



JOSH DAVIS/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Berlin Economic and Community Development Directory Ivy Wells, center, on Monday delivers a business license to Toy Town Antiques owners Debbie and Richard Seaton in their new Pitts Street location in downtown Berlin.

Toy Town Antiques officially open for business in Berlin

By Josh Davis
Associate Editor

(March 21, 2019) Just weeks after Walt's Train Shop rolled out of 8 Pitts Street in downtown Berlin, Toy Town Antiques has officially stationed itself there, starting with a soft opening last weekend and officially opening Monday.

The move came after public quarreling with Town of Snow Hill officials last month led to closure of the 6,800 square-foot former Outten
See TOY TOWN Page 2

Resilience series has good info, but lackluster crowds

By Josh Davis
Associate Editor

(March 21, 2019) The audience was smaller than expected, but those who did attend three recent public meetings hosted by the Town of Berlin on environmental and operational resiliency said they were pleased with the information presented.

Meetings were held in three differ-
See CLIMATE Page 4

Pines Director Moroney resigns

By Josh Davis
Associate Editor

(March 21, 2019) In an unexpected turn of events, Ted Moroney on Saturday announced his resignation from the Ocean Pines Board of Directors.



Ted Moroney

Moroney was appointed to the board in September 2017 to replace Brett Hill after his resignation. He was then elected to a one-year term last August.

He emailed a statement to board members on Saturday:

"Over the last four months I have been dealing with family issues that were not present when I ran for the board last year. At that time I had retired and planned to downsize and move full time to OP. Since then things have gone 180 degrees and other family issues have changed those plans dramatically. As Colette, Slobodan and Doug know from our work last year, I was fully immersed in my OPA duties.

"Now that I am not downsizing, relocating and, in fact, have gone back to work

full time, I have struggled to fulfill my duties over the last 90 days. The picture does not get better for at least the next six months and therefore I can't fulfill my duties in a manner that is, in my view, acceptable or fair to all of you in particular when at this time more not less is required.

"I have watched Board members serve out a term and basically go through the motions. That is not my style nor in my mind acceptable. Therefore, I am submitting my resignation effective immediately. My recommendation is that you ask John Viola to fill the position until the election. I think ideologically he would be most like me and given his position and involvement would provide as close to a seamless transition as possible.

"Thank you for your continued service and you have my thanks and appreciation for your support and teamwork over my tenure."

Association President Doug Parks on Monday said Moroney's departure is "a big loss for Ocean Pines."

"Ted was one of those guys where he had a lot of experience, not only in Ocean Pines from an understanding of how things work here, but his construction

background and his subject-matter expertise in those areas was really a guiding force in how we understood approaching, say, construction projects or major projects, from creation of the RFP all the way through bid leveling, and helping us make an intelligent selection for awarding contracts."

Parks said Moroney also brought a tireless work effort to the board.

"He really just did things thoroughly and we're going to miss that experience," Parks said. "We understand his decision, but that doesn't make it any easier on us, because I personally think we're losing a tremendous resource."

Viola, on Tuesday morning, said he had "mixed emotions on Director Moroney's resignation."

"I understand he is entering a new stage in his life and I am happy for him," Viola said. "As a director, I was a big supporter of Ted and appreciated everything he has done for Ocean Pines."

Asked whether he would accept an appointment to join the board, Viola replied, "In regards to Ted's recommendation, I serve at the pleasure of the board as CFO at this time."



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Berlin Mayor Gee Williams last Thursday speaks during a public meeting on resiliency.



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Toy Town back in downtown Berlin

Continued from Page 1
Theater building on 207 North Washington Street.

Snow Hill officials cited safety concerns with the aged building and refused to grant an occupancy permit, while storeowners Richard and Debbie Seaton pointed to a five-year memorandum of understanding to complete repairs and more than \$150,000 they'd already put into renovations and repairs.

When Toy Town was forcibly shuttered, the Seatons sought a second, satellite location to keep some revenue coming in.

While the Snow Hill store carries many larger items, from antique furniture to vintage cars, the Berlin location is populated with many smaller, "cash and carry" items.

Inside the store on Monday were vintage toys, dolls, toy cars, trains and comic books. Costume jewelry was priced at \$2 each, and several rows of collectable coins were on display in a glass case by the cash register.

Larger items include a life-size statue of Arnold Schwarzenegger's T-800 from "The Terminator," as well as a vintage fortune-telling machine similar to the one in the 1988 Tom Hanks movie "Big."

The Seatons said it was great to be back in Berlin and the soft opening was warmly received. They formerly operated a store on the town's Main Street, before moving to Snow Hill in 2016.

"We had everybody stop by. We had the mailman stop by, police officers, store owners and regulars — everybody's been stopping by [and saying] 'we're so glad you're back,'" Debbie Seaton said.

"Everyone's been really supportive."

She said last Saturday was especially busy.

"There were so many people walking around and so many people coming into the store. It was like, 'Wow!' I missed this. Plus, here we have the support of the town."

Richard Seaton said he plans to

'We're not walking away from Snow Hill. We want to be there ... We love the people of the town and we love the business owners. We're just having trouble with Town Hall.'

Toy Town Co-owner
Debbie Seaton

districts in each town.

"We're not walking away from Snow Hill. We want to be there," she continued. "We love the people of the town and we love the business owners. We're just having trouble with Town Hall."

She did not rule out a countersuit against Snow Hill to recover money already invested. The Seatons had an agreement to renovate the building there over five years, with the town agreeing to then deed over the property.

"Right now we're not going that route. What we're doing is we're just waiting until the court date to go ahead and see how that goes with the occupancy, and then go from there," Seaton said.

"It's a shame we're closed down there, but hopefully we'll get open and we'll have both places," she continued. "But we had to do something."

Berlin Economic and Community Development Director Ivy Wells on Monday delivered a business license to the Seatons. Shortly after the Snow Hill location was closed on Feb. 27, Wells began looking for a suitable location for the shop in Berlin.

"This happened so fast," Wells said. "From the time that we started this until the time that they opened took absolutely no time at all, and we're very happy to have them back."

Toy Town Antiques in Berlin will be open 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday, and noon to 5 p.m. on Sunday, through April. Hours will expand in May.

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Toy Town Antiques opened on Monday in its new, second location in downtown Berlin. The eclectic shop has been compared to a museum, featuring life-size replicas of the T-800 Terminator from the eponymous 1984 science fiction film, left, and a vintage fortune telling machine similar to the one in the 1988 Tom Hanks vehicle "Big." Many smaller items are also available at the Berlin store, from costume jewelry to toys, toy cars and trains, and vintage comic books.

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BAYSIDE GAZETTE

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Climate change, finances subject of resilience mtgs.

Continued from Page 1
ent locations last Thursday and Saturday, and on Monday.

Mayor Gee Williams, in introducing the inaugural session at Buckingham Elementary School, said these types of informational summits had become the norm in Berlin.

“The more information we share, the better off we’ll be,” he said. “Quite frankly, I think that’s how we’ve gotten here, because none of this was by just one person, or one group ... it’s been a partnership effort and I hope that we can continue [that process].”

Facilitator Brandy Espinola from the University of Maryland Environmental Finance Center began each session with a PowerPoint presentation.

Last Thursday, she compared the climate to a personality and the weather to a mood.

“Any day, you can wake up and have a different mood. You can be happy. You can be sad. You can be angry. But, overall, your personality is not going to change,” she said. “When we’re thinking about climate, it’s that really long-term look at what’s going on.”

Espinola explored several broader trends related to climate change, later adding, “things are changing ... and we want to make sure that as they change we’re ready to deal with them, both as an individual person, but also as a community.”

“The longer we wait to start talking about this and planning for this ... the more expensive it’s going to get,” Espinola added.

She said an updated comprehensive plan and resilience study would be part of that planning effort.

“The comprehensive plan drives the priorities of this community,” she said, adding there may be separate plans for economic development, transportation or housing. “We want to see that resilience starts to make its way into all these different things, so we can start thinking about the future and making sure that we are protecting ourselves and our future generations.”

About a dozen people attended the first meeting, including Shore Craft Beer founder Ann Hillyer, Lower Shore Land Trust Director Kate Patton, and District 2 Town Councilman Zack Tyndall.

Hillyer said the meetings were “a good thing for the town to be doing,” but added she was disappointed those who attended were “always the same, small group.”

“I don’t think it represents a cross-section of Berlin by any stretch of the imagination,” she said. “But, I think that the town is well-meaning and we do need to plan for the future, and we do have serious and significant prob-

lems like stormwater runoff.”

Patton said the conversation was an important one and she was happy to have attended.

Particularly effect, she said, was a budget breakdown by Town Administrator Laura Allen that showed how funding is dispersed to different departments.

“That was somewhat revealing, I think, for people that are paying attention to the budget,” Patton said. “I just thought that’s important to understand.”

Also vital, she said, was how town leadership plans to adapt to changing weather patterns. Patton said rising sea levels are one issue, but for Berlin changing weather patterns also raises concerns about “how that affects our community in terms of flooding.”

She added it was important to note “how we are looking ahead and how we are making the best decisions to prevent flooding, rather than having to mitigate after we have flooding.”

“I think we need to take some hard stands when it comes to planning for that prevention and that adaptability,” Patton said.

Tyndall said it was helpful having a representative from the University of Maryland Environmental Finance Center as a facilitator.

“I was a little disappointed with the turnout, but overall I think that the workshop was very informative,” he said. “It was nice to be able to chat with everyone and kind of go through the process of the planning element, and ... it gets you thinking about things that you wouldn’t normally think about.”

Tyndall also pointed to Allen’s budget discussion as a standout.

“I thought Laura did a great job at the end with the overview of how the town handles the general fund budget, and I think a lot of people really liked that discussion,” he said. “I think that session was very informative.”

Allen, reached on Tuesday, also said the meetings went well, but attendance could have been higher. She said some of that was made up for by live internet streaming video made available on Monday night.

“We didn’t have the turnout that we had hoped, especially at the first two meetings, but last night we had about 15 people in the room and then I think at one point up to 200 people via Facebook Live,” she said. “Even though we had a couple of small groups, the folks that did show up were very interested in the conversation and gave us some really good ideas and things to work on.”

Along with the environmental discussion led by Espinola and Allen’s See RESILIENCE Page 5

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Resilience report due back by June or July

Continued from Page 4

budgetary dive, attendees were asked for their opinions on how the town could ensure a strong financial future, as well as how they could encourage further participation in the budget process, Allen said.

“The resilience component, I think, is going to be very helpful in terms of getting the details the community would really like us to see in the comprehensive plan,” she said. “One of the things I talked about in presentation is the importance of having a financial plan or, as some communities call it, a business plan for your comprehensive plan.

“Those conversations we had on both topics, the resilience part and financial sustainability, I think are very important because that will help us put together a longer range plan that the community can roll out, with the goal of increasing our resilience when it comes to those kinds of impacts that we can have as a community from time to time,” Allen added.

Among the potential challenges the town is facing, Allen said sea-level rise projections, for example, at their most extreme show “Ocean City is really going to be under a significant amount of water.” So much saltwater creeping over the shoreline would affect Berlin in different ways, she said.

“We didn’t talk about saltwater intrusion into our well system much, but that’s something we’re working hard to avoid,” Allen said. “To the extent that we can plan, I think that we can probably avoid some of the more difficult or expensive issues from developing.”

She was unsure whether the town would continue to stream some public meetings. All Ocean Pines Board meetings, for example, are live-streamed and made available on YouTube, while Worcester County Commissioner meetings are recorded and generally made available on YouTube within 24 hours.

“It largely depends on what the mayor and council would like us to do,” Allen said. “From a budget standpoint in terms of getting information out to folks, I think it’s a really useful opportunity.”

She said the town is considering a series of “webinars” based on the upcoming budget, as well as other “topic-focused webinars” to be made available on the town’s website.

“One of the things that came up last night was could [the town] give quarterly updates on the budget, and that may be the format we chose to do those in,” Allen said. “The public access channel that we have can run videos and the electronic newsletters that we push out can have videos embedded, so folks could actually watch from the comfort of their home.

“I don’t want people to lose sight of the fact that democracy does require some level of deliberation and that, generally, involves having con-



JOSH DAVIS/BAYSIDE GAZETTE
About a dozen people last Thursday attend the first in a series of three public meetings recently held in Berlin concerning environmental and operational resiliency. During the inaugural session, held at Buckingham Elementary School, Berlin residents watched a PowerPoint presentation on climate change presented by Facilitator Brandy Espinola from the University of Maryland Environmental Finance Center, and listened to a budget overview hosted by Town Administrator Laura Allen.

versations with your neighbors,” she continued. “From what I saw through these meetings, that’s something that the community really enjoys and that was some of the feedback that we got as well – that we should be doing more of these kinds of meetings.”

The next Town Council meeting is scheduled Monday, March 25 at 7 p.m. at Town Hall on 10 William Street.

Additionally, the town scheduled a public meeting on Tuesday at 6 p.m. at Stephen Decatur High School. According to the meeting agenda, “The mayor and council will listen to public comments and questions regarding increases to” real estate property tax rates, water and sewer rates, and stormwater fee rates.

Allen said a draft document based on the resilience meetings should be available in June or July. The meetings were funded by \$20,000 in grants from the Maryland Department of Natural Resources and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.




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Commission, residents pan Purnell pitch

By Josh Davis
Associate Editor

(March 21, 2019) For the second time in three days, Berlin residents stormed a public meeting at Town Hall.

Last Monday, the furor during a Town Council meeting was about proposed tax and utility rate increases.

Then, last Wednesday, members of the 27-unit condominium association at Purnell Crossing took to a planning commission meeting to object to a proposed development.

Town Councilman Troy Purnell, who owns Purnell Crossing, asked to modify the Planned Unit Development for Purnell Crossing North.

Previously approved plans for the site were for a 100-unit assisted-living facility and 19 new multifamily townhomes, the latter of which would be added to the existing association. Under the new plan, five new rental apartment buildings would be created – four 24-unit buildings and one 30-unit building – for a total of 126 units unaffiliated with the condo association.

Justin White, of Live Oak Home Builders, said the apartments would “tie in with the town’s historical feel,” with brick accents. His firm would build and manage the development.

He said the expansion would include a clubhouse with a pool and



Troy Purnell, left, and builder Justin White hold up a rendering of the proposed Purnell Crossing North development during a planning commission meeting last Wednesday.

JOSH DAVIS/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

gym, and construction would take about 18 months.

Purnell said the original plans were changed because of shifting market conditions, while commission mem-

ber Pete Crosby said he’d heard “some horror stories” about a similar new development at Ocean’s East.

“The buildings are noisy. You can hear somebody taking a shower out-

side the unit,” he said. “Some units have dogs [and] dogs bark. Doors in the hallways slam and then shake the whole building.”

See CONDO Page 7



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Condo association members harshly critical of proposal

Continued from Page 6

He asked for assurances Purnell Crossing would not be built in a similar fashion.

Also of concern, one of the new buildings would be only 40 feet from existing townhomes at Purnell Crossing, which commission members said could be a nuisance both in terms of noise, and in blocking out sunlight.

“Let’s put it this way, there’s not one of you that would want a 40-foot wall in front you when you’re sitting on your balcony in the afternoon,” commission member Newt Chandler said.

Another worry was whether the development could turn into low-income housing if the market changed again. White said the apartments would be upscale, with the rental structure comparable to Ocean’s East, where rents are \$1,400 for one-bedroom units and just over \$2,000 for three bedrooms.

Purnell Crossing residents uniformly panned the plans.

Ruby Halligan, president of the Purnell Crossing Board, said that group passed a resolution opposing the development. She said little notice was given before the meeting.

“As an owner of property in the Town of Berlin and a taxpayer ... I’m disappointed that the Town Council members of Berlin didn’t give us notice of any of this,” she said.

“This proposal ... is appalling and doesn’t make me proud to live here,” she continued. “I would ask that a decision for final approval on the proposed apartment project be tabled until the property owners of Purnell Crossing are given the opportunity to review the plans and how it would affect our community.”

Halligan worried about safety and how rules would be enforced in an unconnected apartment complex, and was unhappy with the proximity to her home.

“If I’m going to be 40 feet away from a building and there’s balconies up there? No, I don’t want that,” she said. “I bought into the Town of Berlin because I love it. It’s a nice, small town that does not have these large units like this – and on my back door.”

Sharra Watson, vice president of the Purnell Crossing Board, said she only learned of the meeting two days earlier.

“The impact is not just for Purnell Crossing, it’s for everyone that’s on [Route] 346 coming into town,” she said. “Building apartments like that in the Town of Berlin will destroy the integrity of our small town.”

Watson said she moved to Berlin for its small-town feel. With more than 100 new apartments, she wor-

See COMMISSION Page 8

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Commission tables Purnell Crossing North revisions

Continued from Page 7

rried about the start of sprawl.

“We might as well just put a McDonalds down the street and be done with it,” she said.

Moreover, she worried about property values dropping by speculating, if the apartments were put up, “my \$250,000 house [would be] worth \$150,000.”

“I bought into this,” she said. “This is where I wanted to retire ... so I would have my house paid for, enjoy the small town, be close to the ocean, and you just took away my investment.”

Commission member Ron Cascio said he understood her frustration, but added, “When you buy property with an empty piece of property next to it, it’s really up to you to find out what will go on it.”

Watson said board members asked Purnell that exact question.

“That is not true,” Purnell said, while one member in the audience shouted, “We were told townhouses or single-family homes.”

“It’s in the minutes,” Watson said. “All I’m saying is, when you do this, you are destroying my investment and somebody needs to compensate me for that, because it’s not what I bought into.”

Judy Henson said she bought into the community in 2009 and was told only more townhomes would go there. She said there were promises of sidewalks that never appeared and roads that were never finished.

“There’s just so many things that [Purnell] keeps saying that he’s going to do,” she said. “That’s a lot of our concerns, the things they saying they’re going to do ... that didn’t get done.”

Lisa Doyle called Purnell Crossing a quiet, serene and safe community.

“I don’t want to think that I might have to experience again what I experienced in the Salisbury area, where I have to potentially give up the home that I love,” she said. “I love it here and I feel like someone is taking advantage of that, and I’m not happy.”

“I just ask you, the commission, to think about the detrimental effect that 100-plus rental apartments can have on 27 townhomes [that are] proudly owned by the people who live in them,” Doyle added.

Gale Cowles, Purnell Crossing Board secretary and treasurer, also said she was promised only more townhomes and single-family homes would be added to the area. She said they were also told there would be a clubhouse, pool and park area.

“The promises have just gone on and on and on,” she said. “Nothing is true. You can’t get a straight answer ... I’m just thoroughly disgusted about

the whole thing ... we’ve been misinformed about a lot of things over the years.

“It’s not going to the quaint, quiet place that we lived in,” Cowles continued. “We’re not going to be the ‘Coolest Little Town in America,’ because now we’re getting all too big. We’re not Ocean City – and we don’t want to be Ocean City.”

Commission members considered imposing certain restrictions if the site plan was approved, including limiting signage and ordering a shadow study and noise study, as well as shifting some of the buildings away from the existing townhomes.

Others said there were larger, more abstract issues at play.

“There’s a larger, philosophical issue here in terms of what we want to see Berlin become. We’re always confronted with it and, as time goes on, these kind of cases focus it like a sunbeam with a magnifying glass,” Cosby said. “What do we want Berlin to look like – and be?”

“I have some concern with the size and the scale of these buildings, and hearing the neighbors and process they’ve been through [and] what they expected,” he added.

Cosby said residents needed to “open their eyes and realize ... there’s a fairly intensive use of this property that’s already approved.”

Essentially, he said, the revised site plan included “27 less townhomes and 27 more apartments” than a previous proposal.

“Would I prefer to see townhomes here? Personally, yes,” Cosby said. “The Ocean’s East project was hard for us to digest and I’ve been disappointed when I’ve heard about the quality of the construction and the living conditions there.

“What are we supposed to do as public servants in terms of providing decent housing for people?” he continued. “I’m torn on this one, I’ve got to tell you, and I would like to see the developer get with this community association ... and talk a little bit and see if you can’t reach some kind of a compromise.”

Cosby said commission members wanted to be reasonable and to encourage construction and infill, but added, “At what point are we wrecking our quality of life?”

“Do we want Berlin to be the bedroom community for everybody, the working man, or do we want Berlin to be a cutesy little town where certain people can afford it and certain people can’t. And where do you draw that balance? That’s what this case is all about,” he said.

Cosby moved to table the issue for further review. The vote was unanimous, 6-0, in favor.

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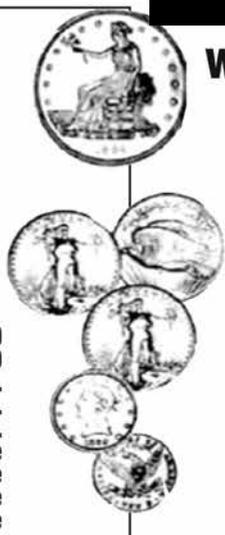
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BFP group hopes development quiets critics

By Josh Davis
Associate Editor

(March 21, 2019) While critics of the Berlin Falls park purchase believe development there should stop until town budgeting deficits are solved, members of the Berlin Falls Park Committee continue to work toward redeveloping the former industrial site.

Committee Chairwoman Amy Field, in an interview last Thursday, said she was taken aback by calls last week to sell the property, which was purchased in 2015 for \$2.5 million.

Town officials have for months said operating deficits in water, sewer and stormwater funds would necessitate rate increases this year, and Mayor Gee Williams said property taxes were likely to increase anywhere from 20 to 34 percent.

"I really didn't see it coming, but at the same time I can understand [the criticism]," Field said. "While the town is in a situation where we have a deficit or need more money, people might look at the park property as something that's unnecessary."

Field has heard suggestions that the town sell the park in order to funnel money back into the general fund.

"I hope people can come to understand that, unlike the other parks, the mayor and the council have been really clear to the advisory committee that the park is going to be unique, in that it needs to generate money for the town,"

she said. "The mayor asked us to do certain things, and one of them was to make money for the town [and] to not compete with other things that are already going on.

"We've been very careful, and I guess maybe conservative, and sometimes that process is time-consuming, but we've been careful because we don't want to misuse town resources or do anything too quickly," Field added.

She cited the committee recommendation to tear down the main building on the property, which came after several months of discussion.

"We debated that for a long time," Field said. "Some people on the committee saw it as, if there's any use for that building at all, to rent it out ... and that's a way to generate money for the town.

"The rest of us thought tearing it down is going to look more attractive to investors, and that's also more money for the town," she continued. "Every move we've made and all of our discussions have kept true to the purpose of wanting to make good use of the resources, and do something that will be long-term for the town, to generate revenue."

Committee members also took their time before recommending the demolition of several smaller buildings. Field noted money for the demolition, which was recently approved by the Town Council, was allocated for park develop-

ment several years ago and could not be spent on other items, such as deficit recovery.

"We haven't just started spending this money on anything and everything that seems attractive," Field said. "We've been really conservative with it, and I think people have to understand that we have to use money to demolition things on the property, so it's attractive for investment and people can start to visualize the possibilities, and so it doesn't look like an old chicken plant that's just sitting there, rotting."

Field admitted the committee has perhaps "not done the best job at getting the word out" that a larger park development plan is being formulated.

"Although you can go to the town's website, click on the 'park' link, look through the documents, look through our minutes and things like that, that's not what the normal person necessarily does with their time," she said. "We need to be better at communicating to the townspeople what's going on and what our ideas are. That's definitely a goal of ours."

For instance, Field said last Tuesday a subcommittee on park features and layout surveyed the property to get estimates on parking capacity.

"That will help us fine-tune conversations about what we want out of an amphitheater," she said. "I have a certain vision for the amphitheater to be kind of a hybrid, shelter-type stage where different people could rent it out for parties or wedding receptions, let alone concerts.

"We just got a lot of momentum going in that direction, so hearing about this criticism was kind of like a little punch in the gut," Field continued. "I'm trying not to take it that way, because I do understand why people might look to the park [as part of the problem], but in my opinion we just took a year to get a lot of organizational things established ... and now we have some priorities set.

"The park will incorporate more things than just an amphitheater, but we hope that that will generate money for the town for years and years and years to come," she added.

Committee Vice Chairman Jack Orris in 2016 ran for the Town Council on a platform related to park development, citing his prior park management experience.

He attended the Town Council meeting last Monday, when many labeled the park as a negative.

"I completely respect and understand every person that spoke," Orris said. "[But] if selling the property is what's ultimately decided, we may not see any positive results for two-to-three fiscal years down the road, [and] selling wouldn't have anything to do with water and sewer rates.

"Everyone is rightly upset looking into the next fiscal year and hearing [reports of] at least a 20 percent tax hike, plus fee and rate increases," he continued. "This is a lot of robbing Peter to pay Paul – and Peter is running low on cash. I'm more upset and disappointed it's taken until now to address a problem that's been brewing for years."

On park development, Orris said nothing could ever move as quickly as people want, especially when government is involved, but the committee is working on a plan.

"We have great ideas and thoughts [of what] we would like to see at the property," he said. "One of the best benefits to the town would be an entertainment venue, which the committee feels we want and need. In my mind, that's the revenue generator."

He cautioned the venue would not instantly make millions for the town, and like Field said better communication is needed.

"This is where I think our leadership, including myself, has failed to publicly express what we've been doing," Orris said. "Regrettably, some residents don't even realize this committee exists. We have folks that spend hours every month – volunteers – doing research, generating plans [and conducting] site visits to the property in preparation for one meeting that's an hour and a half."

Committee members continue to seek grants for Park development. Orris compared the situation to Wicomico County, where last year the National

See BERLIN Page 11



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Berlin Falls Park cmte. meeting set for this Thursday

Continued from Page 10

Parks Service awarded a more than \$800,000 grant to develop the "Pirate's Wharf" park.

"We always ask about grants, but we need to dig deeper and see everything that's out there," he said. "I can say for myself, I will continue to push for grants and not vote on another expenditure for BFP until we've exhausted all grant or partnership opportunities first."

Despite the recent criticism, Orris thinks the townspeople will eventually look fondly upon the decision to purchase the property.

"I think if the mayor and council decide to keep the property and continue on the foundation our committee has created, it will turn out to be a great area with a little bit of something for everyone," he said. "Along with the entertainment venue, we have plans for a skate park, scheduled events onsite, nature exploration, and we've even been talking to the county about the possibility of reconstructing the bridge that connected [the park] to the senior center area."

"I understand the question of why [purchase the property] and when I ran in 2016 for Town Council I always answered with, 'We have the property now, let's do something with it - preferably that generates revenue.' These are some of the things the committee is working on," Orris added.

He stressed that development of this scale takes time. At present, Orris said he is focused on items that could return revenue to the town.

"I'd like us to step up the amphitheater/event venue implementation," he said. "I wouldn't be opposed to leasing parts of the property for an entertainment venue. In my vision, the whole property can serve as more of an educational and entertainment complex and is an obvious opportunity for revitalization."

He also suggested the committee look into the broader idea of creating a "Berlin Industrial Revitalization District."

"I think branding the property as its own unique district could open up more grant opportunities, while still seeking community input for individual parts/sections of the future park," Orris said.

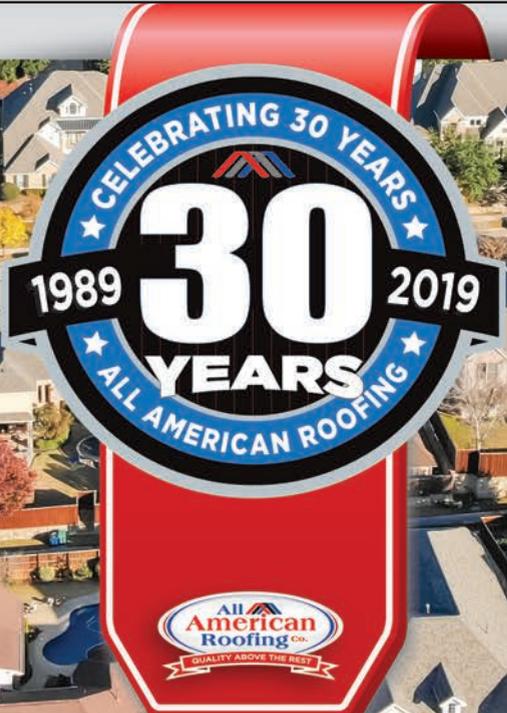
Both Field and Orris encouraged more public participation.

The Berlin Falls Park Committee is scheduled to meet today, Thursday, at 6 p.m. at Town Hall on 10 William Street.

"I encourage people who are interested to come to our meetings and to speak up, and we know we need to do our part in getting some information out there better to people, to help them understand what's going on behind the scenes," Field said.



Berlin Falls Park Commission Vice Chairman Jack Orris on Monday tours the park grounds. Committee members said they're continuing with park development plans, while some residents have been critical of plans in light of proposed property tax and utility fee increases. JOSH DAVIS/BAYSIDE GAZETTE



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OP PD chief requests vehicle pgm.

By Josh Davis
Associate Editor

(March 21, 2019) The Ocean Pines Police Department is having a tough time retaining officers, according to Chief David Massey.

Massey, during a March 9 board meeting, said the current job market is extremely competitive.

"We're losing our younger officers, the ones that just come into the department, the ones in the first three-to-four years that leave the department because they're going to other agencies," he said. "Being in that competitive market, we're looking at ways that are going to benefit not only Ocean Pines, but the workforce."

One of the things he encouraged was a vehicle take-home agreement to encourage officers to live in the community. Currently, he said only one member of the association police force lives in Ocean Pines.

"I'd like to be able to go to our younger recruits and say, 'We really would like you to live in our community, and this is the benefit,'" he said.

Massey said an officer who lives in Ocean Pines would instantly become another available resource to be called upon in case of emergencies.

"Every other agency that we compete against has this kind of program," Massey said, adding he compared the practices of neighboring communities and drafted a proposal to bring the policy to Ocean Pines.



PHOTO FROM YOUTUBE

Ocean Pines Police Chief David Massey on March 9 asks board members to consider a vehicle take-home program to aid in recruitment and retention efforts.

"Ours is more restrictive, because we require residency. I think that's the benefit of the community, that we actually get a police officer vehicle parked in our neighborhood," Massey said.

He cited an earlier complaint by resident Susan Canfora, and said a police vehicle parked on Footbridge trail would likely slow traffic there.

"There is a benefit to the community," Massey said. "And it's a very minimal expense. Really, the small

numbers that would avail themselves [of] this program would not require us to expand our fleet considerably. And another benefit is, we could extend the life of some of our vehicles."

At present, Massey said police vehicles were essentially used 24 hours per day, 365 days per year, while being cycled through three on-duty officers.

"In a take-home vehicle program, you would get a high-mileage car issued to one officer, who would only use it during his or her work hours, and a few hours other than that," he said. "We could extend the life of the vehicle from the 150,000 mile mark [currently used], to probably somewhere ... like 175,000 miles. That would mean that take-home officer would have that car for two more years."

Massey said senior officers were unlikely to relocate, but the program could affect some of the younger officers being targeted.

"It would help us be more competitive in recruitment ... and I think it would aid in retention," Massey said.

Association President Doug Parks said the board agreed in concept, but still needed to refine some administrative particulars.

"Get some details and I think we're good to go," Parks said.

Ocean Pines BOD approves country club renovations

By Josh Davis
Associate Editor

(March 21, 2019) Communication issues hampered the process early on, but Ocean Pines Board members on March 9 said they were confident beach club renovations are now moving forward.

The directors voted 5-0 to award a \$162,354.50 contract and a 5 percent contingency to East Coast Construction for certain renovations and repairs. Two directors, Ted Moroney and Esther Diller, were not present during the vote.

Director Frank Daly said renovations would include replacing leaking windows, modifying the existing beachfront roof to improve views, and reconfiguring the downstairs bar to serve customers more efficiently.

Daly said the contract addressed deferred maintenance and layout issues that adversely affect the facility.

"These improvements will address leakage, security and customer service issues, and add to the function and appeal of the most valuable asset in the Ocean Pines inventory," he said.

Daly said plans for the renovation date back to an August board orientation meeting, but information delivered to the board at the time never made its way to the public works department. The department drafted the request for proposals.

"They wrote an RFP based on replacing the windows and replacing the shutters ... but the work of expanding the bar and the work that that would entail on the envelope of the building was never communicated," he said.

He said bid requests went out, but the document initially lacked detail and "was not well written."

Of the four bids received, Daly said only one, by East Coast Construction, complied with all of the listed requirements. Even so, he said the bid still lacked some requirements of the Matt Ortt Companies, the beach club's operator.

Having public works do some of the renovations and East Coast Construction cover the larger tasks, such as overhauling the roof, was discussed but found not to be ideal.

"You'd have two construction crews doing the same thing at the same time in the same place," Daly said. "That didn't make sense, so they just added [those items] onto their proposal."

Further complicating matters, Daly, being careful with his words, said East Coast Construction were not initially told the facility might be open while they were doing the renovations.

"It was not clearly communicated
See RENOVATIONS Page 13

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Planning commission approves annexation

Cosby uses opportunity to call for expansion of Route 818, Main Street Extended

By Josh Davis
Associate Editor

(March 21, 2019) The Berlin Planning Commission easily approved a commercial annexation petition last Wednesday.

Commission members voted 6-0 to endorse annexing roughly six acres known as Athena Plaza, on Route 818 across from Berlin Main Place.

Peter Buas, an attorney with Williams, Moore, Shockley & Harrison, representing property owners Spiro and Mary Anne Buas, said the land is in the growth area and contiguous to lots already annexed into the town. Buas said he understood the commission was concerned about sprawl, but annexing the property would be more akin to backfilling.

He added before Athena Properties begins to develop the property, its representatives would come back before the commission for site plan approval.

No specific plans were discussed during the meeting, but Mayor Gee Williams said in a previous interview it was his understanding the development would include a convenience store similar to a Royal Farms, a hotel and two sites for restaurants.

A "property annexation proposal" attached to the meeting packet said total revenue to the town for the "partially developed" property would be

\$18,842, including \$17,680 in property taxes based on the current rate.

An additional \$151,008 in EDU fees is also expected, according to the plan. EDUs, or equivalent dwelling units, measure water consumption.

During a public hearing, resident Carol Rose said she endorsed the project.

"I've known Spiro and Mary Anne a long, long time," she said. "I am highly in favor of [annexing the property]."

Additionally, Planning Director Dave Engelhart read into the record a letter from Davis Court resident Jeff Smith:

"There are now two annexations on the table which involve business development along the route 50 corridor. Both annexations involve a dramatic change in the composition and makeup of the town of Berlin that we call home. And both need to be addressed together as part of a broader plan for the growth of Berlin.

"The first petition, presented several months ago by Mr. [Ernie] Gerardi, claimed his petition needed to be approved before completion of a new comprehensive plan because, to quote him, 'I won't live two years.' This second annexation proposal makes it even more imperative that this planning committee does what a planning committee is supposed to

do: plan.

"Decisions like annexation must not be made on a case by case basis, but must take into account larger considerations, including but not limited to the size of the town, the town's economic makeup, the will of the residents of the town, and the effect of these decisions on the heart of Berlin: it's downtown businesses.

"There is a history of what business development outside of a downtown business district does to that downtown. Salisbury focused business development along route 13, which siphoned business from downtown. When a bypass was built, Salisbury's downtown suffered a downturn from which it is still recovering. Pocomoke City developed big box stores on route 113, away from its downtown, and now downtown Pocomoke is a shell of its former self. Cambridge's downtown endured a similar fate.

"We are at a crossroads, and the question is: how does Berlin want to proceed? Do we want to risk siphoning our locally owned downtown businesses in favor of business development on the route 50 corridor? Do we want Berlin to continue to be a cool small town, or do we want Berlin to be the next Salisbury? Or the next Pocomoke City?

"These are questions that justify

being addressed by the whole town of Berlin. These are questions that deserve to be debated as part of a broader discussion of the future of Berlin. These are questions that warrant inclusion in a comprehensive plan."

Commission member Pete Cosby said the annexation was a natural fit, and his only concern was that the town sooner or later addresses expanding Route 818. He compared the road to Route 589 in Ocean Pines, which Cosby said was never widened to accommodate growth until it was too late.

"This is a main access to the town," Cosby said. "It needs safe pedestrian ways [and] it needs to be widened. Certainly, if you all do a convenience store or gas station, we're going to need turnoff lanes and [to] expand the road out there.

"This needs to be put into the works and pressure be put on the state ... to get this road right now, not after we come to the next annexation out here," he added.

Commission member Ron Cascio agreed.

"This is a town that's just now dealing growing pains," he said. "I understand change is inevitable, [but] it's what kind of change. And we're here to, I think, try to control that change."

Renovations said unlikely to disrupt club operations

Continued from Page 12

that there may be people walking around the deck on the first floor, while [East Coast Construction] will be working on the second floor," he said. "We had to go over that whole situation with them, to make sure that things were sequenced [correctly]. We don't want to drop a window frame on one of our loyal patrons."

The goal is to have work finished before the season, but if delays do occur, Daly said renovations would be "minimally disruptive" to operations.

"The process went extremely well, once what we wanted was communicated and understood," Daly said. "Up until then, it was kind of questionable."

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Snapshots



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HOOP DREAMS

Worcester Preparatory School sixth grader Bella Marinelli of Selbyville, finished in second place in the state finals of the Elks Hoop Shoot Free Throw Contest held at Washington College, Feb. 10, in Chestertown, Maryland. Marinelli advanced to the second round making 11 out of 15 free throws.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

JEEP CLUB DONATES

The OC Jeep Club's annual Worcester County Humane Society supply run took place Feb. 16. More than 30 Jeeps and club members, as a group, delivered supplies such as paper towels, cat and dog food and cleaning items to the no-kill shelter in Berlin.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

HOSPICE CHAMPION

Nancy Stewart, access department manager of Coastal Hospice, was recently recognized as a "Hospice Champion" by the Hospice Veteran-Partnership of Maryland for her dedication to the We Honor Veterans Program. Pictured, in back, from left, are Coastal Hospice management team members Renee Smith, Stacey Cottingham, Bob Miller and Mark Massey, and in front, Coastal Hospice President Alane Capen, Department of Veterans Affairs' We Honor Veterans Community Hospice Coordinator Cindy Dresser, and Stewart.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

NATIONAL AWARD

The American Cancer Society's Relay For Life of North Worcester County was recently honored with a national award for 2018. The Nationwide Per Capita Award is presented to the top five per capita counties in one of 16 different population size range categories based on net income from American Cancer Society records and county population of all the Relay events in each county. Displaying the award banner from left, are Relay For Life of North Worcester Chair Dawn Hodge, ACS Senior Community Development Manager Debbie White, PRMC Richard A. Henson Cancer Institute Executive Director Joan Mischtschuk and AGH John H. "Jack" Burbage, Jr. Regional Cancer Center Director Patricia Marks. PRMC is the Luminaria Sponsor and AGH is the Presenting Survivor Sponsor for Relay For Life of North Worcester.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

ANNIVERSARY GALA

Most Blessed Sacrament Catholic School held its 15-year gala celebration fundraiser at the Residence Inn in Ocean City, March 2. Pictured, from left, are Kelly Stanislav, Kim Martin, Anne Vogel Flaherty, Heather Marinelli, HSA vice president, and Nichole Behornar, HSA president.



PHOTO COURTESY D.J. LANDIS, SR.

KIWANIAN OF THE MONTH

Kiwanis Club of Greater Ocean Pines-Ocean City President Dick Clagett re-instituted the Kiwanian of the Month to recognized member efforts. On Feb. 27, he presented the award to January's recipient, Dave Landis for publicizing 2018/2019 Kiwanis activities.

Berlin PD promote prescription drug drop-off program

By Josh Davis
Associate Editor

(March 21, 2019) Berlin Police are spreading the word about a free and anonymous prescription drug take-back program at the new station on 129 Decatur Street, near the corner of Flower Street and Assateague Road.

Police Chief Arnold Downing said the drug drop-box inside the lobby has been a permanent fixture since last May.

“We were doing [the program] annually or twice a year, and would set up an officer and people would only have a day to drop off drugs,” he said of the department’s previous approach.

From last May until November, police collected about 32 pounds of unwanted and expired medicine that was taken to Worcester County Animal Control and incinerated, Downing said.

“We’re attempting to get the word out now and even beat that number,” Downing said. “We just really want to tell everybody that, with spring, it’s time for spring cleaning and it’s a great opportunity to go ahead and clean out the medicine cabinets.”

Prescription drugs may be dropped off 24 hours a day, with no fees and no questions asked. No sharp objects, including needles, may be disposed of and no liquids or radiology drugs can be accepted. Illicit drugs also cannot be accepted.

For standard prescription drugs, including pills and patches, “Just come with your bag, and open up the box and drop it on in,” Downing said.

“People can come in any time, 24 hours a day,” he continued. “If you’re doing some late-night cleaning or driving to or from work and you have something to be disposed of, just drop right on in.”

Downing said the program offers several benefits.

For one, he said drugs that are flushed or tossed down the drain could damage the water supply.

“Drugs themselves are not supposed to be flushed down the toilet ... and can damage our ecosystem,” Downing said.

“The other thing is, children can get into drugs that just sit around,” he continued. “We definitely have a strong history of children having ‘pill parties,’ where they just take any old kind of pills, put them inside of a bowl, and the kids take them at parties and have no clue what they are.”

Taking expired medicines is an unwise choice as well, Downing said.

“If you have medicine that you think is good for you and working for you, it might not have the same potency,” he said. “All of those are good reasons why you want to go ahead and drop your medicine off and dispose of it in the proper way, and to eliminate the chance of someone trying to get into your home for the medicine that you have, especially those pain medicines that some individuals have on hand.

“It’s a resource that we have here and we definitely think it’s benefit to the community,” Downing added.



A prescription drug drop-off box inside the lobby of the Berlin Police station allows residents to dispose of unwanted and expired medicines at no charge, 24 hours a day. The program has been a permanent fixture in the new station since last May.

JOSH DAVIS/BAYSIDE GAZETTE



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Left, Town of Berlin employees are recognized during an annual ceremony at town hall, held last Friday. Right, water distribution worker Ryan Showell is recognized for five years of service with the town.

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Berlin hosts fourth annual employee recognition event

By Josh Davis
 Associate Editor

(March 21, 2019) Town of Berlin officials last Friday honored workers for five, 10, 15 and 20 years of service at a fourth-annual employee-recognition ceremony at Town Hall.

“We can’t tell you how much we appreciate the special work you all do,” Mayor Gee Williams said. “I know the mayor and council are particularly grateful for the way you handle yourselves so professionally.”

“The work you do means that you don’t always see people at their best, especially if the lights are out, there’s a water main spouting water, [or] a trash emergency — whatever it is, we always hear you took care of it, you did a great job and you were so polite,” he continued. “You probably don’t hear it enough, but besides doing your job that’s what makes you so professional

... and we’re so proud of you.” Williams, who has served for 15 years as both mayor and a councilman, was among those honored.

Councilman Thom Gulyas, in presenting a proclamation to Williams, said he echoed his sentiments.

“I know I say this all the time, but you make us look good,” Gulyas said. “You make [our] jobs a lot easier. And I want to thank you all for that.”

Other honorees were Police Cpl. Christopher Bireley (20 years), water distribution worker James Lockwood (15 years), Police Spo. Edward Carmean and Councilman Troy Purnell (10 years), and Assistant Waste Water Superintendent Keith Dukes, water distribution worker Ryan Showell, Spraysite Supervisor Meghan Pfaller, Planning Director Dave Engelhart, accountant Rondell Wise, and Town Administrator Laura Allen (five years).

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Pines mows over golf maintenance confusion

By Josh Davis
Associate Editor

(March 21, 2019) Ocean Pines Board members on March 9 quickly putted through the “nonissue” of exactly who is in charge of golf maintenance.

According to Frank Daly, Golf Director John Malinowski was asked during a Feb. 27 budget and finance committee meeting, “if he was responsible for golf maintenance, or if golf maintenance was under the pub-

lic works department.”

“The response was, ‘I don’t know,’” Daly said. “This raises obvious issues as to who is committed to achieving the budget numbers, and who is responsible for completing the activities necessary to maintain the golf course assets in a proper and timely manner.”

Daly added the response was “absolutely unbelievable after what we went through on the budget, but here it is – the director of golf doesn’t know

who is responsible for golf course maintenance.”

He encouraged board members to “make the decision and end the discussion within the next 60 seconds.”

It took only slightly longer.

Director Slobodan Trendic said, “I’m really shocked that reference was made. I think the answer should be pretty obvious.”

Association Vice President Steve Tuttle said he was at the budget and fi-

nance committee meeting when the comment was made.

“I was tempted to answer for our golf director and say, ‘Of course it’s under you! Who else should it be under?’” Tuttle said. “To me, it’s almost a nonissue. He should be responsible for it. It’s his bottom line.”

Association President Doug Parks agreed.

“Make it happen. Done. Next issue,” he said.

OPA approves ad-hoc public works committee

By Josh Davis
Associate Editor

(March 21, 2019) Ocean Pines Board members on March 9 authorized the creation of an ad hoc public works advisory committee.

Before the formal vote, Director Frank Daly proposed a board-appointed to advise the board on construction and maintenance of roadways, bridges, bulkheads, ditches and other infrastructure, as well as new building construction,

renovation and maintenance.

According to Daly, “No permanent, board-chartered committee exists for public works. The creation of this committee would create one and enable the association to tap into the wealth of knowledge that exists within Ocean Pines related to construction and infrastructure.”

Director Slobodan Trendic said he agreed with the motion in principle, but would prefer the new advisory panel to be less formal.

“You’ve got 13 committees already. Are we in the business of creating new committees? I don’t think so,” he said. “But, we do have an obligation to solve problems and to improve the operations and the management of our community.”

Association President Doug Parks flashed a big “thumbs up.”

He said the concept was sound, but called another board-appointed committee “unnecessary administrative overhead.”

Daly offered to table the motion, but Association Vice President Steve Tuttle instead suggested, “Couldn’t we just amend it ... to be an ad hoc committee and pass it right now?”

“I think everybody’s in favor of an ad hoc committee,” Tuttle said.

He was right. The board voted 5-0 to amend the original motion, and 5-0 for the original motion as amended. Two directors, Ted Moroney and Esther Diller, were not present.

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Opinion

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

Public participation is the public's job

Public distrust of government has been around since the beginning of organized rule, and it is no worse now than it was 100 or even hundreds of years ago.

In the 14th Century Florentine Republic, in what would become Italy some 500 years later, skepticism of government was so great that voters elected new rulers every two months.

Clearly, we have them beat in terms of political stability, but it remains that the strength and effectiveness of our system depends on the public's participation in and awareness of government affairs.

That's why it's disconcerting to see so few people take advantage of the opportunities our governments provide for community engagement.

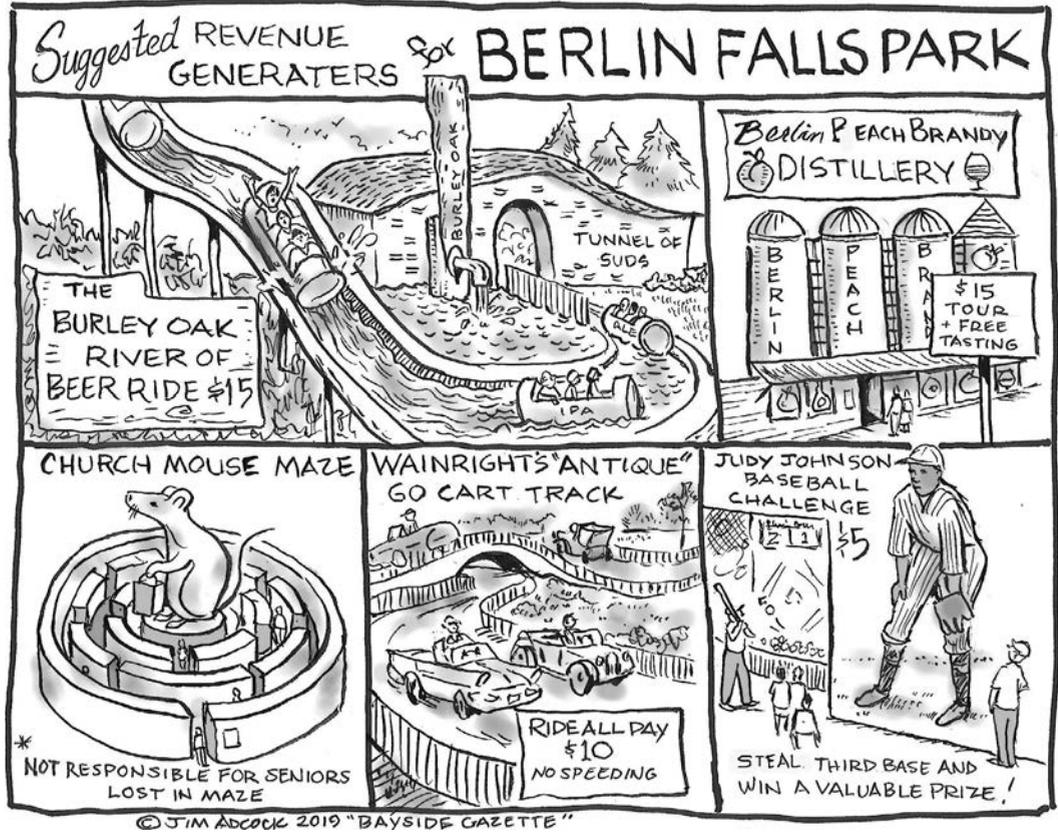
It isn't government's fault, in other words, if no one attends or follows meetings, hearings and informational sessions. Yet, it still has to defend itself from charges that it doesn't keep the public informed.

Two cases in point in Berlin: last week's sparsely attended meetings on resiliency, or how town planning (and spending) will need to reflect changing climate conditions, and the upcoming special meeting on the town budget.

The budget, which almost always is connected to one public complaint or another, is discussed, debated and developed in open meetings. The process also requires the mayor and council to hold two public hearings — when citizens can be heard — before any spending plan can be adopted.

And now town government must hold a third informal hearing of sorts because the public doesn't know what's going on? If that's so, it's the public's own fault for not doing its part to fulfill the good governance equation.

While government must be responsive to the public, it can't do that if the public doesn't want to pay attention. Criticizing government is every citizen's right, but for government to be responsive, citizens are obligated to make the effort to understand how government works.



Letters

Portrayal of library lecture one-sided

Editor,
“...law abiding Trump supporters — who did absolutely nothing wrong — were made to appear to be the equivalent of a pitchfork and torch carrying mob” is the valid opinion that I heard from a real great American patriot with regard to the March 6 cancelled library presentation.

The presentation was about the constitution and how it sets forth the procedures for impeachment. Some conservatives, like myself, were concerned that there would be violence as illustrated all over the U.S. perpetrated by Democrats attacking Trump supporters.

I asked if the library will consider having a sheriff present. The Berlin head librarian said, “I think it would be a good idea.”

What is going on in America today is normal behavior in third world, dictatorial governments. We Americans used to pride ourselves about how we can have an election and no violence would follow no matter who got elected.

We used to have a media that actually reported facts without regard to who it might offend. Now we have a media, with the exception of Fox News and OAN, (One America News Network), that just lies, not only fake news, but bold face lies.

They exaggerate, leave out details and examples of their accusations. It has been proven that the alphabet networks, with the exception of OAN, report negatively about Trump 91 percent of the time.

The media, late night comedies, and our educational system have fostered and greatly influenced the violence that is taking place today against conservatives.

Consider what happens when a conservative goes to a college to speak. Did you ever, ever imagine that wearing a hat or shirt that promotes making the country you live in a better place would provoke a violent act against you?

Conservatives are branded “extremists” by the liberal/progressive/socialists. Extreme in what way please? We were not the party of slavery in the past,

nor are we the party of baby murder as proven today.

Take a good look at all the violent activity taking place in America today, like the riots that torch neighborhoods and stores. Take a look at Steve Scalise being shot down, with many other Republicans to follow if it were not for good men with guns stopping it. Editor, may I have two full pages to list the extremists, their activities and what party they belong to?

I found consolation in the idea that Worcester County was above all this biased, non-substantiated reporting as it applies to our daily lives.

The distorted report of who it was to blame for the library presentation blew that notion out of the water.

The left wing Trump-hating disease is here. For those of you suffering from “The Hate Trump Derangement Syndrome,” try printing out all his America first accomplishments for only his past two years, 14 pages, the most accomplished president for this time span in U.S. history!

Dennis W Evans
Berlin

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Wor. Youth participants plan park upgrades

SABERS group will present plan, apply for grants for Henry Park improvements

By Josh Davis
Associate Editor

(March 21, 2019) Participants in the SABERS program of Worcester Youth and Family Counseling Services hope to secure grant money to improve Dr. William Henry Park in Berlin.

Worcester Youth's Youth Programs Coordinator Tiffany Scott, during a March 5 Berlin Parks Commission meeting, said she was approached about attending the upcoming "Youth Environmental Action Summit" hosted by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

In meeting with organizers, Scott said SABERS participants were invited to "take on an environmental project that's important to them."

"SABERS" is short for Strengthening Adolescent Boys with Education and Resources, and is a two-year program for local seventh and eighth graders.

"They would write a proposal for it and then, in April, they're having a summit at the Ward Museum," Scott said. "All the kids from all across the counties will come there and present it, and they basically made it sound like everybody is going to get funding."

Scott said she presented the project to SABERS participants as an optional activity.

"They decided that they wanted to do it and something that was important to them is Henry Park," she said.

The boys apparently had a short list of improvements they wanted to make, which parks commission members helped to refine. The commission endorsed the project.

Then, on March 11, the Berlin Town Council voted to approve a grant application for a rain garden, signage, and solar trash compactors at Henry Park.

Scott told councilmembers the SABERS participants quickly took to the idea.

"The first thing that they said is, 'We want to do some things out at Henry Park,' because they play a lot of basketball out there," she said. "We jumped in a van and we all rolled over to Henry Park that day, and they showed us some things out there that they wanted to change."

Scott said the rain garden would help with flooding issues on the court, and Maryland Coastal Bays would be a partner in implementing that project.

"When you shoot the ball out

there, there's a big puddle if it floods and the ball gets wet, and, of course, nobody wants to play basketball when the ball is wet." She said. "Easy fix – a rain garden ... so it will soak up that water and they will no longer have that problem."

Scott said signs could help reduce littering that sometimes hinders the court, while a solar-powered trash compactor would "encourage recycling, along with throwing away trash."

Councilman Dean Burrell asked if improvements at Stephen Decatur Park could be included. Scott said that would depend on how much funding is granted.

"We ... are going to be tomorrow doing the actual proposal, so we'll be able to know how much the cost of those different things [are]," she said.

Scott, in a follow-up interview last Wednesday, said proposals were due on March 15 and the Youth Environmental Action Summit was scheduled April 4.

"The SABERS boys will present their proposal at the YEAS event and possible grant funding will be awarded after," she said.

In addition, the annual "Pirate Party" fundraiser for Worcester Youth is scheduled May 17 on the docks at Sunset Grille in West Ocean City. Tickets are \$49 at the door and benefit Worcester Youth programs and children of Worcester County.

Pirate attire is encouraged, but not required.

A rain date was set for May 31.

For more information, call 410-641-4598, visit www.gowoyo.org, or www.facebook.com/WYFCS.



JOSH DAVIS/BAYSIDE GAZETTE
Worcester Youth's Youth Program Coordinator Tiffany Scott discusses a grant opportunity with the Berlin Parks Commission on March 5.

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Ranck praised for handling of library rancor

By Rachel Ravina
Staff Writer

(March 21, 2019) Worcester County Library Director Jennifer Ranck approached the podium during Tuesday's county commissioner meeting in Snow Hill requesting funding to purchase audio-visual shelving for the county's Ocean City Branch.

Ranck said the old units were crumbling and added there was funding in the library's budget to cover the costs. She got that, with officials unanimously voting to approve the \$19,247.32 request.

She also received vocal support from Commissioners Joseph Mitrecic and Chip Bertino on her handling of an impeachment lecture at the Berlin branch that was scheduled to occur March 6,

but later pulled.

"Thank you for the handling of the situation down at the library," Mitrecic said.

Mitrecic added he'd "seen some of the [unsavory] emails" written following the lecture announcement and cancellation. Bertino also said he felt Ranck was "put in the crosshairs unnecessarily."

The lecture was part of a series on the U.S. Constitution hosted by Howard Sribnick, the president of the Worcester County Library Foundation and a former Worcester County Democratic Central Committee chairman.

The Main Street Patriots Eastern Shore, MD took to Facebook on March 1, posting a caption above an article entitled, "America's Second Civil War Has Already Begun," and wrote, "how many

of you local folks will be at the Berlin library on Wednesday ... for the primer (hosted by Democrats of course) on how to either impeach Trump or remove him from office via the 25th Amendment? They will collude and conspire to take away your vote (Trump won here in Worcester County by almost a 2 to 1 margin), will you be there to stand up for the truth?"

"Someone should take them out," another person commented.

The session was canceled and Ranck cited safety concerns on social media.

"When people threatened to disrupt the presentation, we thought that would raise a safety issue for those who may be trying to attend the program, or just those who were using the library at that particular time on that particular

day," Ranck said in a previous interview.

During Tuesday's meeting, she said it was a "passionate topic," to which Bertino agreed, adding there was "a lot of energy."

Bertino said he also thought Ranck "handled [herself] professionally, as did the library board, and I thank you very much."

Vanessa Alban, a member of the Republican Women of Worcester County, on Tuesday expressed her own concern with the partisanship of the lecture, referring to Sribnick's previous affiliation with the Worcester County Democrats.

"There was a lot of undue influences for them to put that on," she said, and added others felt "it wasn't appropriate."

Ocean Pines Town Hall meeting, March 30

(March 21, 2019) Ocean Pines residents will get a chance to weigh in on current projects and community matters at an upcoming town hall meeting on Saturday, March 30 from 9-11 a.m. in the ballroom of the Ocean Pines Yacht Club, at 1 Mumford's Landing Road.

The Ocean Pines Communications Advisory Committee, under the guidance of chairwoman Jennifer Cropper-Rines, will host the event.

Residents are encouraged to submit questions and comments to the Ocean Pines Board of Directors and its communications advisory committee in advance via email to townhall@oceanpines.org.

The submission period will run until Wednesday, March 27, at 5 p.m.

Director Colette Horn, at the July 27, 2018 regular board meeting, introduced a motion to accept the recommendation from the Ocean Pines Communications Advisory Committee to set a policy for the coming year of holding three town hall meetings

for the purpose of updating and engaging in question and answer and discussion with the membership on pending board business and other topics of concern to the membership.

Those unable to attend the meeting may view it live at www.OceanPines.org or on Mediacom channel 78.





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75th Street and the bay
Ocean City
410-524-7575
www.bjsonthewater.com
March 22: Thin Ice, 9 pm.
March 23: The Girlfriends, 9 p.m.
March 27: Ricky LaRicci, 6 p.m.

BOURBON STREET ON THE BEACH

116th Street, behind Fountain Head Towers Condominium
Ocean City
443-664-2896
www.bourbonstreetonthebeach.com
March 22: Dave Sherman, 7 p.m.
March 23: 33 RPM, 8 p.m.
March 24: Bob Hughes, 6 p.m.
March 27: Reform School, 6 p.m.; Open Mic, 9 p.m.
March 28: Chris Button, 7-10 p.m.

CAPTAIN'S TABLE

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

DUFFY'S TAVERN

130th Street in the

Montego Bay Shopping Center
410-250-1449
www.duffysoc.com
March 22: Bob Hughes, 5-8 p.m.
March 23: Karaoke w/DJ Chuck D, 8 p.m. to midnight

HARBORSIDE BAR & GRILL

12841 S. Harbor Road
West Ocean City
410-213-1846
www.ocharborside.com
March 22: DJ Billy T, 4 p.m. to 2 a.m.
March 23: DJ Billy T, all day; DJ BK, 9 p.m. to 2 a.m.
March 24: Opposite Directions, 2-6 p.m.; DJ Billy T, 4 p.m. to 2 a.m.
March 28: Opposite Directions, 6 p.m.

HOOTERS

12513 Ocean Gateway
West Ocean City
410-213-1841
www.hootersofoc.com
March 22: DJ Wax, 4 p.m.

OCEAN CLUB NIGHTCLUB

In the Horizons Restaurant
In the Clarion Fontainebleau Hotel
101st Street and the ocean
Ocean City
410-524-3535

www.clarionoc.com
Every Friday and Saturday: DJ Dusty, 9 p.m. to 2 a.m.
March 22-23: On The Edge, 9:30 p.m. to 2 a.m.

PICKLES

706 Philadelphia Ave.
Ocean City
410-289-4891
www.picklesoc.com
March 22: Beats By Jeremy, 10 p.m.
March 23: Rogue Citizens, 10 p.m.
March 25: Beats by Jeremy, 9 p.m.
March 28: Beats by Wax, 9 p.m.

PURPLE MOOSE SALOON

108 S. Atlantic Ave.
Ocean City
410-289-6953
www.purplemoosesaloon.com
March 22: Beyond Empty, 10 p.m.
March 23: CK the DJ/VJ, 2 p.m.; CK the VJ/DJ, 9 p.m.; Beyond Empty, 10 p.m.

SECRETS

49th Street and the bay
Ocean City
410-524-4900
www.secrets.com
March 22: DJ Tuff, 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.; High Five Swan Dive, 10 p.m. to

1:50 a.m.
March 23: Free Entry Until 8 p.m.; Full Circle, 5-9 p.m.; DJ Bobby-O, 6 p.m. to 1:50 a.m.; JJ Rupp Band, 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.; DJ Cruz, 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.; Steal The Sky, 10 p.m. to 1:50 a.m.
March 28; Full Circle Duo, 5-9 p.m.

SKYE RAW BAR & GRILLE

66th Street, bayside
Ocean City
410-723-6762
www.skyebaroc.com
March 22: Rick & Lennon LaRicci, 5-8 p.m.
March 24: Monkee Paw, 5-8 p.m.

TRADER LEE'S LIVE

9935 Stephen Decatur Highway
West Ocean City
443-614-4119
March 24: Sunday Jam Sess, 7 p.m.
March 27: 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
March 22:
Karaoke w/Donnie Berkey



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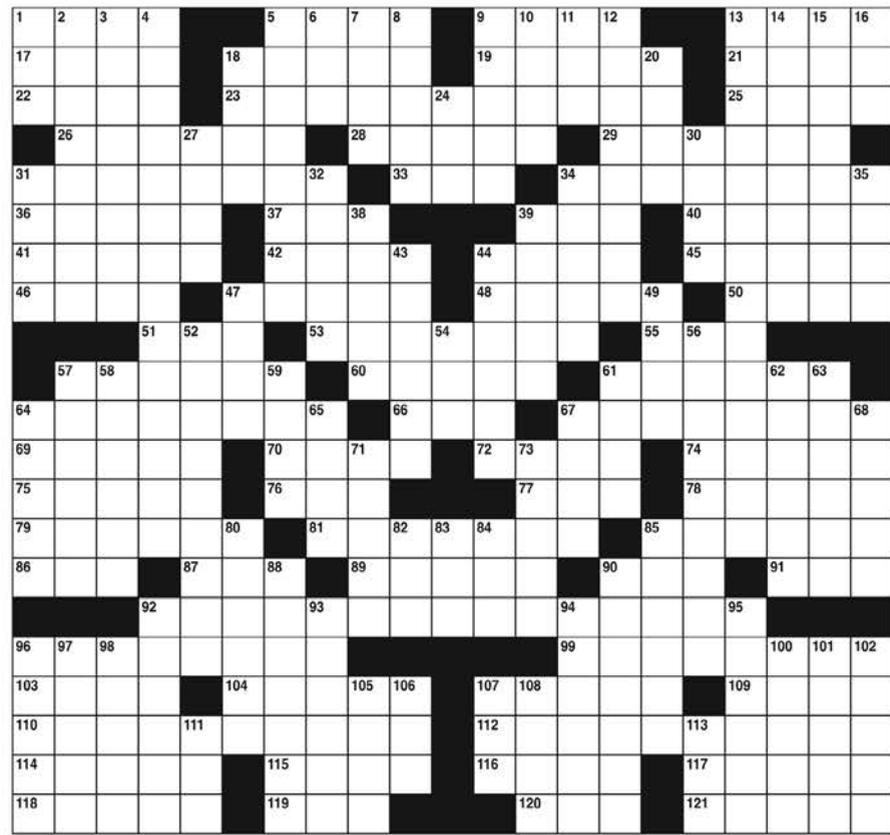
Puzzles

THAT'S ANOTHER STORY

BY SOPHIA MAYMUDES AND JEFF CHEN / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

Sophia Maymudes is a junior at Carleton College in Northfield, Minn., studying computer science and math. She has been making crosswords since high school. For this one, her first Sunday puzzle, she teamed up with a fellow Seattle resident, Jeff Chen, who writes a daily crossword blog, XWord Info. They jointly brainstormed theme examples. Jeff laid out the grid. Sophia did most of the fill. They each wrote half the clues. Sophia says, "The entire puzzle took nearly a hundred emails back and forth to create." — W.S.

- ACROSS**
- 1 Most popular baby girl's name of the 1960s, per the Social Security Administration
 - 5 Squealer
 - 9 Inside info
 - 13 For fear that
 - 17 Juul, e.g., for short
 - 18 Old-time "The Price Is Right" announcer Johnny
 - 19 Bit of greenery
 - 21 Palindromic boy's name
 - 22 Ward of cinema
 - 23 Biography of Ebenezer Scrooge?
 - 25 "Castaway" director Nicolas
 - 26 Bond tightly
 - 28 Colleague of Gorsuch
 - 29 Big name in chicken
 - 31 Biography of Amelia Earhart?
 - 33 "Decorates" on Halloween, say
 - 34 Biography of Archimedes?
 - 36 Beep-booping droid, for short
 - 37 Two-year degrees, briefly
 - 39 Tricked
 - 40 Took out
 - 41 Some endangered ecosystems
- DOWN**
- 2 One-fifth of the Jackson 5
 - 4 Jesus on the diamond
 - 45 Note taker
 - 46 Tip-off for an exam proctor
 - 47 What the "sans" refers to in Comic Sans
 - 48 Diaper : U.S. :: _____ : U.K.
 - 50 Oil magnate Leon who once owned the New York Jets
 - 51 "Girls" home
 - 53 Only mildly sweet
 - 55 Get a Venmo request, say
 - 57 Go through a window?
 - 60 Obvious answer
 - 61 Recreational sailboats
 - 64 Excelled
 - 66 British miler Sebastian
 - 67 Diner sign
 - 69 Shrewd
 - 70 Winged Greek goddess
 - 72 Highest hand value in baccarat
 - 74 Capital of France's Côte d'Or
 - 75 High points
 - 76 Credit score, for short?
 - 77 One side of the G.W. Bridge
 - 78 Clever move
 - 79 _____ monkey
 - 81 Swimsuit material
 - 85 "Step on it!"
 - 86 Have a _____ for
 - 87 Good name, informally
 - 89 Xenophobe's fear, with "the"
 - 90 Pro
 - 91 Verb that's a homophone for a letter
 - 92 Biography of the Venus de Milo?
 - 96 One using a heater, say
 - 99 Sound effects after some one-liners
 - 103 Dramatic award
 - 104 Pair of hearts?
 - 107 Loudly project
 - 109 Adidas competitor
 - 110 & 112 Biography of Elvis?
 - 114 With passion
 - 115 Gate expectations, briefly?
 - 116 Big dos
 - 117 Quad/glute exercise
 - 118 Wear away
 - 119 Dramatic rebuttal
 - 120 Poetic conjunction
 - 121 Lets go of
 - 6 Its national anthem is "Hatikvah": Abbr.
 - 7 Home to Bourbon St.
 - 8 Showed allegiance, in a way
 - 9 Some H.S. exams
 - 10 "Yikes!"
 - 11 Airport code for O'Hare
 - 12 Elvis Costello hit that starts "I've been on tenterhooks / Ending in dirty looks"
 - 13 Biography of Willie Mays?
 - 14 Cajun dish of shellfish over rice
 - 15 Increases in price
 - 16 Dress (up)
 - 18 Prefix with present
 - 20 Major Argentine export
 - 24 Chihuahua's sound
 - 27 Big features of reality TV
 - 30 Model T competitors
 - 31 John Irving title character
 - 32 Retreats
 - 34 Like the signatures of outgoing people, it's said
 - 35 Altar exchange
 - 38 Author Larsson
 - 39 Fiery look
 - 43 & 44 Biography of Walt Disney?
 - 47 Star turn
 - 49 Hitch together
 - 52 Doesn't go overboard?
 - 64 Lovecraftian
 - 65 Pointers
 - 67 Inky stone
 - 68 Between: Fr.
 - 71 Wham!
 - 73 Nonreactive
 - 80 Alaska Airlines hub
 - 82 Suffix with doctor
 - 83 Montreal is part of it: Abbr.
 - 84 State on the Atl. coast
 - 85 Onetime
 - 88 Like the phase ending after 12
 - 90 Why parodies can't be sued for copyright infringement
 - 92 Classic
 - 93 Corrigenda
 - 94 Daniel Webster, notably
 - 95 Artist with seven posthumous platinum albums
 - 96 _____ distance
 - 97 Detest
 - 98 Grandchild: Sp.
 - 100 Like some flocks
 - 101 Blush, e.g.
 - 102 Seven _____ of Ancient Greece
 - 105 Midwest capital, informally
 - 106 Revenue alternative to subscriptions
 - 107 Bosom buddy
 - 108 Anglerfish's light, e.g.
 - 111 The Science Guy
 - 113 Giant's opposite



- 54 "You may not have asked me, but ..."
- 56 Certain green-energy producers
- 57 Part of a Vandyke, informally
- 58 The title characters of 1988's "Dirty Rotten Scoundrels," e.g.
- 59 Iron _____
- 61 Kind of sheet
- 62 Tex-Mex offering
- 63 Stereotypical High Times reader
- 64 Lovecraftian
- 65 Pointers
- 67 Inky stone
- 68 Between: Fr.
- 71 Wham!
- 73 Nonreactive
- 80 Alaska Airlines hub
- 82 Suffix with doctor
- 83 Montreal is part of it: Abbr.
- 84 State on the Atl. coast
- 85 Onetime
- 88 Like the phase ending after 12
- 90 Why parodies can't be sued for copyright infringement
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- 93 Corrigenda
- 94 Daniel Webster, notably
- 95 Artist with seven posthumous platinum albums
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- 98 Grandchild: Sp.
- 100 Like some flocks
- 101 Blush, e.g.
- 102 Seven _____ of Ancient Greece
- 105 Midwest capital, informally
- 106 Revenue alternative to subscriptions
- 107 Bosom buddy
- 108 Anglerfish's light, e.g.
- 111 The Science Guy
- 113 Giant's opposite

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HARD - 7

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.

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

Answers to last week's puzzles

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

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WORK

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Cuisine

Shaking off the dust while waiting for spring

The question remains, is spring ever going to come? We all know that it is, but we are in that two to three-

week window where everyone is tired of the cold and just waiting for some good news from the weatherman. Of course, waiting on reliable, good news from the weatherman is about as perfect as get-

ting an ounce of truth out of a politician.

I personally like this time of year for a couple of reasons. First, it does remind me of the changing of the seasons, something that I missed when I lived in California (I've gone on about that many times before). Second, it is a sign that the school year is coming to a close; that I am now to get ready for the summer and for the upcoming school year. It's all in the preparation, as we teachers and chefs like to say.

As the season changes, so does my spirit as I dust off the boat for sea trial and get rid of these shoes in preparation of months of bare feet. Even as a kid, my parents had a difficult time keeping shoes on my feet. Whether it was fishing off Dock 2 in Ulmstead Estates, boating on the Chesapeake, or riding my BMX bike over ramps and through 20-foot ditch jumps, you would rarely see anything on my paws except dirt and some fairly admirable callouses. Good habits die hard, I guess.

In anticipation of the upcoming warmer weather, I have to plan out when I'm going to repaint the tiki bar, powerwash the impressive levels of moss in the shingles, hang a few new decorations and basically just get my own yard ready. Yes, I have to prepare for the rest and relaxation that I know I will need to recuperate from the busy season at the restaurant. And, oh boy, will I need a restful, peaceful place to chill.

There is never a dull moment when you run a restaurant and I can assure you that now is the most difficult time to own one. With the rising minimum wage, the fate of smaller mom and pop joints lies in the hand of our state government, it seems. Pretty soon hamburgers are going to cost \$15 and I will have to sell three of these per hour just to pay a dishwasher. It is going to be interesting, to be sure. But, I digress.



More importantly, I need to focus on gearing up for the hot months. Mulch has to be laid in the flowerbeds; something that did not happen last year because of opening the restaurant. Clearing the remaining banana trees, rotted and laying on the ground, will make way for the new batch that will be popping up in the next month or so.

Cleaning the cobwebs off the grill is another good thing to do, as that will be home to many a steak, lobster and peri-peri chicken dinners. If you've never had the latter, rest assured it is simple, but a fantastic addition to your arsenal. A traditional Portuguese chicken, grilled with crispy skin after a long bath in a simple marinade, it only gets better when you pair it with your favorite hot sauce.

There is a chain of peri-peri restaurants on the other side of the bay and it is a great little fast, casual place. With a bottle of your favorite beer, some mashed peas and some hot, grilled corn, it makes just about the best summertime meal around.

Earlier I mentioned hot sauces and, if you haven't tried Hank Sauce, make sure that you go out of your way

to get some. It is sold locally at Malibu's surf shop and Gilbert's Provisions. The sauce is out of New Jersey and I haven't had one yet that disappoints. I would love to know the secrets in the making of this elixir, but suffice it to say that it is just about the perfect hot sauce out there. I douse everything in it, including pizza, chicken, barbecue anything, fries, et al.

And as I know spring is just around the corner, I have my chicken marinating and am going to grill some off tonight. It's all in the preparation.

Peri-Peri Chicken

serves 4

1 whole chicken
1 quart Peri-peri sauce (recipe follows)
1/4 cup Fresh parsley, minced
1/4 cup Fresh basil, minced
Salt & Pepper to taste

1. Cut the chicken into eight pieces. If you're lazy, simply buy bone-in, skin-on chicken pieces at the market
2. Setting aside about 1/2 cup of the sauce and marinate the chicken in the remaining sauce overnight

3. When ready to go, heat a grill and cook the chicken until it reaches the proper internal temperature. Make sure to monitor the grill to keep it from charring too much

4. Baste with the reserved sauce and pour remaining bit on the bird when you pull it off of the grill

5. Serve with peas, grilled street corn and a sweet and zesty slaw

Peri-Peri Sauce

makes about 1 quart

1 cup Champagne vinegar
1/2 medium white onion, large chop
Juice from 1 lemon
1/4 cup EV Olive oil
1/4 cup Hank Sauce (your choice)
2 Jalapeños, seeded
5 cloves fresh garlic
Salt & pepper to taste

1. Combine all ingredients in a blender and rip it up until smooth
2. Keep refrigerated until ready to use

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

Calendar

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

Thurs., March 21

PINE'EER CRAFT CLUB MEETING

Ocean Pines Community Center, 239 Ocean Parkway, 10:00 AM. Refreshments served at 9:45 AM. March project will be Easter Bunny Bonnet. All are welcome. RSVP: Sharon Puser, 410-208-3032.

STORY TIME 'CATS'

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

STEAM STORY TIME 'STEM FOR EVERYONE'

Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 10:30 AM. Hands-on science, technology, engineering and math activities for young children. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

ANNIE, JR.

Most Blessed Sacrament Catholic School, 11242 Racetrack Road, 6:00 PM. The performance is free of charge. Donations for the performing arts program may be made at the door.

'LET'S GROOVE TONIGHT' DANCE PARTY

Sello's Italian Oven and Bar, 9802 Golf Course Road, 6:00 PM - 10:00 PM. Small plates by Sello's, desserts by Baked Desserts, cash bar, disco prizes. Music by DJ Wax. Tickets cost \$75 and are available at www.sellosoc.com or at Baked Desserts, 4 Bay Street, Berlin. Proceeds benefit the Jesse Klump Suicide Awareness & Prevention Program.

WORCESTER COUNTY NAACP MEETING

Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 6:45 PM. Sheriff Matt Crisafulli will discuss the protection and security of our community. The Executive Board meeting begins at 6 p.m. Interested persons are encouraged to attend. 443-944-6701

BEACH SINGLES

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

GRIEF SUPPORT

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

Fri., March 22

FIBER FRIENDS

Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road,

10:00 AM. Bring your lap work to this informal get-together. Knitters, crocheters, embroiderers, etc. welcome. Victoria Christie-Healy, moonlightknitting@gmail.com, 703-507-0708, <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

HOMESCHOOL CODING

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

LASERTAG WITH THE SCOUTS

Game World / Laser Tag, 146th Street - Bayside, 5:30 PM - 8:00 PM. Join the friends and family of Scout Troop 2173 as we see if we have what it takes at Game World/Laser Tag. Unlimited play for Putt putt and Laser tag from 5:30-8 pm. on March 22. Featuring 50/50 raffles, bake sale items and more. Eileen Dudley, Daaboyz@aol.com, 443-880-7180, <https://www.facebook.com/fatalbertsarcadeandgolf/>

'BACK IN THE BAYOU' DINNER THEATER

Clarion Resort Fontainebleau Hotel, 10100 Coastal Highway, 6:30 PM. The Versakats is pleased to present Back In The Bayou. Dinner starts at 6:30 p.m., followed by the musical comedy, including more than 20 songs, at 7:30 p.m. Tickets cost \$45 and benefit St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. Tickets: Pat Schrawder, 410-726-1234.

BROWN BOX THEATRE PRESENTS: DON'T FEED THE BEAR

Art League of Ocean City, 502 94th Street, bayside, 7:30 PM - 9:00 PM. Local playwright Cam Torres stars in his one man show, touring to Rhode Island, Boston, and Ocean City. Tickets are on sale for \$20 at brownboxtheatre.org. Art League of Ocean City, megan@artleagueofoceancity.org, 410-524-9433, https://www.brownpa-pertickets.com/event/3916329?fbclid=IwARo9L3EjLMdWG4oEeMKYhH3eLMxKPCJdq1kxWDIVC1psvqWP_or7kyXGjU8

Sat., March 23

ZUMBATHON FUNDRAISER

Stephen Decatur High School, 9913 Seahawk Road, 10 a.m. to noon. Admission costs \$15 and participants can get tickets at WOC Fitness or at the school that morning. Info: Karen Holland, kholand@worcesterk12.org or call Cedar Chapel Special School, 410-632-5320. Support the Worcester County Teacher of the Year program.

RESERVATION DEADLINE FOR ANNUAL SPRING DINNER

The Worcester County Historical Society

will hold its annual spring dinner meeting at the Pocomoke Community Center on Market Street, March 29 at 6 p.m. Following the dinner, Jefferson Moak, archivists and genealogist, will give a presentation concerning the 1877 Atlas of Wicomico, Somerset and Worcester counties. Tickets cost \$25 and can be purchased by sending a check to Robert Fisher, WCHS Treasurer, 230 S. Washington St., Snow Hill, MD 21863 before March 23.

REACH THE BEACH NATIONALS: OC - ALL-STAR & COLLEGE

Ocean City convention center, 4001 Coastal Highway, 7:00 AM - 10:00 PM. Cost for adults is \$22 per day or \$39 for 2-day pass. Cost for children and seniors is \$15 per day or \$27 for 2-day pass. Hosted by American Cheer and Dance Academy - EPIC Brands, 877-322-2310, <http://www.acdaspirit.com>

CRAFTY SATURDAY MAKE & TAKE 'CELEBRATE MARYLAND'

Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM. Show off your creativity with this weekly themed craft. For all ages. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

FREE TAX PREPARATION

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

STEM 'SOUND'

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

'BACK IN THE BAYOU' DINNER THEATER

Clarion Resort Fontainebleau Hotel, 10100 Coastal Highway, 6:30 PM. The Versakats is pleased to present Back In The Bayou. Dinner starts at 6:30 p.m., followed by the musical comedy, including more than 20 songs, at 7:30 p.m. Tickets cost \$45 and benefit St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. Tickets: Pat Schrawder, 410-726-1234.

KEITH TWILLEY BENEFIT BINGO

Willards Lions Club, Main Street, 7:00 PM. Doors open at 5 p.m., bingo starts at 7 p.m. Pays \$125 per game, \$1,000 jackpot and 50/50 drawing. Only 200 tickets will be sold. All proceeds go to the Twilley family. Tickets cost \$35. Special games sold separately. Info: 410-430-1135.

BROWN BOX THEATRE PRESENTS: DON'T FEED THE BEAR

Art League of Ocean City, 502 94th Street, bayside, 7:30 PM - 9:00 PM. Local playwright Cam Torres stars in his one man show, touring to Rhode Island, Boston, and Ocean City. Tickets are on sale for \$20 at brownboxtheatre.org. Art

League of Ocean City, megan@artleagueofoceancity.org, 410-524-9433, https://www.brownpa-pertickets.com/event/3916329?fbclid=IwARo9L3EjLMdWG4oEeMKYhH3eLMxKPCJdq1kxWDIVC1psvqWP_or7kyXGjU8

Sun., March 24

ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT PANCAKE BREAKFAST

The Dough Roller, Boardwalk at S. Division Street, 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM. Menu includes pancakes, sausage, coffee, tea and soda. Cost is \$10 for adults. Kids 8 years and younger eat free with paying adult. Meals also come with a \$5 free play at Marty's Playland and free admission to the Ocean City Life Saving Station Museum. Proceeds to benefit The Ocean City Downtown Association.

ANNIE, JR.

Most Blessed Sacrament Catholic School, 11242 Racetrack Road, 2:00 PM. The performance is free of charge. Donations for the performing arts program may be made at the door.

BROWN BOX THEATRE PRESENTS: DON'T FEED THE BEAR

Art League of Ocean City, 502 94th Street, bayside, 7:30 PM - 9:00 PM. Local playwright Cam Torres stars in his one man show, touring to Rhode Island, Boston, and Ocean City. Tickets are on sale for \$20 at brownboxtheatre.org. Art League of Ocean City, megan@artleagueofoceancity.org, 410-524-9433, https://www.brownpa-pertickets.com/event/3916329?fbclid=IwARo9L3EjLMdWG4oEeMKYhH3eLMxKPCJdq1kxWDIVC1psvqWP_or7kyXGjU8

Mon., March 25

FREE TAX PREPARATION

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

BUILDERNOON 'DUPLO'

Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM. Buildernoon is all about unstructured building fun. Drop in for ages 2 and older. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

PINT NIGHT FUNDRAISER

Burley Oak Brewery, 10016 Old Ocean City Blvd., 4:00 PM - 9:00 PM. Join Assateague Coastal Trust for this fundraiser complimented with trivia, prizes, a raffle and live music by the String Buzzards, 6-9 p.m. A 1.5-mile bird walk will take place from Burley Oak to Berlin Falls Park from 4-5:30

Continued on Page 26

Calendar

Continued from Page 25
p.m. <http://www.ACTforBays.org/act-events>

TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY MEETING

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

DELMARVA A CAPELLA CHORUS

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

Tues., March 26

IPAD CHICKS

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

STEAM STORY TIME 'STEM FOR EVERYONE'

Berlin library, 13 Harrison Ave., 10:30 AM. Fun, hands-on science, technology, engineering and math activities for young children. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY MEETING

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

Wed., March 27

WITTY KNITTERS

Berlin library, 13 Harrison Ave., 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM. Knitters, crochet enthusiasts and needle artist of all skill levels are invited. Work on our favorite patterns and exchange ideas. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

HOW TO SELF-PUBLISH

Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 10:00 AM. Representatives from Salt Water Media will discuss the process of making your dream of becoming a published author a reality. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

STORY TIME 'PETE THE CAT'

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

COZY LAP QUILTS

Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM. A four-week initiative held March 20 through April 10. Make lap quilts to deliver to those living in local nursing homes. Bring a sewing machine if you have one. All fabric and

materials will be provided. Attend as many as possible. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

SNOW HILL BOOK OF THE MONTH

Snow Hill library, 307 N. Washington St., 5:30 PM. This month's book is *The Story Sisters* by Alice Hoffman. Copies of the books are available at the library in advance. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP - LIFE AFTER LOSS

Atlantic General Hospital, Conference Room 1, 9733 Healthway Drive, 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM. A supportive and safe place for members to share stories confidentially and spend time with others who understand. No sign-ins and no special advanced requirements to attend. Gail Mansell, gmansell@atlantic-general.org, 410-641-9725

KIWANIS CLUB OF GREATER OP/OC

Wednesdays - Ocean Pines Community Center, 235 Ocean Parkway, 8:00 AM. Doors open at 7 a.m., meeting begins at 8 a.m. 410-641-7330, <http://www.kiwanisofopoc.org>

DELMARVA HAND DANCE CLUB

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

OC/BERLIN ROTARY CLUB MEETING

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

ONGOING EVENTS

HARRINGTON CASINO BUS TRIP

Kiwanis Club of Ocean Pines/Ocean City and the Ocean Pines Boat Club is sponsoring the trip planned for April 25. Cost is \$20 and includes \$15 slot play and a \$7 food voucher. Guests are welcome. Reservations: Tom and Barbara Southwell, 410-641-5456.

BUS TRIPS

April 22 - Explore Washington, D.C. beginning at the National Mall, 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. The fee for transportation only is \$45.

April 28 - Day trip to the Virginia International Tattoo show in Norfolk, Va. The patriotic performance showcases more than 900 international performers. Great for all ages and interests. Show begins at 2:30 p.m. The cost is \$95 and includes a VIP seat and transportation. Bus will arrive back at 7:30 p.m.

May 4 - Longwood Gardens Spring Bloom guided tour featuring more than 245,000 spring bulbs in bloom in the Idea Garden & Flower Garden Walk. The bus will depart at 8 a.m. and return at 6



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

HUNDRED-DAY CELEBRATION

Heather Lankford Hammond (WPS '90/Old Dominion University '94, Bachelor of Science in Business Administration) was the featured speaker at the 100-Day Breakfast celebration for the Worcester Preparatory School Class of 2019 on Feb. 15. Hosted by the WPS Alumni Association, the 100-Day gathering marks the senior class countdown to their last day of school. WPS seniors enjoying their new Worcester Tumbler gifts, from left, are Basil Christian, Gavin Zimmer, Thomas Fager, Alec Dembeck, Owen Tunis and Graham Hammond.

p.m. Cost is \$60 for adults for transportation and guided tour. These trips are open to the public and buses depart from the Ocean Pines Community Center. Reservations are required: Ocean Pines Recreation and Parks Department, 410-641-7052.

MEDITATIVE LABYRINTH

St. Paul's by-the-Sea, 302 N. Baltimore Ave., Ocean City, Wednesdays, March 6 through April 10. It will be open from 6-8 p.m., except Ash Wednesday from 7:30-8:30 p.m.

BOOK A LIBRARIAN

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

FREE WELLNESS WORKSHOPS

Free workshops dealing with hypertension, chronic pain self-management, chronic disease self-management, diabetes, fall prevention and cancer. If you would like to register for one of these workshops or you would like more information about bringing any of the workshops to your business or group, contact Jill at MAC, 410-742-0505, Ext. 159.

FORGE FRIDAY

FORGE Youth and Family, 7804 Gumboro Road, Pittsville, every Friday, 6:30-8:30 p.m. This is a contemporary youth and family ministry, designed for kids ages 5-65 years. The program provides a meal, music, games, activities and a life lesson that can be of use to anyone. Info: Rob, 443-366-2813.

'ACHIEVING SURGICAL WEIGHT LOSS SUCCESS' SEMINAR

Atlantic General Bariatric Center Conference Room, 10231 Old Ocean City Blvd., Suite 207, Berlin. Takes place the

first Monday of each month at 1 p.m. This is a free, in-person seminar. Additional opportunities are also available in the form of an online webinar. Register: 410-641-9568.

STAR CHARITIES MONTHLY MEETING

Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 10 a.m., on the first Friday of each month. Anyone interested is welcome. Info: Anna Foulz, 410-641-7667.

FRIDAY NIGHT SERVICES

Temple Bat Yam, 11036 Worcester Highway, Berlin, every Friday, 7:30 p.m. A reform Jewish Synagogue. Info: 410-641-4311.

LEARN MORE ABOUT THE CATHOLIC FAITH

RCIA is a process for individuals, adults and children 8 years and older, who are seeking Baptism. Also for those already baptized in another Christian tradition who want to come into the Catholic Church. Call Rita at 410-289-7038 or come to a session held on Monday evenings at 7 p.m. in the Father Connell Parish Center, 1705 Philadelphia Ave., Ocean City, MD. All are welcome.

AUMC THRIFT SHOP

Atlantic United Methodist Church, 105 Fourth St., Ocean City, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Open Monday through Saturday, year round. Located behind the church with a donation drop off room that is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week. 410-289-4458

WOMEN SUPPORTING WOMEN

Support groups meet the third Wednesday of each month at 1 p.m. at Atlantic General Hospital, 9714 Healthway Drive, Berlin; and the second Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at PRMC Cancer Institute, 11105 Cathage Road, Ocean Pines. 410-548-7880

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.

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NOW HIRING
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AM & PM Shifts
apply in person:
Atrium Café inside
Quality Inn 54th

HELP WANTED

Chairside
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Ocean View, DE
Email Resume:
molarbiz@yahoo.com

HELP WANTED

Yard Work
Full Time, year round position. Berlin-West Ocean City area private residence. Responsibilities include mowing, trimming, weeding, pruning, errands and light handyman chores. Valid driver's license and reliable transportation required. Must be experienced, dependable, trustworthy, and have excellent references.
Call for interview
Monday - Friday,
9am-5pm
410-289-4444 Ext. 117

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All Positions for the
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Call Jeff: 410-524-1300.

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Flexible Hours. Great
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- Maintenance
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• AM Cook
• AM Dishwasher
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Attn: Human Resources Dept.
10100 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, MD 21842
Phone: 410-524-3535 Fax: 410-723-9109
EOE M/F/D/V

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Apply within, or call 410-289-5762
Make sure to check out our job postings on Indeed.com!

ARK Systems
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Manager for the Ocean City
branch to manage installa-
tions and service projects.
Ideal candidate: 5+ years
of supervisory experience
and electronic/electrical
systems background.
For more info and to
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<http://hrstrategygroup.com>
and click on Careers,
then click on the Techni-
cal Manager job posting.

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Call: 302.988.2315, x 0; or email: BaysideRecreation@troon.com

FT/YR SOUS CHEF Apply to Greg Fiore:
GFiore@troon.com

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HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED

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**TOWN OF BERLIN
EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY
DIRECTOR-WATER RESOURCES AND
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The Town of Berlin is in search of a dynamic department head that will supervise and lead these departments. We have a competitive benefits package that includes life, health, dental, vision, enrollment with the Maryland State Retirement Plan and a 457(b) tax deferred savings plan.

Duties: The Department Director oversees the day-to-day operations of the Waste Water Operation, Water Operation, Stormwater Operation and Public Works. The selected individual will coordinate and oversee all operations of these departments. The Director will manage a workforce of 25 personnel between the two departments. The selected candidate will develop and comply with an annual budget for all departments. The Director will provide technical direction and resolve operational issues. The Director will manage complex capital improvement projects from inception through completion. This Department Head also plans, coordinates and administers the Town's recycling program. The Department Director will complete necessary information for grant applications and submittals. The Department Director will take action to resolve departmental, operation and administrative conflicts and issues which are in the best interest of the Town of Berlin and in accordance with State laws.

Requirements: It is preferred that the selected candidate possess a college degree (BA/BS). Minimum requirement is a high school diploma or equivalent with seven (7) years of supervisory experience in a Water Resources/Public Works utility. Selected candidate must possess a valid state issued drivers license, a valid Maryland Water/Wastewater Operator license, Superintendent license and a Storm Water green card.

Cover letter and resume may be mailed to the Town of Berlin or submitted via email to jfleetwood@berlinmd.gov, cover letter **MUST** state salary requirements

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We are seeking to fill a hotel Maintenance position, full time, year round. Experience in hotel or condo maintenance preferred. Competitive pay and excellent benefits.

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**Property Management
Assistant Needed**

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- Professional/Friendly
- Must travel to properties mostly in Ocean Pines and Ocean City.
- Must work most weekends as needed
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- Good clear handwriting

Please fax resumes, letters, references & inquiries to
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Attn: Chris to fax # 410-208-9562

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Full Time - \$14-\$15 per hour

Responsible for providing accounting support to accounting supervisors and other managers within the department. Keys daily worksheets to the general ledger system, ensures files are complete and maintained as needed, handles accounts payable duties, and assists accounting personnel.

Job Tasks and Responsibilities:
Perform accounting and clerical functions to support supervisors.

- Research, track, and resolve accounting problems.
- Compile and sort invoices and checks.
- Issue checks for accounts payable.
- Record business transactions and key daily worksheets to the general ledger system.
- Record charges and refunds.
- Support accounting personnel.
- Input type vouchers, invoices, checks, account statements, reports, and other records.
- Provide front desk customer service.
- File and tally deposits.
- Work with adding machines, calculators, databases and bank accounts.
- Match invoices to work orders.
- Process bills for payment.
- Open mail and match payments to invoices.
- Arrange for money to be delivered to bank.
- Utilize computer systems to run databases, pay bills and order supplies.
- Contact individuals with delinquent accounts.
- Ensure customers accept payments or refunds.

Email Resume to: dunkindonutjobs@gmail.com -
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PGN Crabhouse
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Applicant must be detail oriented and computer literate, proficient in Excel, Word & Publisher. Sales CRM experience a plus. Exceptional people skills, professional phone & email etiquette a must. Excellent benefits, working conditions and salary (commensurate with experience). Qualified applicants only, forward resume with salary requirements to:

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EOE M/F/D/V

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For Sale by Owner: 11207 West Marie Drive, Bishopville. \$379,500. 4BR, 3.5BA. 3057 sq. ft. A TRUE GEM! Sat. 3/23, 1pm - 4pm. No Berlin Taxes!

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Self-Storage Units on Route 50. 100 sq. ft., 150 sq. ft., and 250 sq. ft. Call Bill, 301-537-5391.

Warehouse (Lrg.) For Rent - 11212 Gum Point Rd., Berlin, MD \$1,200 per month. Call 410-430-9797.

2 Office/Retail Spaces & 3 Warehouse Units available in West Ocean City. Call 443-497-4200.

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LOST RINGS - 14k gold pear shaped diamond engagement ring w/enhancer. Sterling silver ring w/amethyst colored stone. Lost in Ocean Pines Community Center parking lot. Please call Charlotte 703-590-3589 if found.

YARD SALE

Indoor & Outdoor Garage Sale. Sat, 3/23, 7am-12pm. Décor, furniture, appliances, household items, clothing. 24 Lookout Point, Ocean Pines.

Downsizing.. Inside & Outside Tag Sale... Furniture, antiques, glassware, old farm items, some "yard sale" items! 9921 Main St., Berlin. March 22 & 23, 9am-6pm.

DONATIONS

Do you have an old bicycle not being used? It could mean a world of difference to a hard-working international student. We are looking to get as many bikes as possible. Your donation will be tax-deductible. Contact Gary at 443-975-3065.

AUCTIONS

The contents of mini storage units will be sold at public auction. Units to be auctioned; B7, B11, B12, B52, B55, B97, O29, O115, O164, O55, O69, O134, O165, S69, S73, S110, S117, S119, S152, S180, S185, S405, S713, S776. Units are being sold due to non-payment of rent. Common items in units are, household items, furniture, tools, fishing equipment, paintings, antique and vintage items.

Date: Saturday, March 30th
Time: NEW TIME 10 AM
#1 Starts at Berlin Mini Storage: Route 346
#2 Continues at OC Mini Storage: Route 50
#3 Finishes at OC Mini Storage: Route 611
Terms: CASH ONLY!
Auctioneer: Tom Janasek

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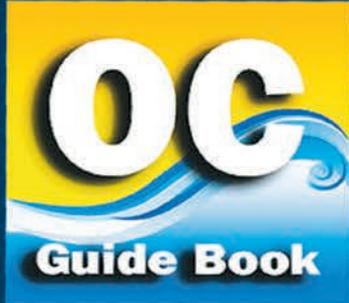
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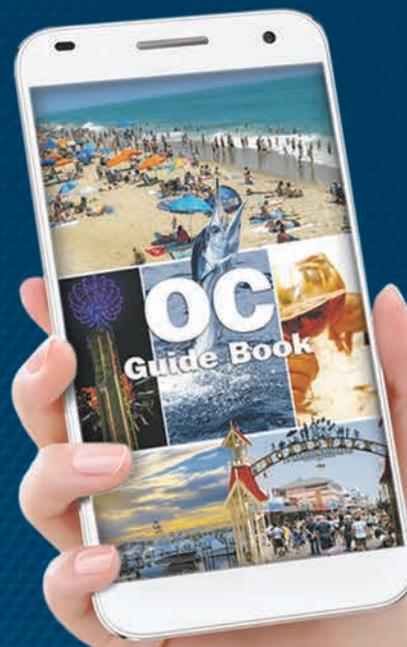
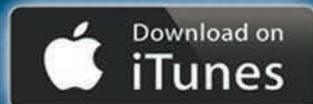
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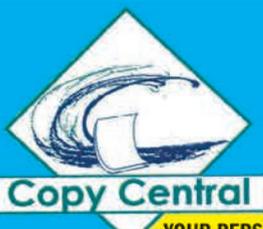
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Sat. & Sun. 11-2pm	Muirfield Lane., River Run	3-4BR/2-3.5BA	Single Family	\$399,900-\$479,900	Ed Wehnert/Coldwell Banker
Thurs-Mon 11-4pm	9801 Mooring View Lane, Unit 33, OC	3BR/2.5BA	Duplex/Townhouse	From \$299,900	Kathleen Clark/Monogram Realty
Saturday 10am-1pm	5 Locust Court, Ocean Pines	4 BR/3BA	Single Family	\$259,900	Julie Woulfe/Shamrock Realty Group
Sat & Sun 11am-2pm	710 94Th Street Unit #106, Ocean City	3BR/2BA	Townhouse	\$289,900	Dan O'Hare/Berkshire Hathaway PenFed Realty
Saturday 11am-2pm	28 Grand Port Road, Ocean Pines	3BR/2BA	Single Family	\$524,900	Mark Decker/Berkshire Hathaway PenFed Realty
Sat & Sun 11am-2pm	83 Clubhouse Drive, Ocean Pines	4BR/3BA	Single Family	\$465,900	John Houk/Berkshire Hathaway PenFed Realty
Saturday 11am-2pm	132 Park Side Circle, Berlin	4BR/3.5BA	Single Family	\$424,900	LaTerra Wise/Berkshire Hathaway PenFed Realty
Sunday 11am-2pm	827 Little John Drive, Salisbury	3BR/3BA	Single Family	\$228,900	Mark Decker/Berkshire Hathaway PenFed Realty



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