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SEPTEMBER 13, 2018

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FREE



JOSH DAVIS/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

GOOD DEEDS

Girl Scouts from local Troop 736, with Bronze Project Troop Advisor Colleen Dillon-Rutzler, last Wednesday present 100 cancer care kits and other items to patients at the Richard A. Henson Cancer Center in Ocean Pines.

See SCOUT Page 18

Worcester County braces for rainy, windy weekend

By Josh Davis
Associate Editor

(Sept. 13, 2018) Worcester County could see several of inches of rain and some wind this weekend, but appeared to be far enough away from Hurricane Florence's projected landfall as of midweek to be spared its more serious effects.

Brendan Schaper, a meteorologist with the National Weather Center, said Tuesday that Florence was likely to make landfall as a Category 4 hurricane in North Carolina early Friday morning.

"And then the storm is expected to slow down quite a bit and actually stall right over the east/central North Carolina coast," Schaper said. "The latest forecast has the hurricane at 2 a.m. on Sunday near the Raleigh-Durham area, so it really doesn't move a whole lot from the time it's a major hurricane making landfall early Friday morning, to early Sunday morning.

"But, the effects will be far reaching," he added. "Right now, the 'cone of uncertainty' does not include the Eastern Shore, so that is some good news for up there."

Schaper said the chance of thunderstorms would be 50-60 percent late Thursday and into Friday morning, and 60-70 percent later in the day, Friday.

"After that, it becomes a little bit more uncertain," he said. "It depends on the progression of the system – how fast or slow it moves and the rain bands associated with it."

He added the cone of uncertainty, which shows the probable path of the storm, was still "very close" to Worcester County.

"Effects from heavy rainfall are going to be far reaching and our storm total accumulations up that way are, through Saturday evening, in the 1-2 inch range," Schaper said. "There is a potential that the northern Eastern Shore – Ocean City and Berlin – could be on the lower end of the rainfall accumulations."

See LOCAL Page 4

Town tattoo committee to continue

By Josh Davis
Associate Editor

(Sept. 13, 2018) By opining that county laws can't be tailored to just one community but must apply countywide, the Worcester County Commissioners have blocked the effort to allow tattoo businesses to operate Berlin.

Nevertheless, the town's Tattoo Ordinance Committee on Wednesday night vowed to keep pushing for change.

The catch is county law requires tattoo shops to be monitored for health and safety by a physician, largely because of Ocean City's opposition to tattoo shops in the resort.

Berlin, however, petitioned the commissioners, who also serve as the county board of health, to create a legal exception that would allow tattoo shops in town to be monitored by the health department, a work-around approach the commissioners refused to do.

The committee of tattoo artists Matt

Amey and Dana Helmuth, Town Council members Zack Tyndall and Dean Burrell, and resident Patricia Dufendach, spent several months drafting regulations that would have asked

for that exception.

Committee members, who were also aided by Town Administrator Laura Allen and Town Attorney David Gaskill,

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JOSH DAVIS/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Berlin Tattoo Ordinance Committee Chairman Matt Amey on Wednesday wonders aloud whether the county misunderstood a tattoo business exception request that would have only applied to Berlin. Also pictured is committee member, Town Councilman Zack Tyndall, right.



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Hazmat spill from tractor trailer in Girdletree

Police say two containers each carrying hundreds of gallons of corrosives tipped

By Josh Davis
Associate Editor

(Sept. 13, 2018) More than 600 gallons of sodium hydroxide was spilled when a tractor-trailer overturned Wednesday in Girdletree, according to Maryland State Police.

Sodium hydroxide, which is more commonly known as lye and caustic soda, is corrosive to metal and can cause severe burns to the skin and eyes if not handled properly.

According to a police narrative, Andrew Jackson Greene of Henderson, North Carolina was driving a 2005 Freightliner Tractor Trailer carrying 10 containers each filled with 330 gallons of sodium hydroxide, heading southbound on Snow Hill Road in Girdletree when the vehicle overturned.

“The operator believes the load may have shifted, causing the tractor trailer to overturn, resulting in four of the 10 barrels falling into a field and two reportedly spilling,” police said in the release. The driver was reportedly uninjured.

Troopers from the Maryland State Police Berlin Barrack went to 3323 Snow Hill Road at about 4:44 p.m. Also assisting were the Maryland Department of Environment, the Maryland State Fire Marshalls Office and

the Maryland State Police Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Division.

The Worcester County Sherriff's Office, State Highway Administration, and Girdletree and Snow Hill fire departments also aided state police.

Police said a safe perimeter was established and hazardous materials crews were working the scene as of Wednesday evening. A road closure was expected to last until dawn on Thursday and an investigation into the matter is ongoing.

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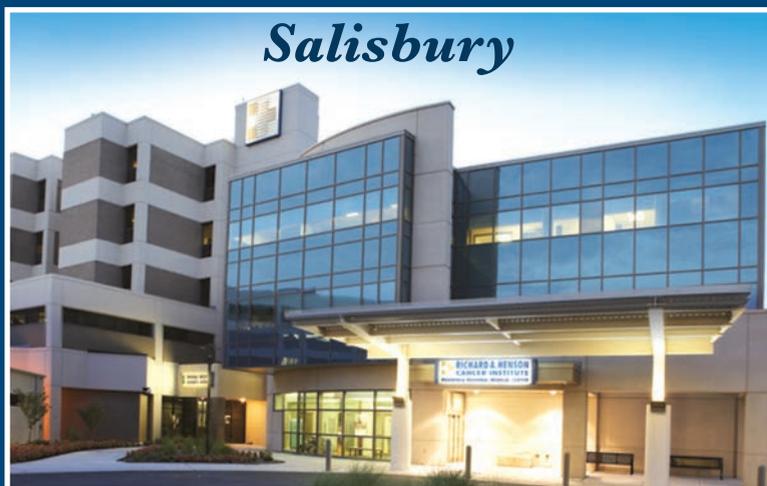
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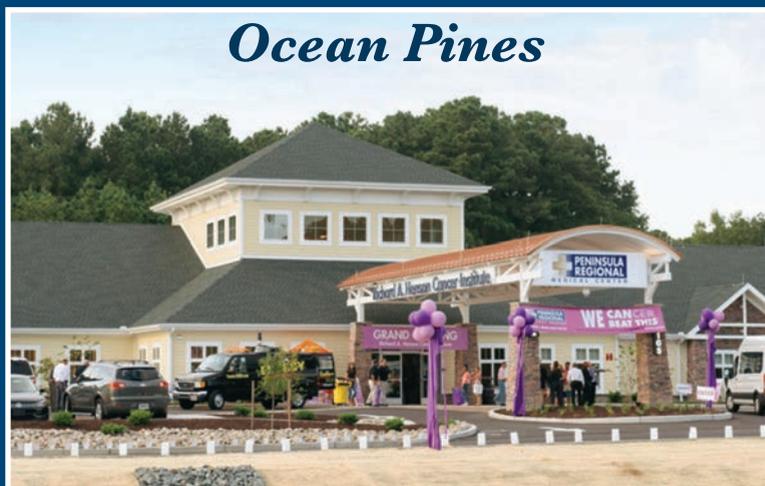
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Local officials urge caution ahead of hurricane landfall

Continued from Page 1

Winds over the weekend were likely to be in the 15-20 mph range, with gusts as high as 30-35 mph, Schaper added.

For Hurricane Florence updates, visit www.weather.gov/wakefield.

State and local officials this week urged caution, however, with

Gov. Larry Hogan declaring a state of emergency on Monday.

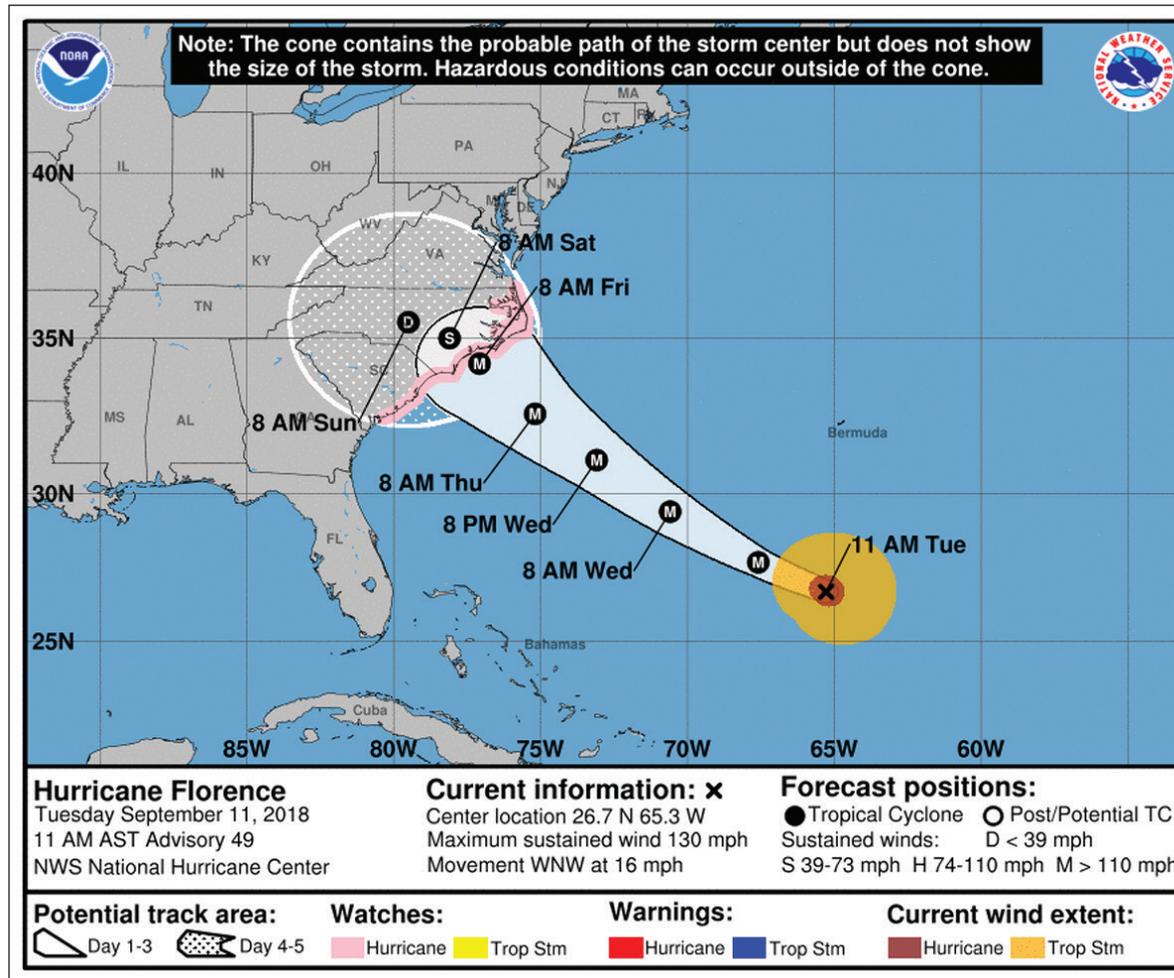
“Our state is taking every precaution and I urge all Marylanders to do the same. Stay tuned to your local news stations for the latest updates, listen to state and local authorities and, most importantly, use common sense,” Hogan said.

Town Administrator Laura Allen posted a note of caution on the Town of Berlin website on Monday.

“As Hurricane Florence approaches, it is important to take the steps necessary to ensure you’re prepared,” Allen said. “Hurricanes cannot be controlled, but there are things you can do to prepare – such as assembling a disaster supply kit. It could take a few days for help to arrive if a hurricane hits.”

Allen said emergency preparedness kits should include:

- A gallon of water per person per



Tracking models this week show Hurricane Florence projected to make landfall somewhere in North Carolina early on Friday morning.

IMAGE COURTESY THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE

day (don't forget about your pets), for at least three days.

- A three-day supply of non-perishable food items: canned goods, fruit cups, cereal bars, and trail mix.
- A blanket and pillow – you may want to store them in a dry plastic

bag to ensure your comfort.

- A change of clothes, sturdy footwear, and rain gear.
- Tools, flashlight, and radio – a wrench or pliers can help with turning off valves, flashlights if power is out, and a battery-operated radio to stay connected if power or cellular connections are lost.
- Emergency cash, documents, and first-aid supplies – cash will be needed if ATMs are down, as well as important family documents, copies of insurance information, bank account numbers, and identification, also write down important phone numbers for family and friends.
- First-aid supplies – antiseptic ointment, bandages, sterile gauze, and ibuprofen or aspirin.

- Personal hygiene and health items – to conserve clean water, wipes are suggested in place of a shower, a toothbrush, toothpaste, toilet paper, and prescription medications.
- Entertainment to pass the time – board games, toys for children, and books.

“Once your kit is prepared, store it in a cool dry place and replace perishable items as needed,” Allen said.

To sign up for the Town of Berlin CodeRED emergency notification system, visit www.berlinmd.gov/department/emergency-notification-2.

Ocean Pines Marketing and Public Relations Director Denise Sawyer is- See BERLIN Page 5

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Berlin, OPA issue tips to get through Florence

Continued from Page 4

sued a statement Tuesday morning that the community was "preparing for severe weather conditions surrounding Hurricane Florence."

"While there is still quite a bit of uncertainty regarding the hurricane's exact track and speed, the potential for strong winds and prolonged heavy rainfall is growing," Sawyer said.

She said the association was making storm preparations, including servicing generators, clearing roadside ditches, and setting up a phone bank for emergency calls.

With more than 300 miles of ditches in Ocean Pines, Sawyer asked residents to clear away any visible impediments. If water does not drain after the rain has stopped, report flooding by calling 410-641-7717.

Additional tips for Ocean Pines residents and guests are:

- Remove and secure objects outside your home and business that may become projectiles during high winds, like lawn furniture and potted plants.
- Sign up for PinesAlerts to get emergency alerts from the Ocean

Pines Association via text message by texting the word PINES to the telephone number 88474.

- Visit www.oceanpines.org for a good list of supplies to have on hand in the event of a hurricane or tropical storm, including drinking water, a first-aid kit, non-perishable food, a radio, flashlight and batteries, phone charger and blankets.
- Have a family emergency plan in place. Plan evacuation routes from home and work and how you will be in touch with members of your family.
- Be informed. Learn more about

steps you can take now to prepare for an emergency. Look for emergency preparedness information at www.ready.gov/severe-weather and www.VBgov.com/beprepared.

- Cancellations and service changes. Beginning Tuesday, Sept. 11, the Association will maintain on www.oceanpines.org a list of event cancellations, closings, service changes and other announcements related to the hurricane.
- Get the latest. Monitor local news and Channel 78 on Mediacom for severe weather updates.

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One of the earliest property sales offices was located on the south end of the boardwalk in Ocean City. Along with a double-decker bus, potential buyers were ferried to Ocean Pines in a paddle-wheeler named the 'Amy Ross'. Average cost of a lot at that time was \$6500. 1800 lots had been sold by 1969.

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Ocean Pines Director Frank Daly, and three others, on Saturday said board members should not be involved in writing or reviewing bid requests.

Requests for proposals to release for pier, bulkheads

By Josh Davis
Associate Editor

(Sept. 13, 2018) In separate motions approved Saturday, the Ocean Pines Board of Directors cast a wide net in gathering information on two hot waterfront topics: bulkhead staging and the sanctuary crab pier.

A parallel debate concerned whether board members should be involved in operational issues.

On bulkheads, the board ordered bid requests, due Sept. 30, for a bulkhead repair and replacement program “that will include an option for [a] material and equipment staging area outside of OPA, so that all location choices can be properly priced and benchmarked.”

For months, residents have asked for the removal of construction equipment and materials from the current staging area of the swim and racquet club park. In addition, a homeowner motion approved in August asked the board to “consider alternate staging grounds for bulkhead repair ... and return the swim and racquet club park back to its originally intended use as a park and recreational area.”

Also included in the motion on Saturday was, “Upon completion of the bulkhead bidding process and entering into a contract(s), terminate any exist-

ing bulkhead agreements and remove all remaining construction materials and equipment from OPA property, should offsite staging and storage be selected.”

Director Ted Moroney, who introduced the motion, said its purpose was “to attempt to address a decades-old bulkhead staging area issue that [the] Ocean Pines community has been asking for.”

Moroney, in the motion text, wrote, “OPA can determine any actual cost difference and if, offsite storage is selected, restore the swim and racquet club complex to a recreation-only area.”

The motion was approved unanimously without further discussion.

Earlier during the meeting, Moroney said he favored moving the staging area.

“I’ve already gone on record that I’m in favor of not using it going forward,” he said, adding what still needed to be determined was, “should the overall cost, if there is a differential ... be split among all of the homeowners, or should it be a portion only to those who have bulkheads?”

“Based on contractor feedback,” Moroney said, the differential was likely a 15-25 percent cost increase.

“I say it could be from zero to 10 per-

See SEVERAL Page 7

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Several directors question board RFP involvement

Continued from Page 6
cent, to 20 to 50," he said.

Association President Doug Parks said, "a lot of numbers [that] have been thrown around" and plenty of conjecture on the subject.

"From my perspective, I'd like to see us ... find out those numbers," Parks said. "Do we really have a problem and, if so, how do we react to it?"

"My takeaway is, get the numbers [and] let's give some serious thought about how to spread that cost out," he added.

A motion on the crab pier also involved multiple points: ordering separate bid requests to remove the current pier, replace it as is, replace it with an observation platform, and to "report to the board no later than Oct. 15 the options, issues and recommendations for relocating the existing crab pier elsewhere in Ocean Pines."

Residents in the Whitetail Sanctuary neighborhood, where the pier is situated, have asked for it to be converted into a nature preserve, while others in the community argued it should simply be renovated.

Director Slobodan Trendic was for the motion, but proposed a "friendly amendment" to allow the board to review the bid requests before they're released.

Moroney said he would accept Trendic's amendment in order to proceed, but added, "I think at some point we need to have a talk about what we do as far as RFPs."

In what became a reoccurring theme during the meeting, three other directors suggested board members should not have a role in writing or reviewing bid requests.

"I don't think anybody on this board should be reviewing any RFP," Frank Daly said. "It's an operational issue - we are not operation people."

"I am a strong opponent of the board ... reviewing RFPs," association President Doug Parks said. "We're here to make decisions based on the information presented that was developed by an RFP process - we're not in the business of developing and reviewing RFPs."

"We should not be dabbling in that part of the job," Director Colette Horn agreed.

Trendic countered that he simply wanted to review the request for proposals because he "understood" one of the options was to build a new aluminum pier, "which is a lot more expensive."

"The question is, is this a wise use of the association's money?" Trendic said.

"Fair enough, but I think the practical aspect would be to share that with the GM to make sure it's included in the RFP, and then remove us from the RFP process," Parks said.

The amendment and original motion were approved unanimously.



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OPA again schedules mtg. on country club renovations

By Josh Davis
Associate Editor

(Sept. 13, 2018) Plans to renovate the Ocean Pines Golf and Country Club have veered off course again, according to General Manager John Bailey, whose assertion prompted the board of directors to schedule a special meeting this Saturday morning.

During a regular board meeting last Saturday, Bailey said the due date for bids to overhaul the second floor of the building were due one day earlier, but are now extended until early October.

"I had hoped to be able to report to you today a summary of what those bids were," he said. "However, for the construction world business is booming."

Bailey said Davis, Bowen and Friedel, the architectural engineering firm handling the process, "heard from bidders ... concerns about how the project was presented."

Those concerns apparently included the construction timeline, the long list of optional items included in the bid request, and a liquidated

damages clause that would have charged contractors for failing to meet certain contract stipulations.

Bailey recommended eliminating four optional items from the request for proposals and adding six others.

He also advised replacing existing shingles and flashings, rather than redesigning or replacing the entire roof.

"According to our engineer ... that would solve our issues of our leaks," Bailey said.

The due date for bids is now Oct. 5 and an addendum to the previous request for proposals would be released

Sept. 14, according to Bailey. He said the board would have an opportunity to review bids during the next regular meeting, scheduled Oct. 20.

During the public comments portion of the meeting, Frank Brown, a lifetime golf member and builder with four decades of experience, said the reportedly leaky country club roof could not be fixed with new shingles.

He said there some 80 feet of seams in the roofline are responsible for leaks and, if not addressed, the association was just throwing away money already spent on the building. Brown suggested a special meeting on the subject.

Director Ted Moroney on Saturday also called for a special meeting.

"It's a little more complicated than just a single thing," Moroney said. "It has really less to do with the RFP and more to do with [the] current business climate."

The latest set of renovation plans for the country club started in late 2016, when a previous board approved spending about \$840,000 over two phases of construction.

A year ago, renovations of the first floor were said to cost about \$500,000 and plans for the second are now expected to cost upwards of \$1.2 million.

The board on Saturday approved \$21,856 for architectural and engineering costs to date and up to \$8,000 for additional work "through the RFP decision making process and contract negotiation."

On Tuesday, the board announced that a special meeting to discuss country club renovation plans was scheduled for 9 a.m. in the Assateague Room of the community center on 235 Ocean Parkway.

'I had hoped to be able to report to you today a summary of what those bids were ... However, for the construction world business is booming!'
OPA General Manager
John Bailey



JOSH DAVIS/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Ocean Pines resident Frank Brown on Saturday suggests a holding special meeting to again review renovation plans for the association golf and country club. The meeting was scheduled for this Saturday.



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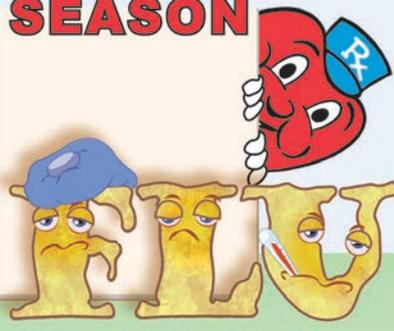



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Directors reach compromise on Diller outsourcing motion

By Josh Davis
Associate Editor

(Sept. 13, 2018) A motion to seek “comprehensive turn-key HOA Management Services” in Ocean Pines was significantly scaled back on Saturday.

Director Esther Diller, in her first official motion since being elected, said the association for decades has used “outdated and poorly integrated software that has limited functionality and a costly support services.”

“The association has reached a critical point and it is no longer able to manage day-to-day operations successfully and efficiently in a financially prudent manner,” Diller said.

She added that while more than \$1 million was budgeted for new software, Ocean Pines “has not considered the costs ... of turnkey outsourcing.”

Diller said outsourcing was “not a word to be afraid of” and “not about replacing people [or] eliminating people.”

However, she added, “any department that works within the LANSA software ... needed to be part of this RFP.” LANSA is an international software development company.

“We may come back and say it’s not the right option,” she said. “But, we are at that point where it’s been talked about and we need to get options.”

Directors Frank Daly and Slobodan Trendic said they supported the motion, while four others indicated they were not.

Association Vice President Steve Tuttle asked how many departments used LANSA software.

“You say the scope is anybody that’s associated with LANSA. Can we unpack what that is?” he asked. “It sounds like that’s everybody to me, pretty much.”

“My concern is this is just too broad a scope,” Tuttle continued. “I need to have it narrowed down, exactly what we would be voting for.”

Association President Doug Parks said he considered supporting the motion until he heard the “LANSA” reference.

“That throws a little bit of a wrench into it,” he said. “Now, to me, it affects other parts of the enterprise.”

Parks said evaluating options for the finance department were one thing, but, “if it goes beyond that, it’s far too nebulous for me at this point and I wouldn’t be in support of that.”

Director Colette Horn said it looked like Diller was shopping “a solution looking for a problem” and using an “apples to oranges comparison.”

“The known problem that we have is the software – it’s not the management,” she said. “If we look at what has happened over the course of the past year, we’ve had significant improvements in the way our financial reporting is conducted as a result of the work that” Finance Director Steve Phillips and General Manager John Bailey have done.

Moreover, Horn said a technology work group over the last year had already eliminated outsourcing as a viable option to replace outdated financial software.

Director Ted Moroney said he was all for getting pricing to outsource the



Ocean Pines Association Director Esther Diller

financial backbone of the association, but suggested also pursuing the work group recommendation to purchase Northstar Club Management Software, “so that we do have something to compare it with.”

“What I am not interested in doing is outsourcing the entire operation and the entire management of Ocean Pines,” he said. “I just think this is very, very broad.”

Trendic disagreed and said, “I don’t think we should stop at financial management.” He also offered to help draft a request for proposals.

After more than 30 minutes of debate, Diller instead agreed to support an amended motion, “To instruct the general manager to issue a non-binding request for proposals for back office financial management to include necessary software, staffing options, and necessary IT support.”

According to the new motion language, Bailey and Treasurer John Viola would jointly prepare the request for proposals, to be issued by Oct. 1 and presented to the board by Dec. 1.

The board voted 6-1 for the amendment, with only Horn not in favor.



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Cmte. guidance suggests no operating growth

Saturday meeting with OPA Board signals start of fiscal year 2019 budget process

By Josh Davis
Associate Editor

(Sept. 13, 2018) With plenty of time to address variables, the Ocean Pines Budget and Finance Committee on Saturday recommended no growth in the fiscal 2020 operating budget, according to Committee Chairman John Viola.

Viola, on Saturday, presented the board of directors with an overview of a budget guidance document created by the committee.

The document starts the process of drafting and approving a fiscal 2020 Ocean Pines Association budget.

Among the important variables, Viola said the committee requested “a

detailed, viable work plan” from General Manager John Bailey regarding both the bulkhead and road replacement programs. The committee specifically recommended funding road depreciation, something that was not done in prior years, and requested cost information for staging bulkhead repairs at the swim and racquet club.

If work plans are not received, “we will give guidance to suspend for the FY budget 2019-2020 assessment for bulkheads and roads,” Viola said.

“Overall, B&F gave guidance for zero operating growth to last year’s assessment, at this time, based upon assumptions and variables that still need to be addressed or reviewed by December,” he added.

Among the items the committee asked for in the budget guidance is a

justification of any departmental revenue or expense change or 5 percent or \$5,000 – whichever is less.

The committee asked for a payroll study that includes benefits and comparable salaries, along with reasons for any staffing changes.

Food and beverage budgets were recommended to remain in line “with years prior to FY 2016/2017,” according to the guidance.

On legal and consulting expenses, the committee asked for a breakdown on “type of spend,” along with a reasoning, timeframe and per-hour costs for legal and any other consultants.

The committee recommended budgeting for the Tern Grill and golf to reflect planned renovations of the country club that houses both operations.

Additionally, the committee plans periodical reviews of the capital budget “to ensure proper oversight.”

The committee also recommended addressing losses last year, “with a plan to fund” them.

Next in the process, according to the document’s timeline, is the board of directors budget guidance to Bailey on Friday, Sept. 28.

A first draft of the budget from Bailey is due to the budget and finance committee by Jan. 4, 2019.

The committee plans to review the draft over two days, beginning on Jan. 9, and provide a recommendation to Bailey on Jan. 14.

Bailey is scheduled present a draft of the fiscal 2020 budget to the board on Jan. 23.

The budget would be presented to homeowners before board approval, which is required by March 16.

Viola said Monday the reserve study is close enough to being finalized that it would play in role in set-

ting the fiscal 2020 budget. He does not anticipate an assessment hike for replacement reserve collections.

“It’s kind of in line with what we have, even when we look out four or five years and even after the projected spend for the country club,” he said. “At this time, it does not look like there would be any difference in that account.”

However, collections for road reserves could have an assessment impact, if the program proceeds. For fiscal 2019, the association budgeted \$250,000 for road reserves, but that was reallocated to pay for the forensic



Budget and Finance Committee Chairman John Viola

audit. Viola said the committee is recommending \$450,000 for road reserves for fiscal 2020.

“That’s only contingent upon the GM coming forward by January with a work plan – otherwise we would go back to what it was,” he said.

Viola, also the association’s chief financial officer as the treasurer, said the board asked him to take on a larger role than previous treasurers in developing the new budget.

“I should be there side-by-side with [Bailey], from a finance side,” he said. “It’s definitely more input than in the past with budget and finance, with this GM and the new role that I have.”

Overall, he said the association appeared to be on a much better financial footing than it was a year ago.

“The numbers are better, at this time, and I believe the budget process will be enhanced,” Viola said.

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Berlin HDC approves sign, shingles, replacement shed

By Josh Davis
Associate Editor

(Sept. 13, 2018) Burley Oak Brewing Company owner Bryan Brushmiller briefly previewed his new downtown shop, Viking Tree Trading Company, for the Berlin Historic District Commission last Wednesday.

The commission was quick to approve new signs for the shop, which is coming soon to 114 North Main Street. Brushmiller said David Lane would produce the wooden, hand-painted hanging sign, which would be similar to others on the street.

“We saw there was a need for a different type of store downtown ... it’s more of a variety, retail store,” Brushmiller, who also operates the brewery on Old Ocean City Boulevard and the Burley Café restaurant on Jefferson Street, said.

“We tend to travel a lot for business, so whenever we go somewhere, we always find neat stuff. So that’s the idea, of bringing it back to Berlin and sharing it [with] all of our friends,” he added.

Brushmiller hopes to open by Oct. 1.

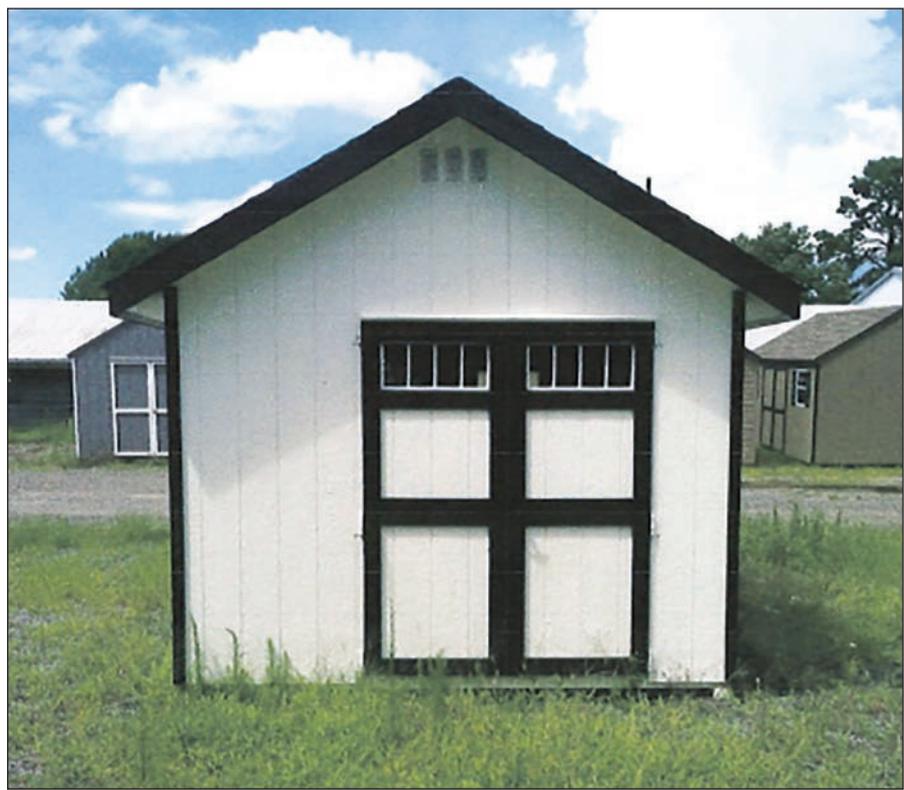
Also during the meeting, the commission approved replacement shingles for a home on 410 South Main Street, as well as demolition of a lean-to and installation of a new, prefabricated shed on 414 South Main Street.

The latter was for the home of Hank and Julie Koenig, which was seriously damaged during a fire last December. During the meeting, Hank Koenig said there was a small bump in the road in restoring the home, but the hurdle had since been overcome and “I think we’re going to see a lot of movement here soon.”

Koenig added he recently purchased a set of period doors, circa 1900 to 1915, to replace the front doors burned during the fire. Commission Chairwoman Carol Rose asked to set up a separate case to approve the doors next month.

A GoFundMe campaign to help the family rebuild their historic home remains active. To donate, visit www.gofundme.com/helping-the-koenigs-rebuild.

The next Historic District Commission meeting is scheduled Oct. 3 at 5:30 p.m. in Town Hall.



JOSH DAVIS/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Top, Burley Oak Brewing Company owner Bryan Brushmiller previewed his new downtown Berlin business, Viking Tree Trading Company, during a Historic District Commission meeting last Wednesday. Bottom, also during the meeting the commission approved demolition of a lean-to and installation of a new, prefabricated shed on 414 South Main Street.

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Ocean Pines voter error was lower

By Josh Davis
Associate Editor

(Sept. 13, 2018) Total ballots counted were down slightly and voter error dropped significantly during the 2018 Ocean Pines election, according to preliminary numbers released by the association elections committee last week.

According to a draft of the 2018 committee report, 7,614 ballots were mailed and 3,119 total ballots were counted, a 41 percent return.

Eighty ballots were not counted, including 66 received after the deadline. Additionally, eight were rejected because the ballots were marked improperly, four voted for more than the allowed number of candidates, one attempted to write in a candidate, and one used an improper envelope.

Last year, 129 ballots were disqualified, the 2017 committee reported.

That's an improvement overall and especially in one particular category, according to Elections Committee Chairman Steve Habeger.

"I was pleased to see that the number of people who voted for more than the allowed number is 10 percent of what it was last year. Last year it was 41 and this year it was four," he said.

"The overwhelming majority of the people who responded did so well and efficiently," Habeger added.

Virginia Sutula noted the number of rejected ballots was within the margin of

the fourth and fifth-place candidates, one of which was elected and one was not. Then candidate and now Director Esther Diller won 1,549 votes, 23 more than Paula Gray.

"It's very sad. You could've made the difference," she said.

"We deal with the ballots that are valid, period," Habeger said, adding of the 66 homeowners who did not turn in their ballots on time, "[They] went through the effort to vote and their vote is still in the envelope, which is unfortunate."

He said the total number of ballots counted a year ago was 3,491, or 372 more than this year.

The committee met eight times during the election cycle and also held a candidate draw and candidate workshop, as well as one forum.

During the elections committee meeting last Friday, Habeger booked a venue and the committee set dates for two candidate forums for the 2019 election. Forums were scheduled June 12 from 7-9 p.m. and June 22 from 10 a.m. to noon, both in the Assateague Room of the community center on 235 Ocean Parkway.

The candidate draw, to determine ballot order, will be held on June 7 next year.



Members of the Ocean Pines Elections Committee last Friday discuss the draft of an annual report that showed voter participation in the last election was down slightly, while voter error was sharply lower. Pictured, from left, are Chairman Steve Habeger, Rick Turner, Brenda Wascak and Virginia Sutula.

JOSH DAVIS/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

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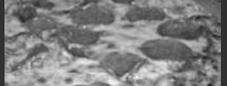
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**Pup pilot program next step
in Pines goose mitigation**

By Josh Davis
Associate Editor

(Sept. 13, 2018) "Passion. Passion. Passion. I have been getting it from all angles you could imagine," Ocean Pines General Manager John Bailey said Saturday.

The passion Bailey was referring to was the June culling of about 300 resident Canada geese and the subsequent protests outside board meetings, the formation of at least one concerned citizen group, and dozens of letters to the editor in local newspapers.

Passion was also the reason the association "has held off on trying the border collie approach," Bailey added, referring to one proposed method of managing the local goose population.

During a July board meeting, Bailey said he met with Maryland Geese Control, an organization that uses border collies to deter invasive goose populations from settling in an area.

In a previous interview, Bailey described the service as using trained

dogs to chase geese offsite without harming them.

Last Saturday, he said a contract for the service would be needed and the cost would be \$625 per week.

"And at 52 weeks that would be \$32,500 – a contract that I would definitely need to bring back to the board of directors," Bailey said. "However, there was \$15,000 approved in the budget for wildlife management [and] we've only spent a little less than \$5,000 year to date, [with] USDA Wildlife Services and Assateague Coastkeeper."

Bailey said he intended to try the border collies as a pilot program spread out over a six-week period, this fall, at a cost of about \$4,000.

"We would have enough money to pursue other mitigation efforts in the spring, including continued use of border collies if that approach is considered successful," he said. "And I'm looking for more input, as always, from everybody on what's next."



Ocean Pines Association General Manager John Bailey

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Berlin Briefs

By Josh Davis
Associate Editor

(Sept. 13, 2018) The Berlin Mayor and Council discussed the following items during an Aug. 27 public meeting at Town Hall:

Appointments

Mayor Gee Williams swore in several new and returning appointees to town boards and commissions.

They were: Robert Palladino, board of appeals; Preston Whaley, board of supervisors of elections; Jane Bridell, Bill Burke and Milt Warren, ethics commission; and Leslie Gebhart, Mary Moore and Jeff Ricks, housing board of review.

"I want to thank you very much for continued service to the Town of Berlin. These jobs are essential to making sure [there are] meetings run by people who live in it, not just by the Mayor and Council," Williams said.

Fee waiver

The council unanimously approved a Berlin Fire Company request to waive a \$940 building permit fee.

The fee was for renovations to the Station 1 fire company building on 214 North Main Street.

No fire company members were present during the meeting. The re-

quest was approved without comment.

Tennis update

Administrative Services Director Mary Bohlen said of renovations to the Stephen Decatur Park tennis courts, "I can't exactly say [it's] proceeding as scheduled, but it is on its way and, as far as I know, they are still anticipating wrapping up this week."

Electric updates

Electric Utilities Director Tim Lawrence said about 75 percent of the lighting in a town substation on Schoolfield Street was converted to LEDs and the remainder would likely be finished within the next few weeks. He said a grant helped pay for the transition.

Also in LED news, Lawrence said feeder cables were installed and new LED lights were energized for streetlamps on Schooner Lane and Intrepid Lane.

"They've been trying to get lights for about ... 11 years," he said. "So far, everybody's had good things [to say] about it. I haven't heard anything negative about the lighting and everybody seems very happy with it."

Additionally, Lawrence said transformers were installed for seven new

lots on Purnell Crossing South.

Police updates

Police Chief Arnold Downing thanked Delmar Pizza for its contribution to a recent trip there that included 40 participants of Berlin Youth Club, a program of Worcester Youth and Family Counseling Services.

Police assisted in taking the youth to the Delmar trampoline park and then to Delmar Pizza, Downing said. The restaurant only charged Worcester Youth \$1.90 for 18 pizzas.

"We want to really go ahead and say thank you to Delmar Pizza. We don't only have partners in the Town of Berlin," Downing said. "Thank you very much to George and the staff there at Delmar Pizza for putting the finish touch on a day [that included] the kids just bouncing around and having a great time."

Downing said police also assisted several local organizations with back-to-school supply drives, including the Buckingham Elementary School Teacher's Closet, Brave, the Shriners and the Taylorville United Methodist Church.

"The community of Berlin is getting bigger every day and we really appreciate all the hard work and ... the partnerships that we actually do have," he said.



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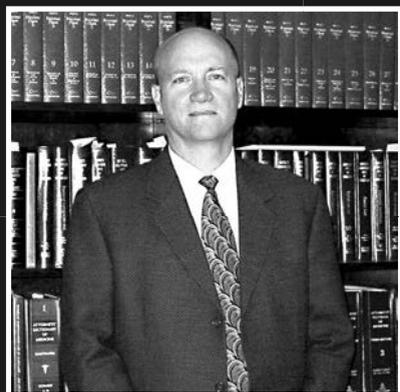
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County, for now, will not hear request for tattoo exception

Continued from Page 1
repeatedly said the goal was to carve out that exception, and the Town Council in May voted 3-1 to back the effort with a letter of support to the commissioners.

After waiting several months for a reply, the town got its answer in an Aug. 23 letter to Berlin Mayor Gee Williams that said the commissioners declined to alter the law.

“Please be advised that at their meeting of Aug. 21, 2018, the Worcester County Commissioners reviewed your recent request for the County Commissioners, acting as the Board of Health, to modify the county law regarding tattoo establishments to regulate the health and safety aspects of tattoo businesses in Berlin and throughout Worcester County.

“After careful consideration, the County Commissioners are not inclined to adopt revised regulations in their capacity as

the County Board of Health, which would then apply countywide, including all municipalities in Worcester County. However, we understand that you may choose to adopt such local regulations that apply only in the Town of Berlin.”

Worcester County Public Information Officer Kim Moses, in an email last week, said the legal matter was discussed during a closed session and the decision was “based on the advice of the County Attorney.”

Williams, in a statement emailed last Friday, said the county’s lack of support had likely doomed the effort.

“With the county’s decision to reject any revisions to the regulations to allow tattoo establishments in Berlin because they must be applied countywide, I believe this effort has come to an end,” Williams said. “From a practical matter it would be cost prohibitive for the town to establish and maintain its own municipal board of health. This function is

currently funded and managed by Worcester County.

“Given this decision, I don’t expect to see tattoo artists operating legally anywhere in our county any time in the foreseeable future,” he continued. “In light of this decision, I can’t imagine a majority of the Town Council wanting to take on both the legal liabilities and costs associated with creating and operating our own municipal board of health to oversee one type of business.

“With no place to go, I anticipate Berlin’s Tattoo Ordinance Committee will, unfortunately for now, go into sleep mode,” Williams said.

Amey, the committee chairman, suggested during a meeting Wednesday night that the commissioners didn’t understand the request, which specifically asked for an exception only for Berlin.

“They’re well aware,” Gaskill said, adding he spoke directly with County At-

torney Maureen Howarth who told him it was her opinion, “That if the county acts as the county board of health, it applies everywhere in the county, including all municipalities.”

“I am led to believe, by that, they’re just not interested and they’re not going to do this,” Gaskill added.

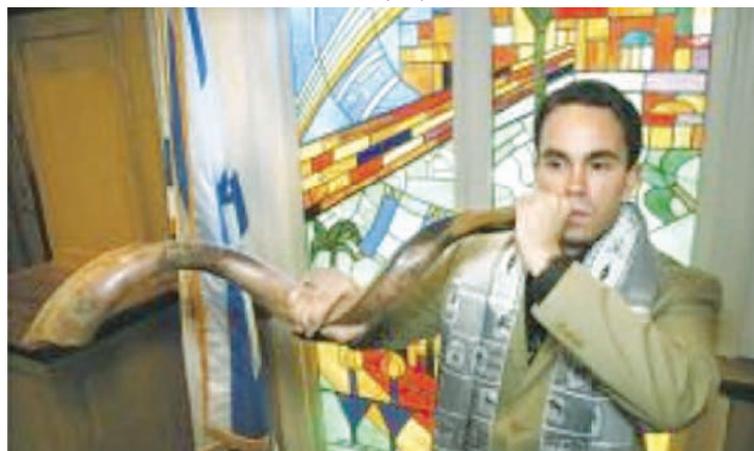
Several times during the meeting, committee members pointed to hypocrisies in county regulations.

“Their excuse is that anything that’s done in one municipality basically affects the whole county, which it doesn’t seem to work that way with Ocean City, because they have their policy and their rules about tattooing, which does not apply to the rest of the county,” Dufendach said. “We were trying to establish the same sort of thing with us, where we establish our rules ... why is it good for Ocean City, but it’s not good for Berlin?”

“I don’t understand why they prefer
See COMMITTEE Page 17

**‘I am led to believe ...
they’re just not interested
and they’re
not going to do this!’
Town Attorney
David Gaskill**

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Committee urges grassroots effort, invokes election

Continued from Page 16
to not address a health issue, which we have brought forward to them. Are they waiting for somebody to [get sick]? ... Bad art isn't a reason to complain, but illness is and this is a public health issue, and that is my reason for being here," she added.

Amey said the nearly yearlong effort of the committee at present felt like "a waste of a lot of energy by all of us."

"I agree and Laura [Allen] agrees," Gaskill said, adding he does not believe the county ever intended to act on the matter, partly because the current county ordinance only allows tattooing if a physician or osteopath is present.

"Yet, they didn't create any regulations for the health department to inspect - I don't think they had any intention to, because what tattoo parlor is going to have a physician on staff seven days a week?" Gaskill said. "It was an economic ordinance ... passed with the intent that no one would ever attempt to open a tattoo parlor."

Tyndall said he was not willing to give up, and moved to continue bi-monthly committee meetings and to recommend the town extend its moratorium against new tattoo businesses for 90 days beyond the current expiration date, in November. The vote was 3-0 in favor with two members, Burrell and Helmuth, not present.

In the meantime, Dufendach encouraged grassroots efforts.

"How do you get people to get their state or their county to move off an old idea? The old idea is that tattooing is bad and it's harmful, and you wouldn't want your daughter to do it," she said. "Nobody thinks that anymore. Tattooing is beautiful, it's incredible what people do and it's a real art form."

"People want to spend hundreds and hundreds of dollars on it - why shouldn't they be able to? Why shouldn't they be able to right here in Berlin?" Dufendach added.

She also wondered aloud whether the county commissioners would become more flexible after the November election.

"Every one of them is up for reelection," Tyndall added.



JOSH DAVIS/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Berlin Town Attorney David Gaskill on Wednesday said he believed a county tattoo ordinance was written in order to be prohibitive. "It was an economic ordinance ... passed with the intent that no one would ever attempt to open a tattoo parlor," Gaskill said.

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JOSH DAVIS/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Local Girl Scouts, with staff at the Richard A. Henson Cancer Center in Ocean Pines, last Wednesday show off items donated to the center for cancer patients.

Scout project benefits local cancer patients

By Josh Davis
Associate Editor

(Sept. 13, 2018) Girl Scouts from local Troop 736 last Wednesday presented the staff at the Richard A. Henson Cancer Center in Ocean Pines with 100 cancer care kits for patients.

The months-long project was part of the Scouts' pursuit of the Bronze

Award, the highest honor given to Junior Girl Scouts.

As of last Wednesday, the girls had filled 100 backpacks with tooth brushes, toothpaste, ginger candies, teas, puzzle books, fuzzy socks and other items to help make visits to the Cancer Center more tolerable.

They also made 50 lap blankets and

stocked a rolling cart with pencils, markers, word searches, coloring books and other items. Also included were "Hats for Hope," made from Lu-LaRoe leggings.

"We had a local person in Berlin who went out of business, so she took all of her items and sent them down to North Carolina and they came back as hats," Bronze Project Troop Advisor Colleen Dillon-Rutzler said. "This woman donated them to the troop, to be able to donate them to [cancer patients]."

The Scouts were assisted by many other community donations, with several local businesses agreeing to act as drop-off sites for items included in the backpacks.

Dillon-Rutzler said work on the project started in May.

"They were really, really into it by June, so June, July, August, their whole summer vacations they spent at least once a week [on the project]," she said.

She said the girls will put together a report, to be sent to the Girl Scouts of the Chesapeake Bay office in Delaware.

"They'll get reviewed and, if they sign off them, then they will be honored at a dinner in January," Dillon-Rutzler said.

In a previous interview, Dillon-Rutzler said each of the girls in Troop 736 have been affected in some way by cancer.

"My daughter, MaryAnn Catherine, in fact, not only experienced cancer as a daughter of an acute myeloid leukemia survivor, but also watched and was a special caregiver to my sister, her godmother, that succumbed to metastatic breast cancer after a 14-year battle," she said. "With this in mind and the goal of the Bronze Award, the girls as a whole looked at making a difference in the community and developed some wonderful ideas to benefit the Richard A. Henson Cancer Institute of Ocean Pines."

The project was "a lot of work, but it was actually pretty fun," Johanna Hallman, 11, said Wednesday.

"It means a lot, because you make all the patients happy when they get all this stuff, and it's just fun to see them smile," Hallman said.

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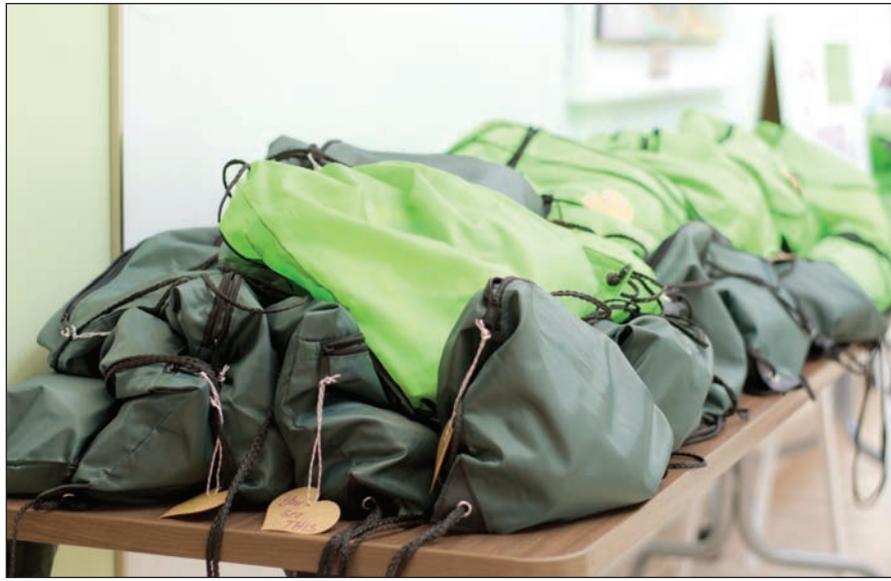
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JOSH DAVIS/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Items donated by local girl scouts to cancer patients at the Richard A. Henson Cancer Center in Ocean Pines last Wednesday included 100 backpacks filled with care items, 50 hand-made lap blankets, and a rolling cart stocked with pencils, markers, word searches and coloring books.



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Opinion

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

County tattoo regs are out of step, outdated

One of these days, or years, the Worcester County Commissioners will rewrite their county's tattoo regulations, which are more out of step with the times than a Lawrence Welk Remembrance Concert during Bike Week.

Moreover, Ocean City government will be fine with that, once the average age of its elected officials drops below the half-century mark and into the age bracket where about 40 percent of their contemporaries will sport body art of some kind.

It is Ocean City government, after all, that holds sway over the county's tattoo laws, as it has viewed the ink-on-skin business as a shadowy and subversive trade that would damage the family image it promotes.

Unfortunately for the tattoo industry, which surged into the mainstream almost 20 years ago, government officials haven't been paying attention to the actual families who have been visiting. Otherwise, they would know that mom and dad aren't June and Ward Cleaver anymore.

This isn't to say that everyone has or should have some ink, but a count of tattoos on any summer weekend would probably produce a population estimate as accurate as the old Demoflush-wastewater flow model, while also doing a reasonable job of reflecting the age demographic.

Even so, just because Ocean City doesn't want tattoo artists working within its boundaries doesn't mean that Berlin and other towns should be denied the right to set their own standards.

The county makes a reasonable argument when it says its tattoo laws must apply equally to all jurisdictions, but that reasonableness doesn't necessarily attach to the law itself.

Looking at the visitor and resident population these days, it's obvious that the public's values have evolved, and the county's law should evolve with them.



“Since when did pizza, beer and chips become the Holy Trinity of hurricane survival essentials?”

Letters

Local Kiwanis Club continues success

Editor,

The Kiwanis Club of Greater Ocean Pines-Ocean City is fast approaching the end of their successful program year. The club was able to continue to meet the successes of past years.

The new program year begins Oct. 1, 2018 and runs through Sept. 30, 2019. The Kiwanis mission is “Serving the Children of the World.” This club is doing that and will continue this next year.

The club has been sending scholarship checks to the colleges for the 12 young people who we are assisting this year. The total awards are \$14,000.

It's rewarding to read some of the letters of thanks from the students or their parents. The Kiwanis Club is making a difference. It also makes a difference with younger children, as well.

This current year the Club has provided \$10,600 to youth activities in our area. This includes six clubs that are sponsored in local elementary, intermediate and high schools and the new Aktion Club for those

with disabilities at the Worcester County Developmental Center.

Support is also given to the local 4Steps Therapeutic Program, Cedar Chapel School, Worcester GOLD Infants Pantry and its Christmas program for children through a club's Toy Drive.

Also sponsored is a young girls' basketball team through Ocean City Recreation and Parks. The club also contributes to Ocean Pines Association camp scholarships, the Cricket Center, the Kiwanis Key Leadership Program, a toy drive, food drives, Ocean City “Play It Safe” Program, and Project Eliminate of Kiwanis International to eliminate maternal and neonatal tetanus.

Perhaps more important than money, the Club donated hundreds of volunteer hours to school art fairs, science fairs, and direct assistance to our sponsored school Kiwanis youth service clubs.

The Kiwanis Club has also played a supporting role in the community, contributing \$2,050 to community support organizations, the OPVFD, the OPA Con-

certs in the Park, OP Veterans Memorial, a coat drive, and Diakonia, plus hundreds of volunteer hours towards Nursing Home Bingo, dolls for patients, the blood drives, our house address signs and others.

So, how does all of this get done? Through volunteer hours and hard work on fundraisers. All of this is paid for by hard work on pancake breakfasts, the Italian dinner, hot dog sales, the wine tasting event, the Duck Race and weekly donations from members to Priority One.

Of course, it's not all hard work; there is the satisfaction of working together to get these results, the weekly meeting, and occasional social events.

So here comes 2018-2019. The local children and the community need the Kiwanis Club of Greater Ocean Pines-Ocean City to be successful again. “Kids need Kiwanis and Kiwanis Needs You.”

Friends and neighbors of members are needed to both support the club and its fundraisers, but more important, to participate as

Continued on Page 21

BAYSIDE GAZETTE

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Letters

Continued from Page 20
 members of the Kiwanis Club of Greater Ocean Pines-Ocean City to insure the ability to continue to meet all these needs.

New members bring their new ideas and participation in the club's mission. While the club needs our existing members for what they are able to do, but more importantly their knowledge of our ongoing programs, new members are essential to the continuation of the Kiwanis Club of Greater Ocean Pines-Ocean City.

Consider joining with the Kiwanis Team to continue these services for the 2018-2019 program year. Thank you.

*Ralph E. Chinn
 President, Kiwanis Club of Greater Ocean Pines-Ocean City*

Where does leadership stand on goose actions?

Editor,
 As we begin working to responsibly and diligently address this issue and generate facts (as outlined by Ms. Wilson) that support our position – we are wasting our time if we do not have a clear indication of Mr. Bailey's intentions.

Therefore; I am writing again in support of those in our Ocean Pines community that have taken up the

“cause” of protecting any future Canada geese that decide to reside near our ponds, and conclude with two critical questions.

I, like many, were appalled that our community leaders acted recklessly and without any research to back up their claims of the geese polluting the ponds.

That is what we've been told by Mr. Bailey – he authorized it because of pollution concerns. And one member of his environmental committee told us, “pull on our big boy pants” when we questioned his rationale. Both are relatively clueless and, in the second case, rather juvenile. To him, I guess it takes a big man to slaughter molting geese!

Additionally, we heard of a few people that were upset about waiting a few minutes while a family of geese crossed the road ... and one kind person went so far as to run over a mother and four goslings on Ocean Parkway.

All I can say is I'm disappointed that we have these impatient and in some cases cruel people in our community. Perhaps if they read about these magnificent animals in Warner's “Beautiful Swimmers,” they might realize that their “big rush” is not all that important, or maybe some have trouble holding up their pants and holding a book at the same

time!

Nevertheless, this heartless destruction would have been avoided if only those in charge took the time to do the research, relative to what is really causing any pollution.

I hope we do get geese re-populating the ponds and I hope those that object take the time to marvel at and enjoy these creatures – slow down and enjoy life – you are not that busy nor important.

To Mr. Bailey directly, do you believe you made a mistake and should have researched what is really causing any pollution? Would you take this same action again?

*Doug Tribull
 Ocean Pines*

Happy to be leaving Ocean Pines for good

Editor,
 This is one Ocean Pines resident who will not be calling the community home for much longer.

All of the dirty politics and lack of transparency have been an irritant for quite some time, but what really did it for me was the mass killing of hundreds of innocent geese just because they poop. I am ashamed to tell people that I live in Ocean Pines, and I do not want to live here anymore.

Is anyone even aware that Ocean

Pines is rapidly gaining a reputation as a community that endorses animal cruelty? From the often intentional mowing down of families of geese on Ocean Parkway, to a smaller scale gassing of geese, which occurred last summer near the South Gate Grill (and within viewing distance of restaurant patrons), to this most recent slaughter of almost 300 geese, animal cruelty is rampant in the Pines.

With so much cruelty being easily tolerated, and obviously encouraged in some cases, anyone who cares for the future of Ocean Pines should be very concerned about the nature of people such a community would attract in the coming years. It's certainly a chilling thought, as those who enjoy being cruel to animals are often cruel to humans.

I am blessed to be able to leave this place, and I know of many others who would like to do the same but cannot. I'm almost finished packing. My only regret is that I cannot take the remaining geese with me, although I will surely be praying for them.

*Margaret Twilley
 Ocean Pines*

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National Folk Festival



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Painter and illustrator Rachel Alvarez of Salisbury, left, with parents Bill and Cindy Gerstmyer



Serigrapher Erick Sahler of Salisbury

DEBUT A SUCCESS

The rain did little to dampen the National Folk Festival's first year in Salisbury. The festival drew thousands over three days, last Friday, Saturday and Sunday, and featured dozens of performers, artist and artisan booths, and food vendors from across the United States.

JOSH DAVIS/B
AYSIDE GAZETTE



Clinton Fearon & the Boogie Brown Band, reggae from Seattle, Washington



Crowds inside one of the main tents on Sunday

Year of the Woman Committee celebrates Worcester teachers

(Sept. 13, 2018) As part of the focus on the Year of the Woman and acknowledging the accomplishments and contributions of women in the community, the Women of Berlin Committee will honor female educators and their male colleagues, both active and retired, with a meet and greet back to school celebration on Tuesday, Sept. 18 from 4-8 p.m. at Sisters on Main Street in Berlin.

Worcester County Public Schools' long-time motto is "People Make the Difference," and for this year's opening kick-off celebration teachers donned T-shirts with "Difference Maker" printed on the back.

The Sept. 18 event will be a fundraiser for the Worcester County Educational Foundation, which primarily supports these difference makers through teacher grants and funding for technology and innovative instruction.

A portion (20 percent) of the sales of beverages and merchandise purchased in the store that evening will be donated to the Foundation.

Nationally, female teachers make up 76 percent of the work force and Worcester County follows this trend. Teachers in Worcester County meet or exceed state certification requirements; teachers with 10 or more years of experience have earned a masters' degree.

Many educators in the county have

earned doctoral degrees and/or National Board Certification. The Worcester County Public School system is the largest employer in the county and teacher salaries have a significant economic impact.

In addition, the impact that teachers have in the lives of families in the community is significant. Teachers prepare students for success in college, and careers amid constantly changing expectations and rigorous and demanding curriculum.

In Worcester County, women hold many leadership positions and females hold over 60 percent of principal positions. The first-ever female executive cabinet member, Dr. Annette Wallace, began as chief operating officer in July.

Women fill many of the administrative positions in the central office. Board of education member Sara Thompson has been recognized as the longest-serving board of education member in the state.

The event for educators is an opportunity for teachers to network and support the Worcester County Educational Foundation. Female educators and their male counterparts are encouraged to attend. This event is also open to the public, who can support the WCEF through their purchases. Guest bartenders and music by the Bilenki Duo will highlight the evening.

Worcester County Fair canceled

By Morgan Pilz
Staff Writer

(Sept. 13, 2018) The 66th annual Worcester County Fair, slated for Sept. 14-16 at Byrd Park in Snow Hill, has been canceled because of the threat of Hurricane Florence.

The fair was originally scheduled June 23-25, but it was moved to September because, ironically, of poor weather conditions.

Kathy Decker, a volunteer and administrative assistant with the fair, said in a press release Monday the decision to cancel was made "with great disappointment."

"We are all just heartsick and disappointed, especially for our hard-working youth and exhibitors," Decker said. "Mother Nature just was not in our camp this year."

The decades-old fair had always been held during the second week of August, but was moved to June in 2017 because the weather is generally a little cooler in early summer.

"We will come back strong in 2019," Decker said. "[We're] not sure where or when, but we'll be back for year 67. Nothing's off the table, and we will weigh all the options and see what we can do."

A virtual version of the fair was set up on the Worcester County Fair Facebook page, showcasing entries for the estimated 1,700 people expected to attend the fair.

The next meeting of the Worcester County Fair Board is scheduled for Tuesday, Oct. 2, at 7 p.m. at the University of Maryland Extension office on 305 Bank Street in Snow Hill.



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<p>September 24</p>	<p>5-10 pm at Secrets Bar & Grill Doors open at 5 pm and Dine around starts at 5:30 pm</p>	<p>\$100 Raffle Ticket General admission and a chance to win \$10,000 \$50 General Admission (\$55 at the door)</p>
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Dine around buffet ★ Drink specials ★ Fun raffles



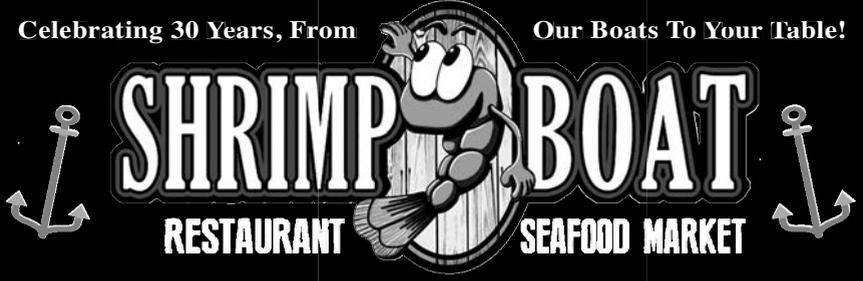
Beach Bash

Dine around buffet features food from:

- Ocean 13 ★ Iron Horse ★ Sunset Grille ★ Outback Steakhouse
- Secrets ★ Harborside Bar and Grill
- Centerplate at the Convention Center ★ Touch of Italy
- Primo Hoagies ★ The Shrimp Boat ★ Dumser's Ice Cream
- Sweet Disposition ★ 28th Street Pit n' Pub ★ Bad Monkey
- Smoker's BBQ ★ Desserts by Rita ★ Shotti's Point ★ Fisher's Popcorn
- The Original Greene Turtle ★ Eastern Shore Coffee and Water
- Bourbon Street on the Beach ★ Residence Inn by Marriott
- Off the Hook Restaurant Group ★ Pickles Pub ★ Dry 85 ★ Matteo's
- Salsa Loco ★ Matt Ortt Companies ★ Ocean Pines Yacht Club
- Hooters ★ Rare and Rye ★ The Shark on the Harbor
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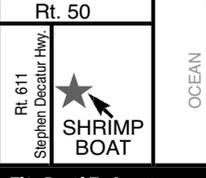
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JOSH DAVIS/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Staff at Boxcar40 in Pittsville break for a staff photo during an otherwise busy soft opening last Thursday that fed dozens of local firemen. The new restaurant, led by local Chef Paul Suplee and business partner Matt Rankin, opened to the public this week.

Boxcar40 brings scratch American to Pittsville

By Josh Davis
Associate Editor

(Sept. 13, 2018) They fed dozens of local firefighters last Thursday, had a soft opening for family and friends on Friday, and, earlier this week, Boxcar40 officially opened to the public.

Offering scratch American Cuisine, Boxcar40 promises a different kind of dining experience inside its renovated 1920s firehouse in Pittsville.

"It was above and beyond anything that we could have anticipated. The feedback was 100 percent positive from everyone," co-owner Matt Rankin said of the soft opening. "The excitement level is shooting through the roof."

The restaurant is a collaborative effort of Rankin and chef Paul Suplee, and the name is a reference to the backdrop of a town that, during the 19th century, once shipped out 40 boxcars of strawberries a day.

Suplee said he and Rankin looked at a number of locations before settling on Pittsville.

"I've known Matt for 14 years and he's a great operator," he said. "We started having more serious conversations and, once we saw the building, we started getting really excited."

"I walked up to the building and I immediately saw what it needed," Suplee continued. "I knew it needed full-view glass doors, and I knew it needed a facelift and a lot of other things, but that it was minimal [because] it was a 1929 brick firehouse."

He described the menu as American cuisine, with an emphasis on southern food and "low country."

"When I say that, what I mean is, we'll have the best cheesy grits you've ever had," Suplee said. "I can give you a 13-hour smoked pork that we do in-house for \$13.99, or I can give you the exact same thing with a grilled Washington Canyon lobster from [local waterman] Sonny Gwin for \$35, so it's a nice mix geared toward a lot of different people."

Speaking of smoked meats, the menu features a section called "Smoked Stuff," with a note adding: "We use a traditional smoker and it takes upwards of 19 hours to cook some of our products. As such, it is only available until we run out!"

The "stuff" includes brisket, burnt ends, pork ribs, pulled pork and half chickens.

"I've been smoking food since '84, so I understand the curing and drying processing steps, and it's exciting that we have a 300-pound smoker, which seems like it's big, but it's really not. We'll double that by next year, guaranteed," Suplee said.

The menu also has appetizers from the land and sea, including stout-braised pork belly and chicken wings, as well as raw or roasted oysters, steamed clams and mussels, and a smoked fish board.

There are also soups ranging from smoked brisket chili to Maryland or cream of crab, along with a selection

of five salads, from shredded Brussels sprouts to the "Boxcar Salad" made with greens, pickled red onion, strawberries, candied nuts and goat cheese.

For sandwich lovers, Boxcar40 offers cheesesteak subs, BLTs and a "Chili-Smash Burger" topped with chile rellenos, house-smoked bacon and pepper jack cheese.

Seafood entrees include seafood risotto, shrimp and grits, crab cakes and a daily selection of fresh, local fish.

The endeavor has been a family affair for Suplee. During both the stress test of feeding hungry local firefighters and the soft opening late last week, two of his children and several long-time friends pitched in both in the kitchen and as wait staff.

"I love it," Suplee said. "I'm hoping this is a huge success and I can teach my children that you don't have to get stuck wrestling a job for 40 years to retire and make 60 percent of what you can live on. I'd love to teach them that you can open a business, succeed, and employ other people and make those people happy too."

Suplee, also a chef/instructor at Wor-Wic and a food columnist, has lofty goals for Boxcar40.

"I want this to be a destination restaurant that's really comfortable for the locals to come in ... but that also attracts from Baltimore, D.C., Annapolis and Rehoboth when they're coming down," he said. "We want to capture those groups coming

from [across the bay bridge] and southern Delaware, and give them another option on their way to the beach."

Rankin also said it is important to cater to the locals, adding, "We want to take care of them, because they're hopefully going to take care of us."

"We also want to create destination-type restaurant, where you don't mind driving 25 miles to have a great meal and great service in a great environment," Rankin said.

Working with Suplee has been an enjoyable experience, he said.

"The synergy has been really great between the two of us, with his expertise in the kitchen and the back of the house, and mine in the front of the house. It's really been blending well," he said.

"We're super excited for our opening and we have very high hopes that we're really going to knock it out of the ballpark for anybody that comes in here," Rankin added.

Boxcar40 will be open seven days a week, with dinner service starting at 5 p.m. each night. The restaurant will open on Sundays at 11 a.m. for football, with expanded hours likely during the next several weeks as staff is brought up to speed.

Visit the restaurant on 7456 Gumboro Road in Pittsville, just off U.S. Route 50.

For more information, call 410-835-5503, or visit www.boxcar40.com or www.facebook.com/pg/boxcar40.



Items served up during a soft opening at Boxcar40 last Friday included the Boxcar40 Salad (top left), Smoked Fish Plate (top right), Stout Braised Pork Belly (bottom left), and Pork Ribs with Shrimp and Grits (bottom right).
JOSH DAVIS/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

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312 Talbot St.
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410-289-7424
www.angleroc.net
Sept. 15: The Poole Brothers, 5-9 p.m.

BJ'S ON THE WATER

75th Street and the bay
Ocean City
410-524-7575
www.bjsonthewater.com
Sept. 14: Over Time, 9 p.m.
Sept. 15: Old School, 9 pm
Sept. 19: Lennon LaRicci, 6 p.m.

BOURBON STREET ON THE BEACH

116th Street, behind Fountain Head Towers Condominium
Ocean City
443-664-2896
www.bourbonstreetonthebeach.com
Sept. 14: Dave Sherman, 7-11 p.m.
Sept. 15: TBA, 7-11 p.m.
Sept. 16: Vegabonds, 6-9 p.m.
Sept. 17: Walt Farovic, 6 p.m.
Sept. 18: Jack Worthington, 6-9 p.m.
Sept. 19: Reform School, 6 p.m.; Open Mic, 9 p.m.
Sept. 20: Chris Button, 7 p.m.

CAPTAIN'S TABLE

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

COCONUTS BEACH BAR AND GRILL

In the Castle in the Sand Hotel
37th Street oceanfront
Ocean City
410-289-6846
www.castleinthesand.com
Sept. 14: Darin Engh, noon to 4 p.m.; John LaMere, 5-9 p.m.
Sept. 15: The Everafter, noon to 3 p.m.; Smooth & Remy, 4-8 p.m.

Sept. 16: Chris Diller, noon to 3 p.m.; Old School, 4-8 p.m.
Sept. 17: Bob Wilkinson & Joe Smooth, 4-8 p.m.
Sept. 18: Bettenroo Duo, 4-8 p.m.
Sept. 19: Chris Button & Joe Mama, 4-8 p.m.
Sept. 20: Kevin Poole & Joe Mama, 4-8 p.m.

COINS

28th Street and Coastal Highway
Ocean City
410-289-3100
www.coinspub.com
Sept. 14-15: Tranzfusion, 9 p.m.

COWBOY COAST COUNTRY SALOON AND STEAKHOUSE

17th Street and Coastal Highway
Ocean City
410-289-6331
www.cowboycoastoc.com
Sept. 15: 3 Bands on the Main Stage beginning at 7 p.m. w/Troy Grove, Southern Tyde and Hydra FX; DJ, Tops Cut Off DJ Team, 9 p.m.
Sept. 16: Music outside stage, 6-10 p.m.; Sam Grow, main stage, 9 p.m.; VJ/DJ Jammin Jeff
Sept. 19: Live Band Karaoke w/Kaotik and DJ Jerry B

DRY 85

12 48th Street
Ocean City
443-664-8989
www.dry85.com
Sept. 14: Jack Daniel's Bike Event, 6:30 p.m. featuring specials and giveaways

DUFFY'S TAVERN

130th Street in the Montego Bay Shopping Center
410-250-1449
www.duffysoc.com
Sept. 14: Bob Hughes, 5-8 p.m.
Sept. 15: DJ Chuck D, 8 p.m. to midnight

HARBORSIDE BAR & GRILL

12841 S. Harbor Road
West Ocean City
410-213-1846
www.ocharborside.com
Sept. 14: DJ Billy T, 4 p.m. to 2 a.m.
Sept. 15: Side Project/Chris Button, 2-6 p.m.; DJ Jeremy, 9 p.m. to 2 a.m.
Sept. 16: Opposite Directions, 2-6 p.m.; DJ Billy T, 4 p.m. to 2 a.m.
Sept. 17: Blake Haley, 4-7 p.m.; DJ Billy T, 7 p.m.
Sept. 18: Dust N Bones
Sept. 19: Karaoke w/Jeremy or Trivia w/DJ Bigler
Sept. 20: Opposite Directions, 6 p.m.

HOOTERS

12513 Ocean Gateway
West Ocean City
410-213-1841
www.hootersofoc.com
Sept. 14: TBA, 4-8 p.m.
Sept. 18: Trivia w/DJ Bigler, 7 p.m.

MARINA DECK

306 Dorchester St.
Ocean City
410-289-4411
www.marinadeckrestaurant.com
Sept. 20: Karaoke w/J Wo, 9 p.m.

M.R. DUCKS BAR & GRILLE

311 Talbot St.
Ocean City
410-289-9125
www.mrducksbar.com
Sept. 14: Dr. Harmonica, 4 p.m.
Sept. 15: Bo Dickerson Band, 4 p.m.
Sept. 16: Dust N Bones, 3 p.m.

OCEAN 13

13th Street on the boardwalk
Ocean City
www.Ocean13ocmd.com
Sept. 14: Michael Smith, piano lounge, 7 p.m.
Sept. 15: Brian Russo, piano lounge, 7 p.m.; Paul Lewis, tiki bar, 8 p.m.
Sept. 16: Karaoke w/DJ Jeremy, tiki bar, 9 p.m.
Sept. 18: Karaoke w/DJ Jeremy, 9 p.m.
Sept. 20: Michael Smith, piano lounge, 7 p.m.

OCEAN CLUB NIGHTCLUB

In the Horizons Restaurant
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101st Street and the ocean
Ocean City
410-524-3535
www.clarionoc.com
Every Friday and Saturday: DJ Dusty, 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.
Sept. 14-15: On the Edge

OCEAN PINES YACHT CLUB

1 Mumford's Landing Road
Ocean Pines
410-641-7501
www.oceanpines.org
Sept. 14: Identity Crisis, 6-10 p.m.
Sept. 15: Over Time, 6-10 p.m.

PICKLES

706 Philadelphia Ave.
Ocean City
410-289-4891
www.picklesoc.com
Sept. 14: Jason Morton & The Chesapeake Sons, 5:30-9:30 p.m.; Beats by Jeremy, 10 p.m.
Sept. 15: Chain Break, 4:30-8:30 p.m.; Dust N Bones, 10 p.m.
Sept. 16: Karaoke w/Jeremy, 9 p.m.
Sept. 18: Beats By Adam Dutch, 9 p.m.
Sept. 20: Beats by Wax, 9 p.m.

PURPLE MOOSE SALOON

108 S. Atlantic Ave.
Ocean City
410-289-6953
www.purplemoosesaloon.com
Sept. 14-15: CK the DJ/VJ, 2 p.m.; Surreal, 10 p.m.
Sept. 16-17: CK DJ/VJ, 9 p.m.
Sept. 18-19: VJ Mazi, 9 p.m.
Sept. 20: CK DJ/VJ, 9 p.m.

SEACRETS

49th Street and the bay
Ocean City
410-524-4900
www.seacrets.com
Sept. 14: Jim Long Band, 5-9 p.m.; Nowhere Slow, 9 p.m. to 1:30 a.m.; DJ Tuff, 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.; DJ Bobby-O, 10 p.m. to 1:50 a.m.; DJ Davie, 10 p.m. to 1:50 a.m.; Live Wire, 10 p.m. to midnight
Sept. 15: Jim Long Band, 5-9 p.m.; Nowhere Slow, 9 p.m. to 1:30 a.m.; DJ Cruz, 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.; DJ Bobby-O, 10 p.m. to 1:50 a.m.; Gypsy Wisdom, 10 p.m. to 1 a.m.; DJ Tuff, 10 p.m. to 1:50 a.m.
Sept. 16: Whiskeyhickon Boys, 5-9 p.m.
Sept. 20: Opposite Directions, 5-9 p.m.

SKYE RAW BAR & GRILLE

66th Street, bayside
Ocean City
410-723-6762
www.skyebaroc.com
Sept. 14: The Stims, 4-8 p.m.
Sept. 15: Aaron Howell, 4-8 p.m.

TRADER LEE'S LIVE

9935 Stephen Decatur Highway
West Ocean City
443-614-4119
Sept. 14: Lower Case Blues, 2 p.m.; Bird Dog & the Road Kings, 6 p.m.; Loud Love, 10 p.m.
Sept. 15: Both Barrels, 2 p.m.; Bird Dog & the Road Kings, 6 p.m.; Buddy Cash Band, 10 p.m.
Sept. 19: Open Mic Night, 7 p.m.

WHISKER'S BAR & GRILL

11070 Cathell Road, Suite 17
Pines Plaza, Ocean Pines
410-208-3922
www.whiskersbar.com
Sept. 14: Karaoke w/Donnie Berkey

Poudel will feature photos and online store at Zenna

By Paige Mallory Passman
Staff Writer

(Sept. 13, 2018) Ocean City resident Bishal Poudel, a photographer and business owner, is passionate about bringing items from his home country of Nepal and seeing the positive effects they have on the Eastern Shore.

Poudel's online shop, Himalaya Mantra, is committed to supporting socially and economically disadvantaged artisans.

The website, www.himalayamantra.com, opened in December 2017.

Himalaya Mantra features spiritual items, religious masks, hand-pounded singing bowls, hemp items such as backpacks, purses, clothing and wallets, silver jewelry, home décor, handmade paper goods, incense and pashmina shawls. Poudel's photographs are available for purchase as well.

"I approached Chrissy Ehrhart, owner of Zenna Wellness Center [in Berlin] about carrying some of my items," Poudel said. "We formed a part-

nership and had created a small store because we both follow the same business initiative by carrying fair trade items and felt the store was a good fit."

Poudel will have items for sale this Friday.

"I believe that the store will be a success and Himalaya Mantra will become an established shop in Berlin at Zenna Wellness," Poudel said.

"There has been a very positive response from members of Zenna Wellness and everyone is excited to purchase items that support their spiritual journey, make a fashion statement, or can bring some color to their home," he added.

Poudel said he knows the background story of the shop owners in Nepal and how each item was produced.

For more information on Bishal Poudel's photography and store, visit www.bishalphotography.com and www.himalayamantra.com.

For more information, visit www.artsinberlin.org.



PHOTO COURTESY BISHAL POUDEL
Bishal Poudel recently opened the pop-up shop Himalayan Mantra inside Zenna Wellness Studio in downtown Berlin, with the help of Zenna owner Chrissy Ehrhart.



PHOTOS COURTESY BISHAL POUDEL

Photographer Bishal Poudel captures the essence of the wild ponies of the Assateague National Seashore in a series of photos from his professional website, www.bishalphotography.com.

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302.539.3095 Rt. 54 AND The Bay, Fenwick Island DE

Cuisine

Take a Boxcar home with this tomato salad

Just when I thought that my life couldn't get any more colorful and adventuresome, I made the potentially poor decision to open my own restaurant.

Good lord, I'm 50 years old. What in the world was I thinking? Oh well, god hates a coward.

It has been an absolute whirlwind of pain threading

our way through the various governmental and lending agencies and, boy, when you do this the money sure goes fast. It's almost as though the whole process is a shell game designed to weed of the faint of heart. They haven't gotten me yet, and I plan on seeing this thing through to the bitter end. Of course, for me I'm hoping that happens in five years when I sell the joint and retire to the Keys.

We had two soft openings last week and they went splendidly. Alas, as there is no better way to curse a grand opening than to brag about the soft opening, I imagine I better keep my mouth shut.

I breathed a huge sigh of relief as I wrote the menu in the absence of a boss. I am the boss (actually one of two) and as such I have creative freedom. Naturally, when you walk into a place that already has an installed 300-pound smoker, and you have a 65-pound commercial pressure smoker, of course an easy fit is to have smoked meats, seafood and vegetables on the menu.

Wanting to shy away from being called a "smokehouse" or barbecue joint, I created a menu that we refer to as "American Cuisine leaning towards Southern." Fried green tomatoes, shrimp & grits and macaroni & cheese all adorn the menu, as do fresh fish and other seafood options from the grill. But at the end of the day, you can't walk away from that beautiful Southern Pride SPK280 smoker. It is truly a thing of splendor. As such, we have plenty of smoked goods to offer.

However, on the salad side I stayed fairly traditional. As much as I love grilled Caesar, I opted for simple and, believe me, we will still sell a lot of salads. People like fresh salads and I tend not to mess with them too terribly much. As the menu stands, one of the culprits is a variation of the famous Caprese, and frankly this is one



of my favorites plays on a theme, ever.

Not being one who really enjoys raw basil, I adore this puree that I make with roasted garlic and just a hint of acid from sherry vinegar. The herbal nuances shine through this sauce and add a great deal of complexity to an otherwise plain salad. Further developing the flavors on the plate by using Burrata (a cream-filled fresh mozzarella), I'm pretty sure that this will be one of our best sellers.

Further mixing things up with heirloom grape tomatoes, peach tomatoes, chocolate-sprinkle cherry tomatoes and anything else that we can get from Chesterfield Heirlooms, it's a salad that brings me joy. Sometimes it's the small things in the biggest storms that can set us straight.

Boxcar Caprese

serves 4

- 1 pound Burrata cheese, 4-ounce balls
- 2 Heirloom Tomatoes
- 1 Tbsp. Basil puree (recipe follows)
- 1 tsp. EV Olive oil
- 1 tsp. Balsamic or sherry glaze (recipe follows)
- Smoked sea salt, as needed (recipe follows)

1. On a clean plate, lay out some of the heirloom tomatoes in a somewhat orderly fashion

2. In the middle of the tomatoes, perch a ball of burrata so that it becomes the focal point of the plate

3. Drizzle the top with the basil puree, glaze and olive oil

4. Gently shower the salad with chunks of coarse sea salt, which of course you could cold-smoke for an hour to add another layer of flavor

Basil Puree

makes about 1 quart

- A handful of fresh basil leaves
- 1 cup EV Olive oil
- Splash sherry vinegar
- salt & pepper to taste
- 1 cup oil-roasted garlic

1. Blend all ingredients together until pureed

2. Adjust seasonings and refrigerate until use

Balsamic or Sherry Glaze

Makes about 1 cup

- 2 cups Welch's white grape juice
- 2 cups Decent quality balsamic vinegar

1. Combine the two and bring to a low simmer on low heat. This takes a lot of time so plan accordingly

2. If you go too fast, it will taste like burnt raisins, and if I catch you doing it, I will smack your knuckles with a wooden spoon. Low. Slow. Period.

3. When it is just a little looser than you like, pull it off and chill. It will thicken slightly as it cools

Smoked Sea Salt

Makes 1 cup

- 1 cup Coarse sea salt
- smoking chips

1. The key here is to lightly dampen the salt, as this will allow smoke to more readily adhere to the surface of this magical mineral

2. Place your salt in a bowl and, assuming you have a spray bottle with only water in it, mist the salt and toss

3. Repeat until the salt is well-moistened and spread in a thin layer in a pan that will fit in your smoker

4. Fire up said smoker but this is a cold smoke, so don't go too hot

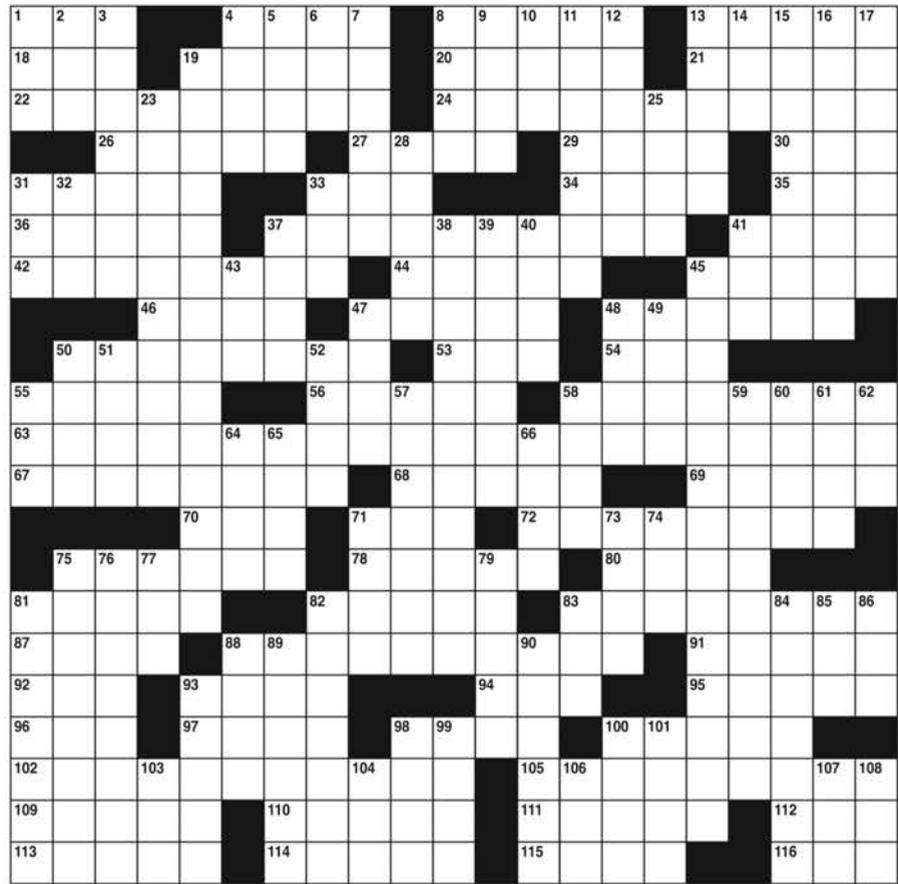
5. Cold smoke the salt for one hour, remove and air at room temperature for one hour, and then place in a sealed jar

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

Puzzles

MIXED FEELINGS BY HAL MOORE / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

- ACROSS**
- 1 No-goodnik
 - 4 "So long, dear boy"
 - 8 Soap scent
 - 13 Test for purity
 - 18 Bullet ____ (1950s fashion fad)
 - 19 Hiding, with "up"
 - 20 TD Garden, for one
 - 21 Jordan who directed "Get Out"
 - 22 Overwhelm
 - 24 Result of a photographic memory
 - 26 Neighbor of Hungary
 - 27 Harbinger
 - 29 Whopper inventor
 - 30 Tierra ____ Fuego
 - 31 Minor's opposite
 - 33 Where the U.S. won its 1,000th Summer Olympic gold
 - 34 Chooses
 - 35 Id restrainer
 - 36 Sangfroid
 - 37 Pair of diamonds?
 - 41 Swear
 - 42 Robin Williams role in a 1991 blockbuster
 - 44 Reasons to hold one's nose
 - 45 Fan sounds
 - 46 Horror assistant
 - 47 Big name in water filters
 - 48 "I wish!"
- DOWN**
- 1 Small balls
 - 2 Graveside container
 - 3 Attire for the Bond villain Ernst Stavro Blofeld
 - 4 Author Morrison
 - 5 Director of the "M*A*S*H" finale
 - 6 Simple top
 - 7 Skillful
 - 8 Delayed
 - 9 Weights, informally
 - 10 Court do-over
 - 11 Parallels
 - 12 Islamic state
 - 13 Copycats
 - 14 Short time, for short
 - 15 Manta ray, by another name
- ACROSS**
- 50 Black brew
 - 53 Item at the end of a wizard's staff
 - 54 Man just after kneeling?
 - 55 Uncompromisingly direct
 - 56 Classic Chevy
 - 58 Bunker
 - 63 They involve mixed feelings ... or a hint to four squares in this completed puzzle
 - 67 2008 campaign slogan
 - 68 Major fashion capital
 - 69 Actress Thompson of "Thor: Ragnarok"
 - 70 ____ league (amateur sports group)
 - 71 Efficiency stat
 - 72 Payment to a building board
 - 75 Dance in 3/4 time
 - 78 Set of values
 - 80 "____ bien"
 - 81 One smoothing the way?
 - 82 Leaves in
 - 83 Option for moving an investment
 - 87 Neighborhood
 - 88 Parts of many law firm names
 - 91 Camera setting
 - 92 "____ out!" (ump's cry)
 - 93 Hello or goodbye
 - 94 ____ long way
 - 95 Dukes
 - 96 O'er and o'er
 - 97 Folkie Guthrie
- DOWN**
- 98 Chocolate-chip-cookie starters?
 - 100 One of the Corleones in "The Godfather"
 - 102 Symbol of luck
 - 105 Public nudity or foul language
 - 109 Place to chat
 - 110 "Princess ____ Theme" (John Williams composition)
 - 111 Chocolatier since 1845
 - 112 Stooze with a bowl cut
 - 113 Checks
 - 114 Certain break point
 - 115 Cries of approval
 - 116 Division in geology
- ACROSS**
- 16 "The Crucible," for McCarthyism
 - 17 Mustard and saffron
 - 19 One living off the land
 - 23 "Why am I not surprised?"
 - 25 "Darn!"
 - 28 Drive
 - 31 ____ Store
 - 32 Mate for Bambi
 - 33 Supervised
 - 37 Milhouse's toon friend
 - 38 Dashboard warnings, informally
 - 39 Imaginary
 - 40 Partner of smash
 - 41 "Kung Fu" actor Philip
 - 43 Fruit-juice brand
 - 45 Basically what was said
 - 47 Boxer upset in the biopic "Cinderella Man"
 - 48 Golfer Aoki
 - 49 Nordic native
 - 50 Soothing succulent
 - 51 Explorers and Expeditions
 - 52 Fair
 - 55 Journalist Nellie
 - 57 The Great ____ (Satan)
 - 58 ____-Soviet
 - 59 Cartoon in which one cow says to another: "Hey, wait a minute! This is grass! We've been eating grass!"
 - 60 Climb
 - 61 View from a pew
- DOWN**
- 62 Free TV spot, for short
 - 64 Taiwanese computer giant
 - 65 It might be topped with guacamole
 - 66 Tic ____ (mints)
 - 71 Give (out)
 - 73 Modernists, for short
 - 74 Internet connection inits.
 - 75 Sandal-less, say
 - 76 Score starter
 - 77 Shepherd's scene
 - 79 Great Plains tribe
 - 81 Bribes
 - 82 Sent up
 - 83 Nutrition fig.
 - 84 "I'll cover this"
 - 85 Nonsense
 - 86 H.S. courses for college credit
 - 88 Suffix with large numbers
 - 89 17-year-old Peace Nobelism Yousafzai
 - 90 In too curious a manner
 - 93 Composes
 - 98 Fancy French home
 - 99 Once, once
 - 100 The Bravest in the Big Apple, for short
 - 101 N.L. Central squad
 - 103 Ingredient in a Bali Hai cocktail
 - 104 Certain tech exec
 - 106 Actress Long
 - 107 Tender sound
 - 108 Currency with denominations of 1,000, 5,000 and 10,000
- Online subscriptions: Today's puzzle and more than 4,000 past puzzles, nytimes.com/crosswords (\$39.95 a year).



- ACROSS**
- 62 Free TV spot, for short
 - 64 Taiwanese computer giant
 - 65 It might be topped with guacamole
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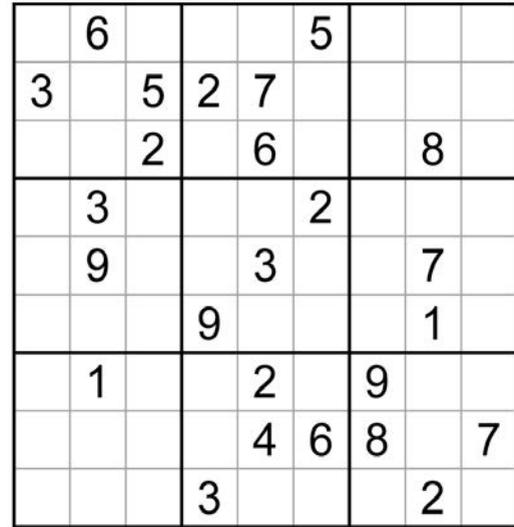
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su | do | ku

© Puzzles by Pappocom
HARD - 34

Fill in the blank spaces in the grid so that every vertical column, every horizontal row and every 3 by 3 box contains the numbers 1 through 9, without repeating any. There is really only one solution to each puzzle.



Answers to last week's puzzles

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



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., Sept. 13

OC BIKEFEST

Ocean City convention center, 4001 Coastal Highway. Featuring national entertainment and bands, stunt shows, bike builders, vendors and food and beverages. chase@ocbikefest.com, 262-642-7158, <http://www.ocbikefest.com>

FREE VASCULAR SCREENINGS

Delmarva Health Pavilion Ocean Pines, 11101 Cathage Road, 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM. The vascular screenings are for people ages 55 and older who exhibit at least three prominent risk factors or one symptom. Screenings include ultrasound testing for carotid artery blockage and abdominal aortic aneurysm, and ankle-brachial index tests for peripheral artery disease. Call the Guerrieri Heart and Vascular Institute at 410-543-7123 for eligibility and an appointment.

COFFEE AND COLORING

Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 10:00 AM. Calming coloring session with coffee and donuts provided. All ages welcome. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

AARP CHAPTER 1917 MEETING

Ocean City Senior Center, 104 41st St., 10:00 AM. Social time begins at 9:30 a.m. Wayne Littleton from Believe in Tomorrow will be the guest speaker. An optional luncheon at High Stakes will follow the meeting. Bob McCluskey, 410-250-0980

STORY TIME 'TEDDY BEARS'

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

WRITING WITH RUTH

Ocean City library, 10003 Coastal Highway, 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM. Monthly gathering of local writers who share their independent work - poems, prose, essays, memoirs, etc. Receive encouraging feedback from group participants. Meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month, year round. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

CURING CHRONIC PAIN

Berlin library, 220 N. Main St., 2:00 PM. Barbara Kline, LCSW-C has had extensive training in mind/body techniques and is part of a group of clinicians who advocate this approach. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

BEACH SINGLES

Thursdays - Clarion Resort Fontainebleau Hotel, 10100 Coastal Highway, 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM. Beach Singles 45-Plus meets for happy hour. Info: Arlene, 302-436-9577 or Kate, 410-524-0649. <http://www.BeachSingles.org>

Fri., Sept. 14

OC BIKEFEST

Ocean City convention center, 4001 Coastal Highway. Featuring national entertainment and bands, stunt shows, bike builders, vendors and food and beverages. chase@ocbikefest.com, 262-642-7158, <http://www.ocbikefest.com>

WOMEN OF BERLIN EVENT

Downtown Berlin, 12:00 PM - 8:00 PM. Approximately 80 percent of the businesses in downtown Berlin are owned and operated by women. In celebration of Women of Berlin, balloons will be placed in front of store to help identify the women owned businesses. Each participating business will hold an open house in conjunction with September's second Friday Art Stroll.

LUNCH AND LISTEN STORY TIME FOR ADULTS

Berlin library, 220 N. Main St., 1:00 PM. Hear a story designed just for adults while eating your lunch. Bring your lunch, soft drinks will be provided. September story time will feature selections by author Neil Gaiman.

OCEAN PINES BOOK OF THE MONTH

Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM. Featuring Bloodsworth: The True Story of the First Death Row Inmate Exonerated by DNA Evidence by Tim Junkin. Copies of books are available in advance at the library. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

CLASSIC MOVIE MATINEE

Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 2:00 PM. Featuring "Psycho (1960)." Refreshments provided. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

CRAB CAKE DINNER

Stevenson United Methodist Church, 123 N. Main St., 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM. Single crab cake sandwich, green beans, baked potato and drink for \$12. Carryouts and bake table available.

PETSMART NATIONAL ADOPTION EVENT

PetSmart, 11330 Samuel Bowen Boulevard #100, 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM. Town Cats of Ocean City, Worcester County Humane Society and Forgotten Cats, together will have more than 40 cats and dogs available for adoption.

SHERO AWARDS CEREMONY

Ocean City Center for the Arts, 502 94th St., 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM. Free SHERo Awards ceremony will honor women who have made a difference on Delmarva. 410-524-9433, <http://www.artleagueofoceancity.org>

FIBER FRIENDS

Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM. Bring your lap work and join this informal get-together. Knitters, crocheters, embroiderers, etc. are welcomed. Victoria Christine-Healy, moonlightknitting@gmail.com, 703-507-

0708, <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

Sat., Sept. 15

OC BIKEFEST

Ocean City convention center, 4001 Coastal Highway. Featuring national entertainment and bands, stunt shows, bike builders, vendors and food and beverages. chase@ocbikefest.com, 262-642-7158, <http://www.ocbikefest.com>

WALK WITH A DOC

Worcester County Veterans Memorial at Ocean Pines, 11144 Cathell Road,, 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM. There is a short presentation by a doctor on a current health topic followed by a walk around the pond at your own pace while you visit with others and have conversation with the doc. Family and pet friendly event. Michelle, 410-641-9268

CRAFTY SATURDAY MAKE AND TAKE 'BEARS'

Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM. Create themed crafts using material provided by the library. For all ages.

DELMARVA TOASTMASTERS CLUB OPEN HOUSE

Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM. Toastmasters International is a nonprofit organization that operates clubs worldwide for the purpose of promoting communication, public speaking and leadership skills. Attendees will be entertained by club members who are working to improve their public speaking skills as well as working on their own skills. Audience participation is encouraged, but not required. <https://www.delmarvatoastmasters.com>

BIG TRUCK DAY

Worcester County Veterans Memorial at Ocean Pines, 11144 Cathell Road, Ocean Pines, MD, 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM. Families have an opportunity to explore a fleet of big rigs, including fire trucks, police cruisers, tractors and bucket trucks. There will also be food vendors and crafts along with other surprises. Open to the public. Denise Sawyer, dsawyer@ocean-pines.org, 410-641-7717, Ext. 3006

STEM 'SHELTERS'

Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 10:00 AM. Use materials provided by the library to engineer different types of shelters. For ages 5-12 years. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

WINGS & WHEELS EXPOSITION 2018

Ocean City Municipal Airport, 12724 Airport Road, 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM. Featuring airplanes, cars, trucks, jeeps and military vehicles. There will be food vendors, beer truck, door prizes, 50/50 raffle, handouts, demonstrations, music by Randy Lee Ashcraft, free parking and free bus shuttle. Bring your own chair or blanket. Vehicle registration is from 9-11 a.m. and cost \$20 for first vehicle and \$10 for each additional vehicle. Trophies and plaques awarded at 2 p.m. General admis-

sion cost is \$5 for adults and free to children 11 years and younger. Info: Jack Levering, 352-250-5302, 410-208-1480; Graison Wainwright, 4410-726-7442; or Airport Operations Desk, 410-213-2471. Proceeds benefit the Huey Veteran's Memorial.

CHICKEN BBQ

Dinners can be picked up at Old Ocean City Road and Main Street in Willards (across from the Farmers Bank of Willards), 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Dinners are \$10 each and include a half chicken, two sides, a roll and a drink. 410-430-1135

PETSMART NATIONAL ADOPTION EVENT

PetSmart, 11330 Samuel Bowen Boulevard #100, 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM. Town Cats of Ocean City, Worcester County Humane Society and Forgotten Cats, together will have more than 40 cats and dogs available for adoption.

MONARCH BUTTERFLY ECOLOGY AND TAGGING DEMO

Assateague Island Environmental Education Center, 7206 National Seashore Lane, 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM. If conditions are favorable adult monarchs will be tagged and released. Free refreshments served at 12:30 p.m.

FALL MOVIE NIGHT

Northside Park, 200 125th St., Ocean City, MD, 8:30 PM. Free movie. Bring a chair or blanket. There will be a concession stand open to purchase popcorn, candy and more. 410-250-0125

FARMERS MARKET

Saturdays - White Horse Park, 239 Ocean Parkway, 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM. Locally grown vegetables and fruits, eggs, honey, kettle korn, flowers, artisan breads, seafood, meats and more. New vendors welcome. 410-641-7717, Ext. 3006

Sun., Sept. 16

OC BIKEFEST

Ocean City convention center, 4001 Coastal Highway. Featuring national entertainment and bands, stunt shows, bike builders, vendors and food and beverages. chase@ocbikefest.com, 262-642-7158, <http://www.ocbikefest.com>

SUNDAY FUNDAY

Stevenson United Methodist Church, 123 N. Main St., 9:00 AM. Everyone is invited to the kick off of Sunday School. Meet in the sanctuary at 9 a.m. for worship. Children will be dismissed at 9:15 a.m. for fun and games. After Sunday school there will be games and carriage rides for children. Kathy Davis, davis.kathy459@gmail.com, 443-235-6761

PETSMART NATIONAL ADOPTION EVENT

PetSmart, 11330 Samuel Bowen Boulevard #100, 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM. Town Cats of Ocean City, Worcester County Humane So-

Continued on Page 31

Calendar

Continued from Page 30
ciety and Forgotten Cats, together will have more than 40 cats and dogs available for adoption.

Mon., Sept. 17

DEMOCRATIC WOMEN'S CLUB MEETING

Ocean Pines Community Center, Assateague Room, 239 Ocean Parkway, 10:00 AM. Coffee serve at 9:30 a.m. Erica Joseph, President of the Community Investment Foundation, and a Commissioner on the Governor's Office on Service and Volunteerism will be the speaker. Visitors welcome. 410-973-1021

LAP TIME

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

CHAIR MASSAGE MAGIC

Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 2:00 PM. See how chair massage can get you moving and shaking. Learn how different stretches, done simply from a seated position, can get your blood circulating and muscles toned to make you feel stronger. Wear comfortable clothing. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

GREAT BOOKS DISCUSSION

Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 2:30 PM - 4:00 PM. The group meets twice a month to discuss both classic and modern reading selections recommended by the Great Books Foundation. Lisa Harrison, 410-632-3970, <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

'NAVIGATING MEDICARE' FREE SEMINAR

Ocean Pines Community Center, 239 Ocean Parkway, 3:00 PM - 4:30 PM. Carrie Dupuie, a financial advisor with Raymond James, will lead the seminar. Suitable for ages 60-65 and their family members, this seminar will cover the health insurance program facilitated by the federal government. Open to the public. Registration is required: 410-641-7052. <http://OceanPines.org>

LAP TIME

Ocean City library, 10003 Coastal Highway, 3:30 PM. Children, under 2 years old, will be introduced to songs, fables and finger plays. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY MEETING

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

ROLLIN' WITH ESSENTIAL OILS

Snow Hill library, 307 N. Washington St., 5:00 PM. Learn to blend essential oils specific to your needs. Make a roller ball of oils for calmness, muscle pain, headaches and more. Register: 410-632-3495. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

DELMARVA A CAPELLA CHORUS

Mondays - Ocean Pines Community Cen-

ter, 239 Ocean Parkway, 7:00 PM. All levels of singers and drop-ins welcome. Jean, 410-208-4149

Tues., Sept. 18

STORY TIME 'DINOSAURS'

Berlin library, 220 N. Main St., 10:30 AM. For 2 to 5 year old children. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

ALZHEIMER'S SUPPORT GROUP

Berlin Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, 9715 Healthway Drive, 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM. Support group for caregivers of Alzheimer's patients. It meets the third Tuesday of each month. Open to the community. Jo Davis, 410-629-6123

COLORING FOR CALMNESS AND CONVERSATION

Berlin library, 220 N. Main St., 2:00 PM. Monthly adult coloring session. Explore different patterns. Bring your own coloring pages or use those at the library. Colored pencils, gel pens and felt tips available, along with coffee and cookies. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

FAMILY TIME 'MOVIE NIGHT: PADDINGTON 2'

Ocean City library, 10003 Coastal Highway, 3:00 PM - 6:00 PM. Before, during and after the movie, enjoy crafts and activities related to Paddington 2. Movie will begin at 4:30 p.m. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

KNOT-TYING AND CARDBOARD BOX OVENS

Snow Hill library, 307 N. Washington St., 3:30 PM. Learn how to build a working cardboard box oven and how to tie a variety of knots. For children ages 8 and older. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

LATIN DANCE

Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 4:00 PM. Held Tuesdays through October 23. Taught by Roberto Martinez. Register: 410-208-4014. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

YEAR OF THE WOMEN COMMITTEE CELEBRATES TEACHERS

Sisters, 113 N Main St., 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM. The Women of Berlin committee will honor female educators, and their. Maile colleagues, both active and retired, with a meet and greet Back to School Celebration. This event is a fundraiser for the Worcester County Educational Foundation. Twenty percent of sales will be donated to the Foundation. Guest bartenders and music by the Bilenki Duo will highlight the evening.

ZUMBA FOR SENIORS

Ocean City library, 10003 Coastal Highway, 2:00 PM. Zumba dance class designed especially for seniors and for those working their way up to traditional Zumba. Register: 410-524-1818. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

ASK A MASTER GARDENER

Tuesdays through Sept. 25 - Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, Ocean Pines, MD, 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM. Got bugs or other plant problems? Bring your bagged samples by and let the master gardeners find solutions to your questions. 410-208-4014

TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY MEETING

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

Wed., Sept. 19

MARYLAND VA REPRESENTATIVE

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

PLAY TIME

Ocean City library, 10003 Coastal Highway, 10:30 AM. Learn new skills while playing with educational toys. For infant to 5 year old children. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

BREAST CANCER SUPPORT GROUP

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

INFORMATION LITERACY: GOOGLE APPS

Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 2:00 PM. Learn how to do the same things with Google's free apps that you can with Microsoft Office. Featuring an overview of Google Drive, Google Photos, Google Docs, Google Sheets and Google Slides. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

BOOK CLUB DISCUSSION WITH INCOMING SHERIFF MATT CRISAFULLI

Berlin library, 220 N. Main St., 2:00 PM. Featuring Bloodsworth: The True Story of the First Death Row Inmate to be Exonerated by DNA Evidence. Sheriff Matt Crisafulli will discuss the book as it relates to law enforcement. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

ENDOCRINOLOGY OFFICE GRAND OPENING

Peninsula Regional Endocrinology Berlin, 314 Franklin Ave., Suite 108, 5:00 PM. Endocrinology deals with the body's hormonal system. One of the biggest needs related to his specialty involves diabetes. Dr. Jack Snitzer and Dr. Juman Takkedin will be available for interviews.

DAR PROMOTES CONSTITUTION WEEK

Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM. The Daughters of the American Revolution initiated the observance of Constitution Week, held each year from Sept. 17-23. Locally, General Levin Winder Chapter will observe Constitution Week during a Meet and Mingle. Women interested in pursuing membership in DAR are to attend. 410-213-8238

BLUES ON THE BAY FUNDRAISER

Macky's Bayside Bar & Grill, 5311 Coastal Highway, 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM. Annual Sep-

tember party that celebrates the fall season and also raises money for The Macky and Pam Stansell House of Coastal Hospice at the Ocean. Singer and saxophonist Everett Spells will provide the musical entertainment, and reservations include an open bar and heavy hors d'oeuvres. Reservations are \$75 and may be made at CoastalHospice.org/Blues or 410-742-8732.

FREE PICKLEBALL CLINIC

Manklin Meadows Racquet Sports Complex, 11443 Manklin Creek Road, 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM. This introductory class is for first time pickleball players. Equipment is provided. The clinic is free but non club members are required to pay the \$5 drop-in fee for use of the facility. John Hanberry, Jhanberry@comcast.net, 703-598-6119

'SAVING FOR RETIREMENT' FREE WORKSHOP

Ocean Pines Community Center, 239 Ocean Parkway, 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM. Primerica will offer a Saving for Retirement financial wellness workshop. The seminar will explore the root causes of the financial problems facing most families. Open to the public. Registration is required: 410-641-7052. <http://OceanPines.org>

DELMARVA HAND DANCE CLUB

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

KIWANIS CLUB OF GREATER OP/OC

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

OC/BERLIN ROTARY CLUB MEETING

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

OP FARMERS & ARTISANS MARKET

Wednesdays through Sept. 26 - White Horse Park, 239 Ocean Parkway, 3:00 PM - 7:00 PM. Locally grown vegetables and fruits, eggs, honey, kettle corn, flowers, artisan breads, seafood, meats, jewelry, clothing, artwork and more. Open to the public. New vendors welcome. 410-641-7717, Ext. 3006

BOARDWALK CANDLELIGHT LABYRINTH

Wednesdays through Sept. 26 - St. Paul's by-the-Sea Episcopal Church, 302 Baltimore Ave. Takes place Wednesdays until Sept. 26 in DeWees Hall. Featuring a full size replica of the 12th Century original Labyrinth is available for walking with candlelight and sacred music anytime between 7-9 p.m. The hall entrance is wheelchair accessible and is located just off the Boardwalk on the north side of Third Street behind the church. 410-289-3453, <http://stpaulsbythesea.org>

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



MARKETPLACE

CLASSIFIED

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

HELP WANTED

Now Hiring
Building/Grounds
Person
 Full-Time, Year Round
Excellent Health and
Vacation benefits.
 Apply by phone
410-524-5505,
 in person @
Golden Sands
10900 Coastal Highway
 or email:
generalmanager@
goldensandsclub.com

HELP WANTED

NOW HIRING
AM & PM Host
AM Dishwasher
Breakfast Cook
Flexible hours
Weekends & Holidays
Inquire within
apply in person:
32 Palm Restaurant
inside Hilton Suites
3200 Baltimore Ave
Ocean City, MD
 Classifieds 410-723-6397

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NOW HIRING!!
Production Crew
for our WOC kitchen facility
 Starting at \$12.00/hr.
Apply online at:
www.delmarvadd.com

HELP WANTED

Chairside
DENTAL ASST.
 Experience Preferred
 Ocean View, DE
Email Resume:
molarbiz@yahoo.com

Five Guys Burgers
 Ocean City, MD
 Now Hiring For
All Positions
 Year-round, at West OC,
 64th St. and 136th St.
 locations. *Stop in to fill out*
an application!

HELP WANTED



JOIN OUR GROWING TEAM!
 Real Hospitality Group is now hiring for
STAFF ACCOUNTANTS
 Apply online at:
www.realhospitalitygroup.com/careers
 12800 Hospitality Way • Ocean City, MD 21842



BAYSIDE
 EXPERIENCE TROON GOLF®
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31264 Americana Prkwy., Selbyville, 19975
 Call: **302.988.2315, x 0**
 or email: **BaysideRecreation@troon.com**

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Call 410-289-5762 or
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 Please submit a cover letter, resume and three references to the Town Manager no later than October 5, 2018, at 3:00 p.m.
 Expected hire date of January 1, 2019.
employment@fenwickisland.org
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Time: NEW TIME 10:00AM
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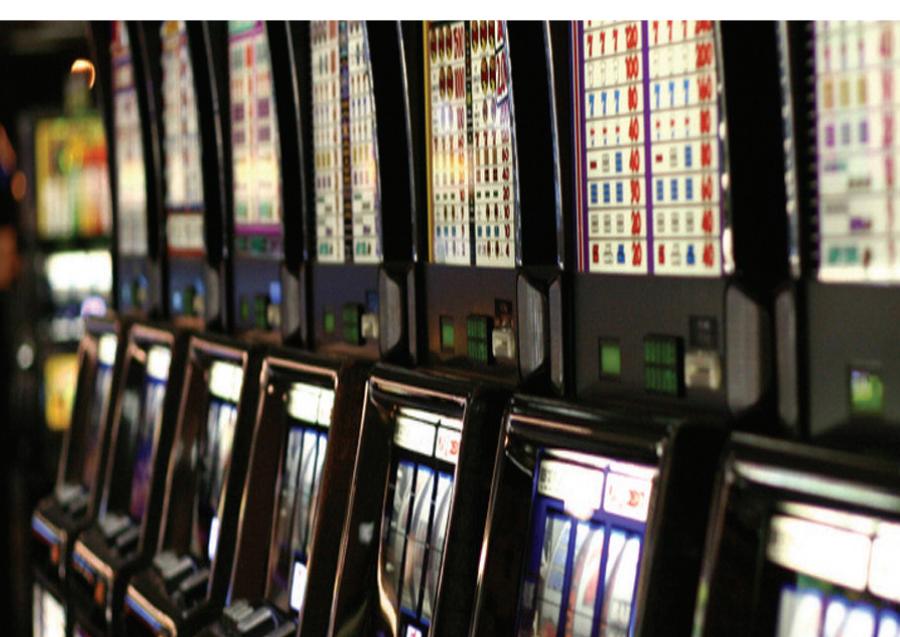
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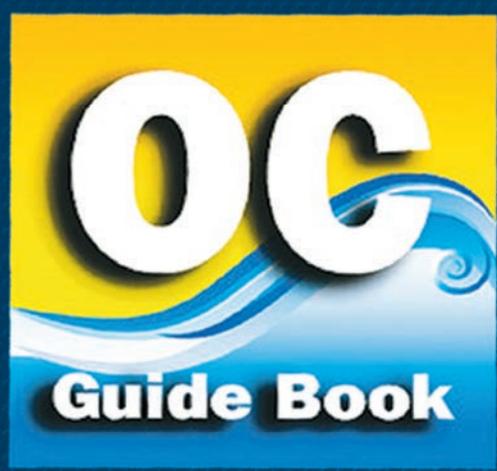
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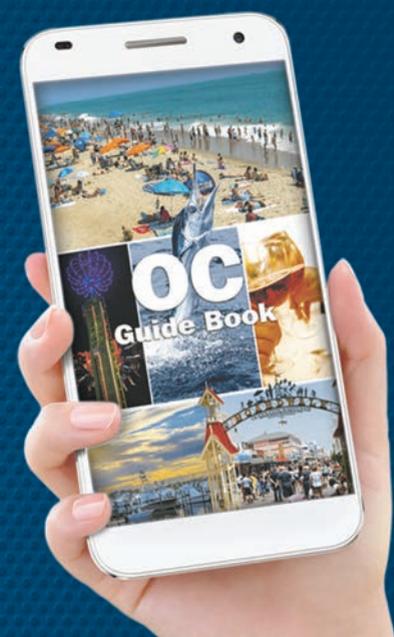
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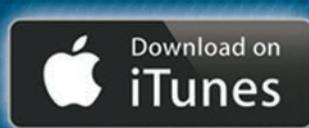
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