left, and Chief Steve Grunewald are striving to bolster recruitment and retention efforts to maintain a full complement of emergency responders.

said.

While the annual open house event in August is aimed at the larger community, the recruitment effort would provide information about specific types of memberships and allow interested parties to survey fire and rescue equipment.

Grunewald said although the sentiment might be lost on younger generations, the intangible rewards of helping people in potentially life and death situations are substantial.

“The amount of volunteers is declining, whether it’s the [American] Red Cross or the Salvation Army, because of the age of what’s out there right now,” he said. “The 50-year-old’s, like myself and Dave, we were brought up that if you want something you work for it, not what’s in it for me or what do I get out of it.”

Van Gasbeck said volunteer fire fighting often makes an indelible impact on those who answer the call to duty.

“It’s a passion and it’s in the blood,” he said. “It’s something that ... becomes part of you, [and] frankly, once it’s part of you, it’s in your system.”

Highlighting the importance of having a largely volunteer crew to support the small number of paid staff, Grunewald said the equivalent cost would be astronomical without community members’ involvement.

“If we don’t do something, the alternative is to have a career department and that is millions upon millions of dollars a year,” he said.

Harkening back to an earlier era, Van Gasbeck recalled President John F. Kennedy’s 1961 inaugural speech that challenged a generation to “ask not what your country can do for you — ask what you can do for your country.”

“We grew up with a sense of we have a responsibility to our world and community,” he said. “We just choose to exercise it through this venue.”

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Alice B. Tawes Rehabilitation and Nursing Home is now hiring for a Food Service Director:

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MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

Art of the pARTy tickets available

By Morgan Pilz
Staff Writer

(Feb. 6, 2020) The public is invited to sample the cooking of students at Worcester Technical High School's Culinary Program during the second annual Art of the pARTy event on Friday, Feb. 21, at the Atlantic Hotel in Berlin from 6-8 p.m.

Tickets are available for the fundraising event that is used to raise money for culinary-related scholarships. Several restaurants and organizations as well as three other high school culinary programs from Wicomico, Worcester and Dorchester counties, and Wor-Wic Community College will be participating.

To promote food as a form of art, the Worcester County Arts Council and the Delmarva Chefs and Cooks Association teamed up last year to

create a scholarship for students of creative cuisine, and raised more than 3,800 after expenses.

"We decided to bring it back this year and we're hoping to hit the \$4,500 mark and just kind of keep growing from there," said Phil Cropper, chapter president for the Delmarva Chefs and Cooks Association and culinary instructor at Worcester Technical High School. "Our feedback was great."

"A lot of the attendees that attended were members of the Worcester County Art Council and they gave a lot of positive feedback directly to the art council about how much they loved it, about they hoped we did it again," Cropper said. "We're just excited to keep building on it, making it bigger and better every year."

This year, Art of the pARTy will have live jazz music and will be one hour shorter to avoid dragging out the event. There will also be ice carving, a 50/50 and art raffle taking place as well.

Guests at the event will find 12 stations featuring food from American Culinary Federation-certified restaurants. Established in 1929, American Culinary Federation is the premier professional chefs' organization in North America with more than 17,500 members and more than 150 chapters nationwide.

The American Culinary Federation is what makes someone a certified executive chef or a pastry chef or a culinary educator, Cropper said.

"It's what keeps chefs moving forward with their education and their learning and their networking," he

See ONLY Page 12

Questions answered by fire dept.

Continued from Page 8

ment?"

A: You can help us in several easy ways. Making sure your house numbers are clearly displayed and visible, night or day, from the roadway is the best way. This helps us to get to you quickly in a time of emergency

Another way you can help, is maintaining the area around fire hydrants. If you should have a fire hydrant on your property, keep the area immediately around it free of brush, plants and debris.

Locating hydrants rapidly is of the essence when responding to fires.

Q: "I have been thinking of joining the fire department...what should I do?"

A: We are always in need of volunteers in the fire department. You must be physically active, over the age of 18, a full-time resident of Ocean Pines and be able to pass a background check to become a member. We will provide you with free training and education to become a firefighter/EMT.

Stop by the South Station in Ocean Pines to pick up an application.

OP Police striving for new recruits

Continued from Page 9

"They don't look at being hired in an agency for a whole career some of them," he said. "People have every right, once they satisfy their contract, to go to another agency if they think they're benefitting themselves."

For Massey the problem lies with "lazy police administrators" targeting officers employed in neighboring departments.

"When police leaders don't honor contracts of their fellow agencies, to me it's unethical," he said. "I won't do that, I'm old school."

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Heron Park cleanup finally coming to close

Town saves thousands of dollars by performing work itself, anticipates reopening

By Morgan Pilz
Staff Writer

(Feb. 6, 2020) The major cleanup of Heron Park following the discovery last year of a caustic soda spill on the property has cost the town much less than anticipated, Berlin Town Administrator Jeff Fleetwood said this week.

The final component, a dumpster filled with remaining debris, was removed from the site on Monday. Yet to be done is a groundwater evaluation Maryland Department of the Environment.

The total cost of the job, according

to Fleetwood was under \$300,000.

Eight months ago, an undisclosed amount of sodium hydroxide (caustic soda or lye) was spilled in June during demolition work by a contractor. Chesapeake Environmental Services handled the bulk of the clean-up for \$283,000. Other work was done by town workers and a few contractors at a cost of about \$3,000 rather than the \$50,000-\$60,000 quoted by other contractors.

After the groundwater tests are conducted, grass will need to be planted on the areas that have been cleared, but Fleetwood is confident the park will be able to reopen after five months closed when he introduces the motion to the mayor and Town Council on Monday, Feb. 10.



MORGAN PILZ/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Staff from various Berlin town departments work last Friday to clean up residual debris and prepare Heron Park to be reopened. Grass will need to be seeded and a groundwater evaluation will be taking place in the meantime.

Only 100 tickets available for culinary event

Continued from Page 11
added.

Students from Worcester Technical High School, Wor-Wic Community College and Somerset Culinary will prepare food onsite.

American Culinary Federation-certified restaurants and organizations slated to participate in the event include Centerplate of the convention

center on 40th Street, Marlin Moon on 33rd Street, Box Car 40 of Pittsville, Baked Desserts in Berlin, Coastal Coffee Roasting in West Ocean City, Princess Royale on 91st Street, Coastal Cupcake in Berlin, Washington Catering of Snow Hill and the Handy Seafood Company in Salisbury.

“It’s a great community event and

it’s great to see students in action as well as all your favorite restaurants in one spot,” Cropper said. “All the proceeds from the party go directly back to the community in the form of culinary literacy and scholarship.”

The money raised from last year’s event will be used for culinary scholarships this year, since the inaugural fundraising event took place after the scholarship deadline. Additional money raised this year could be used to help members of the Chefs Association continue their culinary education by sending them to conferences and conventions.

Some of the meals guests can anticipate tasting will be dry rubbed brisket of beef with roasted red pepper and tomato chili sauce, roasted pork, gourmet deviled eggs and candied bacon, artisan cheese, sautéed

blackened shrimp over three cheese grits, and shrimp wrapped with shredded phyllo dough and coated with a Thai sweet chili sauce. Desserts, of course, will follow.

Eventually, Cropper hopes to move the event into a larger space to allow for more tickets to be sold, as the Atlantic Hotel ballroom can only hold so many people.

“We’re looking for ... growing the events where we end up having to hold it by putting up bigger tents or something, because we’re running out of space in our current location,” Cropper said.

Tickets are available for \$45 on Eventbrite or www.Delmarvachefs.com. Only 100 tickets will be sold. For more information, visit www.Delmarvachefs.com.



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Berlin PD names Kevin Lloyd officer of the yr.

By Morgan Pilz
Staff Writer

(Feb. 6, 2020) Berlin Officer Kevin Lloyd has been named the 2019 Officer of the Year for the Berlin Police Department because of his diligence and track record for arrests.

Lloyd, 30, has been an officer for less than two years, having graduated the fifth in his class in 2018. He is the 18th recipient of the award since its inception in 2001.

“This award was made in recognition and acknowledging the work that officers do throughout the year that begins in January and ends in December, and it’s a way to recognize them like the other agencies do and be recognized by their peers as the top of the agency for that calendar year,” Police Chief Arnold Downing told *Ocean City Today* last week.

To be selected, officers must not have a ranked position and have been in the force for at least one full year. Among the reasons an officer might be selected are making the most arrests, issuing the most warnings, or making the most DUI arrests.

“Before the award, there was nothing to show no matter how well you did or what you did,” Lt. Robert Fisher said. “We just started doing it through the year and that would incorporate many things, not just writing the most



Kevin Lloyd

tickets or most arrests.”

Lloyd was selected because he ranked in the top in the agency for warnings and was in the top two for citations as well as his work stopping people from driving under the influence. More importantly, he was doing all this work while covering the midnight shifts.

“To know that he did all those things and he actually worked on what we would call the slowest shift, the one you would generally have less production because people are mostly asleep while you’re doing the work ... is an anomaly,” Downing said. “The real busy shifts are the evening shift, when people are coming home from work and still going out.

“He really only has four hours in the evening where people are moving and maybe one hour in the morning when people are getting ready for work,” he continued. “He definitely knows how to go ahead and handle calls in an efficient manner, but to go ahead and find things on his own on a midnight shift, is an indicator that he is very active and proactive in his job.”

Downing and Fisher are pleased with Lloyd’s work in the department, especially since he is still so new.

“We’ve known he was going to come out and do a wonderful job through the hard work he’s done ... so we’re very proud of him,” Downing said.

Lloyd, for his part, is humbled by the award.

“I believe everyone in the department, one way or another, was worthy of recognition and the award, so I’m appreciative of receiving it,” Lloyd said. “I’ve wanted to be a police officer for a long time. I’ve lived in this area a majority of my life and just wanted to work and be a part of it and try to do something to make [Berlin] safe and enjoyable for everybody.”

Lloyd moved to the area in 2000, but said he was inspired to help people at a young age. Since he began at the department, he has undergone several training courses in order regarding DUIs.

In 2019, Lloyd alone was responsible for ticketing around 15 DUIs.

“Getting a DUI is the best possible scenario if you drink and drive, because if you don’t get one and you get home safely, you don’t learn anything,” he said. “If you don’t make it home safely, either you’ve hurt or killed yourself or somebody else, and people will have to deal with that for the rest of their lives.”

AGH CEO Franklin graduates from Leadership Md. program

(Feb. 6, 2020) Michael Franklin, president and chief executive officer of Atlantic General Hospital, has completed Leadership Maryland, a professional development program dedicated to building a better Maryland by harnessing the strength of its local business and community leaders.

Leadership Maryland honored Franklin, a resident of Berlin, and the entire Class of 2019 at its 27th annual graduation ceremony held Dec. 10 at the Lord Baltimore Hotel.

Franklin, who has over 35 years of healthcare management experience, joined Atlantic General Hospital and Health System as its CEO in 2005.

During his tenure, Atlantic General Health System’s network of primary care and specialty physician practices has more than doubled in size and the hospital has expanded to incorporate much-needed services such as cancer care, urology, pain management and comprehensive diabetes care to keep pace with the growing needs of the community.

Franklin was one of 50 applicants chosen by committee to complete Leadership Maryland’s eight-month, hands-on learning program, focused on the state’s most vital social, eco-



Michael Franklin

nomic and environmental issues.

He holds a Bachelor of Science in Health Sciences from Old Dominion University in Norfolk, Virginia, and a Master of Science in Healthcare Administration from Virginia Commonwealth University-Medical College of Virginia.

“The healthcare industry has experienced a dramatic evolution over the past decade, and it continues to transform as hospitals learn to grapple with factors affecting patient health that fall outside their traditional roles,” Franklin said. “Being a part of Leadership Maryland has provided additional insights into how I can help Atlantic General shape our future to be the best healthcare partner for our residents and visitors.”

Atlantic General Hospital has been providing quality health care to the residents of Worcester, Wicomico and Somerset counties in Maryland and Sussex County, Delaware, since May 1993.

Built through the commitment and generosity of a dedicated community,

See AGH Page 17

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Ocean Elks Lodge 2645 "Hoop Shoot" Free Throw Contest was held on Jan. 11 at Worcester Prep in Berlin. Pictured are 33 volunteers with, in front, John Belzner, Hoop Shoot chairman and Lodge Exalted Ruler Kevin Matthews.

Elks 'Hoop Shoot' Free Throw Contest results

(Feb. 6, 2020) The Elks "Hoop Shoot" Free Throw Contest is the largest and most visible of the many youth activities sponsored by Elks' Lodges. The Elks National Free Throw Program is open to all boys and girls, ages 8-13. Ocean Elks Lodge 2645 Hoop Shoot was held on Jan. 11 at Worcester Prep in Berlin. Forty-seven children from various schools, including Ocean

City Elementary, Worcester Prep, Berlin Intermediate, Showell Elementary and Stephen Decatur, participated. On Jan. 19 at the Seaford Elks Lodge, two Worcester Prep students – Benjamin Rafinski (8-9 boys' division) and Sydney Mize (10-11 girls) – advanced to state finals, which will be held at Washington College in Chestertown, Maryland, on Feb. 9.

Mediacom scholarships

(Feb. 6, 2020) Mediacom Communications is offering \$60,000 in scholarship support for high school seniors who plan to obtain further education. The scholarship program is in its 19th consecutive year and Mediacom's investment will award \$1,000 World Class Scholarships to 60 high school seniors. Scholarship recipients

are given the flexibility to use the financial award to support post-secondary college costs or vocational training from any accredited institution starting in the fall of 2020. Award selection is based on academic achievement and leadership. Applications for Mediacom's World Class Scholarships are available online at: www.mediacomworld-

class.com. All high schools in Mediacom-served communities were sent informational cards asking school officials to make seniors aware of the scholarship and encourage submission of applications on or before the Feb. 15 deadline. "As a company, Mediacom makes it a priority to give back to communities in See DEADLINE Page 17



Create the Mood!

AMAZING VALENTINE SALES ALL WEEK LONG!
REMEMBER - VALENTINE'S DAY IS FRIDAY FEB. 14
Ulta Beauty - Pam's Hallmark - Staples - Dollar Tree
Flagship Premium Cinemas - Dairy Queen
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Bath and Body Works - Dunkin' Donuts - GNC
AT&T - Panera Bread - FiveBelow - Five Guys
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DAISY award for nursing officer Colleen Wareing

(Feb. 6, 2020) Atlantic General Hospital recently presented the DAISY Lifetime Achievement Award to Colleen Wareing, MS, BSN, RN, NEA-BC, FACHE, vice president of patient care services.

Wareing has been the chief nursing officer for 19 years, overseeing multiple clinical services including inpatient services, critical care, surgical, emergency, cardiopulmonary, nutritional, bariatrics, wound care, anesthesia and physical therapy.

Her role also includes the oversight of population health and improvement of the wellbeing of the community's health.

In addition to playing an active role in providing high quality services throughout the Atlantic General Hospital Health System and ensuring positive outcomes and experiences for patients, she has been passionately involved in behavioral health



Atlantic General Hospital recently presented the DAISY Lifetime Achievement Award to Colleen Wareing, MS, BSN, RN, NEA-BC, FACHE, vice president of patient care services. Pictured, from left, are Kelly Fox, RN, DAISY award coordinator; Sherry Whitt, RN, director of med/surg; Sherri Candeloro, RN; Mary Mullins, RN; Wareing, RN; Demiah Nooney, RN; Karen Christmas, RN; and Michael Franklin, president and CEO of AGH.

initiatives and the community efforts to battle the opioid crisis.

Wareing, retires in January 2020. "We are fortunate to have such an inspiring nurse leader and recipient of the DAISY Lifetime Achievement Award," said Michael Franklin, president and CEO of Atlantic General

Hospital. "Colleen has served as a beacon of inspiration to those at all stages of their career and in the various and important roles of nursing."

The DAISY Lifetime Achievement Award was created to recognize those nurses who have devoted their life's work to the compassionate care of others.

Recipients of this award are nominated for their dedication to nursing through active mentoring, role modeling, advocating for their patients and promoting the positive image of nursing.

The DAISY Award program, cre-

ated by The DAISY Foundation in Memory of J. Patrick Barnes, honors the extraordinary work nurses do for patients and families each day.

Hospital leadership brought the awards program to Atlantic General to recognize the compassion and high level of care its nurses provide to residents and visitors of the community.

Patients and visitors can nominate an Atlantic General Hospital and Health System nurse for the DAISY Award at any time. Nomination forms are available in every hospital department and health system physician office.

Deadline of application, Feb. 15

Continued from Page 16 which we do business, and one of the best ways is to invest in promising students who are our future leaders," said Mediacom Regional Vice President Steve Purcell.

Applicants do not have to be Mediacom customers, but must live in areas where Mediacom provides broadband, video, phone and other digital communication services.

Recipients will be selected from the 21 states where Mediacom provides service.

A complete list of communities in Mediacom service areas is included

with the online application. Inquiries may be sent to: scholarship@mediacomcc.com.

AGH celebrates CEO Franklin for accomplishments

Continued from Page 14 Atlantic General's main facility in Berlin combines the warmth of personalized attention with the reassurance of medical expertise and advanced technology.

The not-for-profit hospital provides quality specialty care in oncology, medical and surgical weight loss, orthopedics, and women's diagnostics among other services.

Atlantic General Health System, its network of more than 40 primary care providers and specialists, cares for residents and visitors throughout the region.

For more information about Atlantic General Hospital, visit www.atlanticgeneral.org.

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Opinion

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

Recruiting volunteers needs additional help

It's a shame, but volunteer fire companies across the country are in the same situation as the Ocean Pines Volunteer Fire Department — scrambling to recruit members.

According the National Fire Protection Association, the number of volunteer firefighters nationwide has dropped by more than 20 percent since the 1980s. Among the reasons for this decline, numerous experts say, are the changing nature of many communities — they're not the commerical and social hubs they once were — and of firefighting itself.

Time was, belonging to the fire company was a matter of being a good citizen and being part of a brotherhood that transcended the simple ideal of service to the community.

But that also was when being a volunteer meant dealing mostly with fires. Now, they are First Responders who are called out for all kinds of emergencies when life, property or both are in danger.

Today's firefighters have to know more, which means more training and a greater commitment than it once did. Further, these increased demands on an individual's time come when there seems to be less time to spare.

Moreover, many younger people are finding it difficult to live in the communities they would otherwise serve because of increasing housing costs.

A Harvard University Study found that the median price of a single-family home in this region in 2017 was 4.31 times greater than the median income. That's about 25 percent higher that it was back in 1977, when the Ocean Pines department joined Worcester County's 911 system.

Both the Ocean Pines department President Dave Van Gasbeck and Chief Steve Grunewald hope enticements, such as state tax credits, will help recruitment efforts.

But that may not be enough, and Worcester County government, which is reckoning with the problem of local departments being called on to serve increasingly populated unincorporated areas, should join the conversation and help find some substantial inducements to add to the recruitment package.

THE TOWN OF BERLIN IS ABOUT TO BECOME COOLER...
AND WITHOUT ICE!



THE BERLIN FIRE COMPANY IS BRINGING A SYNTHETIC ICE RINK
TO BERLIN FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH!

Letters

Hospice clarification

Editor,

It was reported [last] week that a Worcester County caregiver was sentenced for theft of money from a patient for whom she was caring.

In those reports, the offender was incorrectly identified as a "hospice" worker based on a news release issued by the Office of the State's Attorney for Worcester County.

It is important that we make clear that Ms. Fedia Dorlus is not, nor has ever been an employee or volunteer of hospice. State's Attorney Kris Heiser has since clarified that Dorlus was working as a home health aide for another company

that provides private duty and is not a hospice.

While it is important we clear up this misunderstanding so that the public may remain confident in Coastal Hospice and our employees, there's an equally essential message we want to share.

Having cared for tens of thousands of patients across Delmarva during the last 40 years, we know it takes tremendous trust to let anyone into a home to care for a patient.

You can be assured that as a licensed and certified hospice agency, our staff have rigorous training and background checks.

We are surveyed by both the state of Maryland and the Joint Commission to affirm our compliance in our employee records as well as

many standards of patient care.

Coastal Hospice is the only hospice organization operating in Worcester, Wicomico, Somerset and Dorchester counties.

Families should also know that most hospice care is covered by insurance at no or minimal charge to patients. Medicare, Medicaid and commercial insurance usually cover hospice, and in cases where it is not covered, charitable support may be available.

We encourage anyone with questions to reach out to us at 410-742-8732, and we thank the residents of the Lower Shore for their support. It is our honor to work for and with you.

Alane Capen
CEO, Coastal Hospice

OP Public Works yard Saturday hours

(Feb. 6, 2020) Weekday hours at the Ocean Pines Public Works yard ended Monday. The yard, at 1 Firehouse Lane behind the south Fire Department, will continue to open to Ocean Pines residents and property owners on Saturdays from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Yard debris may also be dropped off Monday through Saturday during the month of May.

Only loose yard debris, such as leaves and limbs, will be accepted. Debris may also be placed in paper bags. Plastic bags are not allowed.

Republic Services customers may place up to four additional bags of leaves or yard debris curbside for each

See WEEKDAY Page 19

BAYSIDE

GAZETTE

P.O. Box 3500, Ocean City, Md. 21843

Phone: 410-723-6397 / Fax: 410-723-6511.

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Habitat for Humanity builds family home in Bishopville

(Feb. 6, 2020) For the past year, Habitat for Humanity of Worcester County has been constructing a single-family home in Bishopville.

A dedication of this home for the Zlotorzynski family was held on Dec. 19. Ashley Zlotorzynski had the opportunity to cut the ribbon on the threshold of her new house, and officially step inside as a homeowner for the first time with her four children.

Welcoming the Zlotorzynski family home for the holidays were members of the Habitat Worcester staff and board of directors, construction partners and volunteers.

In addition to offering the family well wishes, Pastor Kyle McDaniel of Shore Community Church delivered a blessing and dedication of the new home.

Zlotorzynski was selected based on the criteria for Habitat home ownership.

Zlotorzynski is a graduate of Stephen Decatur High School and Wor-Wic Community College. She works as a residential counselor for an inpatient treatment facility.

Her husband, Neil, passed away suddenly in 2013. Zlotorzynski enrolled in a degree program and worked hard to pursue her dream career to provide for her family.

“I’ve lived in Worcester County my entire life. I love it here. I don’t want to live anywhere else,” Zlotorzynski said. “Owning my first home is everything to me. It’s what I want to do for my children. They’ve been through so much that they deserve something to call their own. It’s more stability. It’s a lifelong dream come true.”

Construction of the new home was made possible by Habitat for Humanity

See HABITAT Page 21



The Zlotorzynski family pose in front of their new house during a dedication ceremony on Dec. 19. For the past year, Habitat for Humanity of Worcester County has been constructing a single-family home in Bishopville.

Weekday debris dropoff ends

Continued from Page 18

scheduled pickup. Republic will also pick up branches if they are tied in bundles no longer than 4 feet and weighing no more than 50 pounds.

Trash collection days for residents south of Route 90 are Tuesday and Friday. For residents north of Route 90, the collection days are Monday and Thursday.

For more information, contact Public Works at 410-641-7425.

Locals' Favorite

2020 Soup & Sandwich Sales

SOUP & SANDWICH SALE FUNDRAISER

Benefiting Atlantic United Methodist Church

4th Street & Baltimore Avenue, Ocean City, MD 21842

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

Mark Your Calendar:

February 13, 2020

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

- ❖ Homemade Ham and Bean Soup
- ❖ Homemade Chicken Noodle Soup
- ❖ Egg Salad Sandwich
- ❖ Ham Salad Sandwich
- ❖ Homemade Desserts
- ❖ Coffee, Tea or Soda
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Ad for Local Papers 2-13-2020

Showell Vol. Fire Department

ANNUAL OYSTER ROAST

FEBRUARY 15, 2020

6:00pm - 10:00pm

All-You-Can-Eat Raw Bar

Steamed + Fried Oysters

Roast Beef, Fried Chicken & More

All Paired with Bottomless Soda & Beer

MUSIC ALL NIGHT Bring Your Dancing Shoes!

Donation: \$35 in advance OR \$40 at the door

Annual Spring Sportsman's Bash

The Best Formerly Gun Bash on the Shore!

MARCH 7, 2020, 11am-6pm

\$45 Ticket Includes

Your Chance to Win 25 Guns, 3 Crossbows, 2 ATV 4x4's and 6 Cash Prizes

All You Can Eat Roast Beef, Fried Chicken, Hot Dogs, Hamburgers & More

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Showell Vol. Fire Department

11620 Worcester Hwy.

Showell, MD 21862

410-352-5916

Must be 21 or Older to attend. ID required at door.

Snapshots



GREG ELLISON/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

YOUNG PLAYERS

Fast-break action is on display during the coed Hoopsters Basketball league for ball hawks ages 7-8 at the Ocean Pines Community Center on Saturday, Jan. 25.



PHOTO COURTESY D.J. LANDIS, SR.

THIRD PLACE

The Kiwanis Club of Greater Ocean Pines-Ocean City won third place “Bell Ringer Civic Group Award” of the Salvation Army of the Lower Eastern Shore. Pictured are Kiwanis members, from left, Ralph and Wilma Chinn and Roy and Candy Foreman.



OPEN MIC

(Above) James Fegley, 12, of Salisbury, sings a classic Ramones song during Open Mic Night at Sister's in Berlin on Thursday, Jan. 30. (Left) Vada Fegley, 11, of Salisbury, also performs during Open Mic Night last week.

MORGAN PILZ/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

CEREMONY

Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter #1091 of Ocean City member Rich Witte, left, and First State US Marine Corps League Commandant Marty Kwesko mark the 52nd anniversary of the TET Offensive during the Vietnam War with a wreath-placement ceremony at the Worcester County Veterans Memorial in Ocean Pines on Friday, Jan. 31.

GREG ELLISON/BAYSIDE GAZETTE



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

COLLECTION

The Democratic Women's Club of Worcester County collected new and gently used throws and blankets for several local charitable organizations – Joseph's House, Coastal Hospice and the Worcester Committee on Aging. They also gathered gifts and gift wrapping for “Santa Sacks” for the detainees of the Worcester County Detention Center in Snow Hill so they could provide Christmas presents for their children. Pictured are Karen Matheson, Priscilla Zytkowicz and Vicky Wallace.

The image is a promotional menu for the Yacht Club Ocean Pines, Maryland, for Valentine's Day. The background is a light pink color decorated with various red heart shapes of different sizes. At the top, the text "There's a lot to LOVE" is written in a mix of black and red fonts. Below this, "YACHT CLUB" is in a purple serif font, and "OCEAN PINES, MARYLAND" is in a smaller purple sans-serif font. To the right, the dates "FEB 14-16" are in large red letters, with "OPEN THURSDAYS-SUNDAYS | 11AM-11PM" in smaller black text below them. The menu is organized into three columns for Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. Each column has a red header with the day and date. Under each header, there are sections for "Lunch Special", "Dinner Special", and "Valentine's Dinner Menu". The Valentine's Dinner Menu includes a note: "Not Valid with 1/2-Price Entree Special Regular Menu Also Available". On the right side, a large red heart contains the text "LUNCH Starting at 11am" and "DINNER Starting at 4pm". At the bottom, a black banner features a photo of four men standing in front of a blue bus on the left, and event details for "FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 14 TRANZFUSION" on the right. The event details include "YC Ballroom | \$5 Cover", "Doors & Bar Open 4:30pm | Music Begins 6pm", and "1st Come, 1st Served | Food Available for Purchase". The bottom of the image contains the address "1 Mumford's Landing Road, Ocean Pines, Maryland", the phone number "410.641.7501", and the website "opyachtclub.com". In the bottom right corner, the logo for "MATT X ORT COMPANIES, LLC" is visible.

There's a lot to LOVE

YACHT CLUB

OCEAN PINES, MARYLAND

FEB 14-16

OPEN THURSDAYS-SUNDAYS | 11AM-11PM

Fri, Feb 14

Lunch Special
1/2-Price Flatbreads

Dinner Special
1/2-Price Entrees

Valentine's Dinner Menu
Not Valid with 1/2-Price Entree Special
Regular Menu Also Available

Sat, Feb 15

Lunch Special
\$7.99 Kicked-Up Grilled Cheese

Dinner Special
Prime Rib Night
\$15.99 12oz | \$19.99 16oz

Valentine's Dinner Menu
Regular Menu Also Available

Sun, Feb 16

Lunch Special
1/2-Price Appetizers

Dinner Special
Italian Night

LUNCH
Starting at 11am

DINNER
Starting at 4pm

A photograph of four men standing in front of a blue bus. The man on the far left is wearing a black t-shirt and shorts. The second man from the left is wearing a white t-shirt and shorts. The third man is wearing a black t-shirt and shorts. The man on the far right is wearing a yellow and green patterned shirt and khaki pants. They are all smiling and looking at the camera.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 14 TRANZFUSION

YC Ballroom | \$5 Cover

Doors & Bar Open 4:30pm | Music Begins 6pm

1st Come, 1st Served | Food Available for Purchase

1 Mumford's Landing Road, Ocean Pines, Maryland | 410.641.7501 | opyachtclub.com

MATT X ORT
COMPANIES, LLC

Snapshots



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

AWARD WINNERS

Worchester Prep Middle School students receiving awards during the winter sports season, in front, from left, are seventh grade boys' basketball, Mike DePalma (MVP), Ben McGovern (Most Improved Player) and Owen West (Coaches Award); eighth grade cheer/boys, Dylan Simons (Most Spirited); eighth grade boys' basketball, Sam Menendez (MVP), Dylan McGovern (Coaches Award) and Kannon Cropper (Most Improved); and in back, seventh grade girls' basketball, Bella Marinelli (MVP), Jayden Scopp (Most Improved) and Paige Barnhart (Coaches Award); eighth grade cheer/girls, Madi Nechay (Co-Coaches Award), Evelyn Westman (Most Improved) and Maggie McCabe (Co-Coaches Award); and eighth grade girls' basketball, Ansley Gardner (MVP), Vanesska Hall (Coaches Award) and Claire Windrow (Most Improved).



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

PJ DRIVE

Stephen Decatur High School student Erika Holdren displays some of the 50-plus pajamas that were collected in the annual Connections sponsored pajama drive benefiting Diakonia of West Ocean City, which provides emergency housing, food services, counseling and assistance for its guests.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

GIFT COLLECTION

The Ocean City Lodge of the Sons and Daughters of Italy in America helped bring Christmas cheer to four Worchester County families by donating gifts collected at the organization's annual Christmas party. Lodge 2474 worked with Worchester County G.O.L.D. (Giving Other Lives Dignity) to find the families in need. Members are joined by G.O.L.D. Executive Director Sandy Sipes, center.



PHOTO COURTESY D.J. LANDIS, SR.

GUEST SPEAKER

Worchester County Commissioner Chip Bertino, left, was the guest speaker at the Dec. 11 meeting of the Kiwanis Club of Greater Ocean Pines-Ocean City. He is pictured with Kiwanis Club President Roy Foreman.



MORGAN PILZ/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

GNOME DESIGN

Abby Bond, left, of Eden, Maryland, and Beth Niblett of Delmar, Maryland, paint designs on their gnome signs at Simple Pleasures Bountiful Treasures in Berlin, Thursday, Jan. 30.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

AUTHOR VISITS

Local author Hunter "Bunk" Mann visited Berlin Intermediate School in December to donate copies of his books to several schools in Worchester County. Mann has authored two coffee table books, "Vanishing Ocean City," and "Ghosts in the Surf." Pictured, from left, are Berlin Intermediate School Principal Ryan Cowder, Sophia Ferrante, Board of Education Member Todd Ferrante, Caitlyn Crockett, Mann, and Superintendent of Schools Lou Taylor.

NOW PLAYING

BEACH BARRELS

13207 Coastal Highway, Ocean City
410-250-0522 / www.beachbarrels.com
Feb. 7: Bettenroo, 9 p.m.
Feb. 8: Judy Sings the Blues, 9 p.m.
Feb. 11: Open Mic, 8 p.m.
Feb. 12: Bingo w/DJ Rupe, 6 p.m.

BJ'S ON THE WATER

75th Street and the bay, Ocean City
410-524-7575 / www.bjsonthewater.com
Feb. 7: Thin Ice, 9 p.m.
Feb. 8: Identity Crisis, 9 p.m.
Feb. 12: Bettenroo, 6 p.m.

CAPTAIN'S TABLE

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

HARBORSIDE BAR & GRILL

12841 S. Harbor Road, West Ocean City
410-213-1846 / www.ocharborside.com
Feb. 7: DJ Billy T, 4 p.m.
Feb. 8: DJ Jeremy, 9 p.m.

HOOTERS

12513 Ocean Gateway, West Ocean City
410-213-1841 / www.hootersofoc.com
Feb. 8: Blake Haley, 5-9 p.m.
Feb. 9: Trailer Park Romeo, 3-7 p.m.

OCEAN CLUB NIGHTCLUB

101st Street, Ocean City
In the Horizons Restaurant, in the Clarion
Fontainebleau Hotel
410-524-3535 / www.clarionoc.com
Every Friday and Saturday:
DJ Dusty, 9:30 p.m. to 2 a.m.
Feb. 7-8: First Class, 9:30 p.m. to 2 a.m.

PICKLES

706 Philadelphia Ave., Ocean City
410-289-4891 / www.picklesoc.com
Every Friday: Beats By Jeremy, 9 p.m.
Every Monday: Karaoke w/Jeremy, 9 p.m.
Every Wednesday: Beats By Styler, 9 p.m.
Every Thursday: Beats By Wax, 9 p.m.
Feb. 8: Ray Worten, 10 p.m.

SECRETS

49th Street and the bay, Ocean City
410-524-4900 / www.secrets.com
Feb. 7: Until Sunrise, 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.;
DJ Tuff, 10 p.m. to 1:50 a.m.
Feb. 8: Full Circle, 5-9 p.m.;
DJ Bobby-O, 6 p.m. to 1:50 a.m.;
DJ Cruz, 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.;
Lima Bean Riot, 10 p.m. to 1:50 a.m.

SKYE RAW BAR & GRILLE

66th Street, Ocean City
410-723-6762 / www.skyebaroc.com
Feb. 7-8: TBA, 4-8 p.m.

WHISKER'S BAR & GRILL

11070 Cathell Road, Suite 17, Pines Plaza,
Ocean Pines
410-208-3922 / www.whiskersbar.com
Feb. 7: Karaoke w/ Donnie Berkey



FIRST CLASS

Ocean Club Nightclub:
Friday & Saturday,
Feb. 7-8,
9:30 p.m. to 2 a.m.



LIMA BEAN RIOT

Secrets:
Saturday, Feb. 8,
10 p.m. to 1:50 a.m.

Harpoon Hannas

THIS WEEK'S
LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

thursday kevin poole 5pm
friday dave hawkins 4pm
the chest pains 9pm
saturday dave sherman 5pm
tranzfusion 9pm
sunday dale teat 3pm

WARM UP THIS FEBRUARY WITH...

CRABCAKE MANIA

**TUESDAYS
CRAB CAKE
DINNER \$10
SPECIAL**

1/2 PRICE PRIME RIB

SPECIAL WEDNESDAYS & THURSDAYS
...SPECIALS ARE DINE IN ONLY.

**WE'RE OPEN
EVERY DAY FOR
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**MONDAY
TEXAS HOLD'EM 6PM**
**TUESDAY
BAR BINGO 6PM**
**WEDNESDAY
TEAM TRIVIA 6PM**
**THURSDAY
PINT NIGHT
W/ KEVIN POOLE 5PM**
**SUNDAY
1980'S THEMED TEAM TRIVIA 1PM**

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Cuisine

Chef whips up bread pudding French toast

“Bodies are flying everywhere. The crowd is upset.”

I chortle as this runs across the teleprompter during a hockey game. It has been a rough week full of surprises for which we can never plan, and the timing of this particular string can hardly be considered to be happenstance.



By Paul Suplee,
MBA, CEC, PC-3

However, it sings true to my soul, as I sit at the bar tightening up the checkbook, finishing food orders, tweaking out the schedule, putting out fires at home, over the horn et al.

On top of it all, the freezer broke down, as did the refrigerated drawers under the grills and the makeup air in the exhaust hood; truly the trifecta of misery for a fledgling restaurant, but so it goes in the ‘fast lane of small business ownership’. Boy, could I use some comfort food.

Luckily, Bob (my ride-or-die HVAC guy) happened to be close by and was able to help us out on all counts; a great sigh of relief when in dire need of emergency assistance.

Otherwise, during an evening of concerning hiccups and semi-tragic events, I would say that it went fairly well. As my father used to say, “other than that, Mrs. Lincoln, how was the play?”

At the end of the day, it only cost me a little over a grand, people were served and happy, and I was fortunate enough to get home in time to at least say good night to my youngest. All in all, just another comedy of errors in this messy business of ours.

As I worked on other projects that are gaining momentum with some interested parties, I recently made the decision to partner with an events coordinator.

I mean, I have catered for over 22 years on my own, true, but I am famous – nay, world famous – for dropping the ball on big events when it comes to scheduling (just ask my editor how much I drive her crazy with deadlines and you’ll get the idea).

I guess I just have too many irons in the fire, and I let some slip away. As such, partnering with the coordinator was a stroke of genius on my part in avoiding a stroke of my own.

With a food trailer being delivered this week, we are expanding at a



maddening pace. This is good, as a little diversity will help us to fight this interesting social experiment that our senators have imposed upon us in raising the minimum wage; truly a devastating blow to many, if not most, small businesses.

There are very few areas in our net-10 industry that can sustain a \$15/hour minimum wage (set for 2023), and catering is at the top of the list.

I just consider myself lucky that I have catered a grand total of 30 years over the span of my career, thus affording me a bit of an edge over some. It won’t take long for the masses of restaurateurs to catch on and jump on the catering bandwagon, so I guess I better grab what I can now.

One of our specialties has become the boutique events, whether it is a beer pairing dinner with Burley Oak or a Yoga Brunch with Beach Gypsy. These are great events that pique the curiosity of our guests and add another dimension to our little nook in the hospitality industry.

And not for nothing, if you add beer and/or crab into anything, you will sell tickets. I’m not sure what

there is to that, but I am doing my market research. This is Maryland, after all, and that could be the answer to it all.

And when we had our last yoga brunch, I treated them to my favorite rendition of French Toast, one of my all-time favorite comfort foods laden with sugar and lovely fats, and the secret lies below in the recipe.

This will not disappoint, especially after a grueling 45-minute yoga session.

Just remember. The best laid plans of mice and men ...

Bread Pudding French Toast

serves 6

1 loaf Italian bread

8 eggs

1 c. Heavy cream

1/4 c. Melted butter

1/2 c. Granulated sugar

1/4 tsp. Salt

1 tsp. Vanilla seeds or equivalent extract

1 tsp. Cinnamon, ground

1. When we make spongy, moist bread pudding, what do we do? We use ‘day old bread’, or as many pastry

chefs do, toast the fresh bread until it has a light crisp to it. As such, lightly toast your dang bread.

2. Combine remaining ingredients, drop the bread in there and let it sit for a long time. Think of the old lady at The Commodore in New Orleans who would fire you if the bread pudding was dry. Let it sit, pressing down until it is completely soaked through

3. Heat a griddle or non-stick pan until it’s hot, but not smoking hot, and spray with some pan spray to coat evenly

4. Carefully drain the excess goo off, and then cook the French toast until it is cooked through, it’s spongy and makes you want to cry thinking about the way your dear mother used to make it when you were a child. That is precisely the moment that you know that it is done

5. Serve with pure maple syrup, as anything else would be an affront to this magnificent feast

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

Puzzles

FOOD ENGINEERING

BY ERIK AGARD / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

Erik Agard, 26, became the crossword editor of USA Today in December, the youngest in the paper's history. He's also a former national crossword champion and a three-day champion on "Jeopardy!" Last year Erik had 21 crosswords published in The Times, the most of any contributor. — W.S.

Instructions: When this puzzle is finished, change one letter in the last word in the answer to each asterisked clue to name a food. The replacement letters, in order, will spell an appropriate phrase.

ACROSS

1 It got some "Xtra" flavor in 2001

7 San Antonio pro

11 Atkins diet no-no

15 What's called a cashpoint by Brits

18 Wage ____

19 Add to the team

20 ____ squash

22 One-named singer with the 2014 hit "Chandelier"

23 *Looks that can be difficult to pull off

25 *"It's 2 a.m. already?!"

27 Half up-front?

28 Tikka masala go-with

29 Gravitare (toward)

31 Singer Morissette

32 Actress de Armas of "Knives Out"

34 "How was ____ know?"

35 Place for speakers

37 Trig function

38 *Data visuals similar to histograms

41 *Swimming hazards in the ocean

44 Crossword-loving detective on "Brooklyn Nine-Nine"

45 ____ Dhahi

46 Celebrations of lives, for short

48 Dance arrangements, familiarly

49 One making frequent pitching changes?

51 Back of the neck

52 It's spoken in Aberdeen

53 "Who ____ knows?"

54 Elderly

55 "I call dibs!"

56 [I'm mad!]

59 Honor for a play

60 Place in the earth

62 South African currency

63 Operatic showpiece

64 *"Man, that was cheap!"

66 *Holder of the single-game W.N.B.A. scoring record (53 points)

68 Something to do before a deal

69 Super, in slang

70 Lisa who "ate no basil," in a palindrome

71 Missiles and such

72 Animal in a "Sound of Music" song

73 Big Super Bowl purchase

74 Easy as falling off ____

75 Nickname for a really thin guy

76 What Mercury and Venus lack

77 Religious observance that's also a past-tense verb

78 "That ship has sailed"

81 Small-time

83 Cause of red-eye

84 Ate

85 Regret

86 *Diner choice

88 *Something visually arresting

91 Chief

92 Coin with 12 stars on one side

93 Ancient greeting

94 El Misisipi, e.g.

95 Source of some South American wool

98 Get groceries, say

100 Sole

102 Film excerpt

105 *Duplicate, in word processing

107 *Disappear suddenly

110 Long-handled tool

111 One with a track record

112 Spore producer

113 Keys of some songs

114 Loan fig.

115 Political worker

116 "A fickle food," per Emily Dickinson

117 Superlatively pleasant

2 Zen garden accessory

3 Running argument?

4 Frame in a box score

5 Hebrew for "son"

6 ____ Mawr College

7 Sword's place

8 Almost a score of Mozart compositions

9 Receptacle for ancient Greek votes

10 11-Down and such

11 Small siestas

12 Low-pH

13 Follower of CD

14 La ____ Tar Pits

15 Donkeyish

16 Have a connection with

17 Hordes

21 Org. behind 14 of the 15 most-watched TV broadcasts in U.S. history

24 Capital of the Indian state of Rajasthan

26 They help with printing and pointing

30 Made line changes

33 Body of water greatly shrunk by 1960s Soviet irrigation

36 To the point

38 Howl

39 Opposite of the Latin "odi"

40 Busy as ____

41 Less green, say

42 Title woman in a No. 1 Beach Boys hit

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

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

43 Learn by ____

47 Score of zero, in slang

50 Ins

52 Pollution portmanteau

56 People who would object to this clue because of it's punctuation

57 Fixes

58 Issa of "Insecure"

59 "How disastrous!"

60 "No way!"

61 Nonnegotiable things

62 Sound a warning

63 Spanish month that anagrams to a zodiac sign

64 Bit of gum

65 ____-faire

66 Birds on Minnesota state quarters

67 Bad smell

70 "Ugh!"

73 -elect

74 Alarmingly

75 Daytime TV fare

76 Back-to-school time

78 "Well, that's that!"

79 Follower of 76-Down: Abbr.

80 Suffix with election

81 Skater's leap

82 Candy discard

83 Not to go

86 Ballroom dance from Cuba

87 Sent packing

89 Actress De Carlo of "The Munsters"

90 Out-eat?

96 E.M.T.'s procedure

97 Tiny battery

99 Smoke

101 Welsh form of "John"

103 Goddess pictured with a solar disk above her

104 Excellent, in dated slang

106 Grade-school subj.

108 Shade of green

109 Muslim-American icon

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HARD - 61

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.

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

Answers to last week's puzzles

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



Calendar

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

Thurs., Feb. 6

FREE YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID WORKSHOP
Worcester County Board of Education, 6270 Worcester Highway, 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM. Youth Mental Health First Aid is the initial help given to a person showing symptoms of mental illness or in a mental health crisis such as severe depression, psychosis, suicidal thoughts and behavior or panic attack. This is a great training opportunity for teachers, AEs, bus drivers and anyone who spends time with youth. Register: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/youth-mental-health-first-aid-hosted-by-worcester-county-public-schools-tickets-88494000939>.

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

PLAY TIME
Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 10:30 AM. A play date for infant to 5 year old children. <http://www.worces-terlibrary.org>

MERRY MAKERS ‘HEARTS’
Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 10:30 AM. Join this adult craft group the first Thursday of the month and have fun creating with new and recycled materials. This month’s theme is hearts. Register: 410-208-4014. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

POCOMOKE BOOK OF THE MONTH
Pocomoke Library, 301 Market St., 2:00 PM. Featuring After You by JoJo Moyes. Copies of books are available in advance at the library. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

‘A WOMAN CALLED MOSES (1978)’
Ocean City library, 10003 Coastal Highway, 2:00 PM - 5:30 PM. The legendary Cicely Tyson stars in this epic rendering of Harriet Tubman. A 3-hour long presentation with a 15-minute intermission. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

DINE & DONATE FUNDRAISER
Fins Ale House & Raw Bar, 119 N. Main St., 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM. Featuring great food and fellowship as the Worcester County Arts Council raises money to support art programs in Worcester County. Fins will donate 20 percent of the food and beverage sales. There will also be a raffle.

EAT OUT AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE
Chick-Fil-A, 12901 Ocean Gateway, 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM. The Grace Center for Maternal and Women’s Health will receive a 20 percent of all sales logged through the Chick-Fil-A app. Access to this app will be available on site during the fundraiser. info@gracematernalhealth.org, 443-513-

4124
BEACH SINGLES
Thursdays - Harpoon Hanna’s, 39064 Harpoon Road, Fenwick Island, DE, 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM. Beach Singles, 45 years and older, meet for happy hour. Info: 302-436-9577, 410-524-0649 or BeachSingles.org

GRIEF SUPPORT
Thursdays - Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 11:00 AM. Coastal Hospice provides grief support and education. Participants work together to help each other navigate through grief at their own pace. Free and open to the public. Nicole Long, 443-614-6142

Fri., Feb. 7

OCEAN CITY INDOOR CUP
Northside Park, 200 125th St., Ocean City, MD. Indoor soccer featuring boys and girls, birth years 2006-2010. Team entry fee is \$400 and must accompany team entry form. 410-250-0125, <https://oceancitymd.gov/oc/departments/recreation-parks/indoor-cup/>

FIBER FRIENDS
Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 10:00 AM. Bring your lap work and join the group as they knit, crochet and embroider. All are welcome. Victoria Christie-Healy, 703-507-0708, <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

FREE INCOME TAX PREPARATION
Pocomoke City Library, 301 Market Street, 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM. Get Your Income Tax done for Free by Certified IRS volunteers. Free Efile. By Appointment only. Please bring Last year’s taxes, ID and social security cards. 410-957-0878

CHICKEN AND FISH DINNER
St. Paul United Methodist Church, 405 Flower St., 11:00 AM. Menu: fried chicken platters, \$8; fried fish dinner \$8; chicken & fish combo platter, \$10; fried chicken or fried fish sandwiches, \$5. Sides include greens, string beans, potato salad, fried potatoes and onions and cornbread/rolls. Eat-in or carry-out.

STEM SCIENCE FOR HOMESCHOOLERS ‘KITCHEN SCIENCE’
Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 2:00 PM. Come explore and experiment. For ages 4-14 years. <http://www.worces-terlibrary.org>

OYSTER FRITTER SANDWICH SALE
American Legion Berlin Post #123, 10111 Old Ocean City Blvd., 2:00 PM. Cost is \$9. The public is welcome.

FIRST FRIDAY OPENING RECEPTION
Ocean City Center for the Arts, 502 94th St., 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM. Meet the artists,

enjoy hors d’oeuvres and refreshments and see the new exhibits featuring a variety of local artists. Open to the public. Free admission. 410-524-9433, <https://artleagueofoceancity.org>

Sat., Feb. 8

OCEAN CITY INDOOR CUP
Northside Park, 200 125th St., Ocean City, MD. Indoor soccer featuring boys and girls, birth years 2006-2010. Team entry fee is \$400 and must accompany team entry form. 410-250-0125, <https://oceancitymd.gov/oc/departments/recreation-parks/indoor-cup/>

CRAFTY SATURDAY MAKE & TAKE ‘BE MINE’
Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM. Crafty fun for children of all ages. <http://www.worcesterli-brary.org>

DEMOCRATIC CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEETING
Pocomoke Library, 301 Market St., 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM. All interested persons are welcome to attend. 410-213-1956

SHAKIN’ THE CHUTE
Berlin library, 13 Harrison Ave., 11:00 AM. Fun and games with a parachute. Register: 410-641-0650. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT SOUP AND SANDWICH LUNCH
Whaleyville United Methodist Church, 11716 Sheppards Crossing Road, 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM. Menu includes home-made chicken noodle and vegetables beef soup, chicken salad and baked ham sandwiches. Baked goods and chicken salad by the pint available for purchase. Cost is \$7 for adults and \$4 for children.

BOW TIES AND TUTU DANCE PARTY
Ocean City library, 10003 Coastal Highway, 2:00 PM. Dance those Winter Wiggles away. Wear your favorite tie or tutu. For ages 3-10 years. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

FARMERS & ARTISANS MARKET
Saturdays - White Horse Park, 239 Ocean Parkway, 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM. Featuring live music, chef demos, children’s activities and other special events. Shop for everything from fresh local produce to unique handmade artisan goods. Open to the public.

Sun., Feb. 9

OCEAN CITY INDOOR CUP
Northside Park, 200 125th St., Ocean City, MD. Indoor soccer featuring boys and girls, birth years 2006-2010. Team entry fee is \$400 and must accompany

team entry form. 410-250-0125, <https://oceancitymd.gov/oc/departments/recreation-parks/indoor-cup/>

SOUP-ER BOWL THROWDOWN
45th Street Taphouse Bar & Grille, 4507 Coastal Highway, 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM. Come try soups from several local restaurants including Taphouse Tavern, 45th Street Taphouse Bar & Grille, Ocean 13, Yellowfins Bar & Grill Selbyville, Box-car40 and more. A \$15 donation at the door also include one free craft beer provided by RAR Brewing. There will also be 50/50 raffles. Proceeds benefit Worcester Youth and Family Counseling Services.

ANNUAL FRIENDS AND FAMILY DAY
New Bethel United Methodist Church, 10203 Germantown Road, 3:30 PM. Guest speaker will be Pastor Lemuel Franklin Dixon (Frankie), a 1964 graduate of Worcester High School.

Mon., Feb. 10

MOTHER GOOSE ON THE LOOSE
Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 10:30 AM. Mother Goose-themed songs and play for children under 3 years old. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

WRITING FOR WELLNESS
Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 1:30 PM. Writing about stressful experience like illness, may boost health & psychological well-being. Group uses exercise to stimulate creative expression. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

HOMESCHOOL BOOK CLUB
Ocean City library, 10003 Coastal Highway, 1:30 PM. Monthly book club for homeschoolers ages 8-12 years. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

MEDICARE OPTION SEMINAR
Ocean Pines Community Center, 239 Ocean Parkway, 3:00 PM - 4:30 PM. Lynne McAllorum, an independent agent with expertise in Medicare products, will present a free seminar to discuss Medicare rules and what is available on the market. Register: 410-641-7052.

STEAM PM ‘CONSTRUCTION AND ENGINEERING’
Snow Hill library, 307 N. Washington St., 3:45 PM. Children 6 years and older, drop in between 3:35-5 p.m. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

AFRICAN AMERICAN FEMALE DIRECTORS: 3 PART FILM SERIES
Ocean City library, 10003 Coastal Highway, 4:00 PM. Featuring “Losing Ground” (1982), this film series explores three under appreciated gems by female African-American directors. Each film will feature a short introduction and an audience discussion afterwards.

Calendar

<http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY MEETING

Atlantic General Hospital, Conference Room 1, 9733 Healthway Drive, 5:00 PM - 6:30 PM. TOPS is a weekly support and educational group promoting weight loss and healthy lifestyle. Berlin group No. 169. Rose Campion, 410-641-0157

DELMARVA WOMEN'S A CAPELLA CHORUS

Mondays - Ocean Pines Community Center, 239 Ocean Parkway, 7:00 PM. Come and sing. Drop-ins welcome. Carol, 410-641-6876

Tues., Feb. 11

PLAY TIME

Berlin library, 13 Harrison Ave., 10:30 AM. A play date for infant to 5 year old children. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

STORY TIME 'VALENTINES'

Pocomoke Library, 301 Market St., 10:30 AM. For 2 to 5 year old children. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

YOU'VE INHERITED A FORTUNE FROM A FOREIGN PRINCE ... NOW WHAT?

Berlin library, 13 Harrison Ave., 2:00 PM. Avoid common scams and learn to recognize the red flags of fraud. An expert from the Better Business Bureau will be on hand to answer questions. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

LOVING VINCENT

Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM. Join this group for oil painting animation, the first of its kind that allows the viewer to step into the works of the famous master painter. A brief art historical discussion about Van Gogh precedes the film. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

FAMILY TIME MOVIE 'A CHARLIE BROWN VALENTINE (2002)'

Ocean City library, 10003 Coastal Highway, 3:00 PM - 6:00 PM. Enjoy movie related activities before the movie begins at 4:30 p.m. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

PARKINSON'S SUPPORT GROUP

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

NAMI LOWER SHORE FAMILY SUPPORT GROUP

Atlantic General Hospital, Conference Room 1, 9733 Healthway Drive, 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM. Free, monthly program offers shared wisdom and problem solving for family members of individuals with mental illness. No registration or enrollment obligation necessary. Carole Spurrier, 410-208-4003, carole-spurrier@msn.com or Gail S. Mansell, gmansell@atlanticgeneral.org, 410-641-



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

PREMIER ATHLETES

Stephen Decatur High School senior basketball players Abby Yesko and Drew Hauelsen were named Premier Driving School Athletes of the Month for November. Yesko and Hauelsen are both standouts on the court and in the classroom. Also pictured are Assistant Principal Dr. Curtis Bunting and Premier Driving School representative Geri Riden.

9725

PLEIN AIR PAINTING DEMONSTRATION

Berlin library, loft, 13 Harrison Ave., 3:30 PM. Featuring local artist Martha Pileggi from Milford, Del. During the painting session she will answer any questions onlookers have about plein air and the oil painting process. Anna Mullis, 410-641-0809 or Pileggi, 302-422-0192. Event held weather permitting.

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 a healthy lifestyle. SLCGS@comcast.net

Wed., Feb. 12

WITTY KNITTERS

Berlin library, 13 Harrison Ave., 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM. Knitters, crochet enthusiasts, needle artists of all skill levels are invited. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

IPAD CHICKS

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

STORY TIME ' I . . YOU'

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

LAP TIME

Snow Hill library, 307 N. Washington St., 10:30 AM. Songs, stories, games and finger plays for children under 2 years old. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

HERBAL HEALTH AND HEALING

Berlin library, 13 Harrison Ave., 2:00 PM. Join certified Therapeutic Herbalist



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

ATTENDS MEETING

The Democratic Central Committee of Worcester County attended the Maryland State Democratic Central Committee Meeting at the IBEW Local 26 Union Hall in Lanham, Maryland. Pictured, from left, are DCCWC members Laurie Brittingham, Vice Chair Whitney Palmer, Tim Tarr, and Chair Dr. Roxie Dennis Acholonu, and in back, Justin Butler, Maryland Democratic Party Lower Shore lead.

Michaela Eggers for an exploration in plant medicine. Learn how to turn your kitchen into a space of healing for common ailments and preventive care using the ancient wisdom of medicinal herbs. All supplies provided. Register: 410-641-0650. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

OCEAN CITY BOOK OF THE MONTH

Ocean City library, 10003 Coastal Highway, 2:00 PM. Featuring Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass: An American Slave by Frederick Douglass. To obtain a copy of the book, call the library at 410-524-1818. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

HEART ART

Snow Hill library, 307 N. Washington St., 3:30 PM. Make a token of your affection for a loved one. Ages 5 years and older. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

KIWANIS CLUB OF GREATER OP/OC

Wednesdays - Ocean Pines Community Center, 235 Ocean Parkway. Doors open at 7 a.m., meeting begins at 8 a.m. 410-641-7330, <http://www.kiwanisofopoc.org>

DELMARVA HAND DANCE CLUB

Wednesdays - Ocean City Elks Lodge, 13708 Sinepuxent Ave., 5:30 PM - 9:00 PM. Dance to the sounds of the '50s and '60s music. A \$5 donation to benefit Veterans and local charities in the Delmarva region. Members and guests. dance@delmarvahanddancing.com, 410-208-1151, <http://delmarvahanddancing.com>

OC/BERLIN ROTARY CLUB MEETING

Wednesdays - Residence Inn by Marriott Ocean City, 300 Seabay Lane, 6:00 PM. 302-540-2127

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