

Berlin Community News

Volume 26, Issue 2
Winter, 2014-2015

Mayor & Council of Berlin, MD

CODE RED EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION SYSTEM

The Town of Berlin is excited to announce the launch of its new notification system, CodeRED.

Citizens and businesses are encouraged to visit the Town website at www.berlinmd.gov and click on the CodeRED logo to sign-up. From there individuals will be able to select what type of messages they want to receive, whether by phone, email or text, or a combination of methods. They will also be able to register multiple phone numbers or email addresses.

Anyone with any questions, or those who would like assistance with registering are encouraged to contact Deputy Town Administrator Mary Bohlen at 410-641-4314 or mbohlen@berlinmd.gov.

Winter Events in Berlin

November

November 28 - Tree Lighting & Holiday Arts Night

5:30-9 PM. This year's "Coolest Christmas" starts on Friday, November 28th with the Annual Tree Lighting at 5:30 PM in front of the Atlantic Hotel. Following the tree-lighting, festivities will include world-renowned ice sculptor Erik Cantine demonstrating his art on Main Street at 6:00 PM.

Holiday Arts Night includes local artists' works on display throughout the downtown merchants.

December

December 1—Classical Christmas

Berlin Heritage Foundation Concert and Dinner. Two dinner seatings at the Atlantic Hotel and concert at the Museum. Seating is limited and reservations are required. The 6 PM dinner begins at the hotel and is followed by the concert at the museum. This early dinner seating costs \$50.00 per person. The 8 PM dinner seating begins at the museum with a 6:30 PM concert followed by

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World-renowned ice sculptor Erik Cantine will be featured during Holiday Arts Night on Nov. 28th.

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Town Holidays and Refuse Collection Schedule

Town offices will be closed on the following holidays. Trash/recycling pickup will be re-scheduled as follows:

Thursday & Friday, November 27 & 28. Thanksgiving. If your normal trash day would be Thursday, November 27 or Friday, November 28, your trash will be collected on Wednesday, November 26. There will be no recycling collection on Friday, November 28.

Wednesday & Thursday, December 24 & 25. Christmas. Town offices close at noon on Wednesday, December 24. Normal collection schedule for Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of that week. If trash is normally collected on Thursday, it will be collected on Friday, December 26, along with regular trash and recycling collection for that day.

Wednesday & Thursday, December 31 & January 1. New Year. Town offices close at noon on Wednesday, December 31. Normal collection schedule for Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of that week. If trash is normally collected on Thursday, it will be collected on Friday, January 2, along with regular trash and recycling collection for that day.

Curbside Live-cut Christmas Tree Collection. Wednesdays, January 7 & 14. Trees must be at the curb by 7 AM and free of ALL decorations.

Monday, January 19 & Monday, February 16. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day and President’s Day. There will be no recycling collection.

REMINDER: Trash/recycling must be at the curb by 6 AM ; items placed later may not be collected. It is acceptable to place items the night before.

Sun Award

On October 9th, Worcester Youth and Family Counseling in Berlin held their Annual Celebration. This year the Town of Berlin was honored with a Sun Award to recognize their ongoing support of the many programs held at the community resource center, most notably the continued financial support of the Berlin Youth Club. The BYC has offered free recreational and service themed activities to children living in the Town of Berlin for over four years. Anyone interested in the program can contact Melanie Windsor, Youth Project Coordinator at mwindsor@gowoyo.org.



l-r-Councilmember Elroy Brittingham, Councilmember Dean Burrell, Mayor Gee Williams, Councilmember Lisa Hall, Chief of Police Arnold Downing, Youth Coordinator Melanie Windsor, Town Administrator Laura Allen, Worcester Youth and Family Counseling Executive Director Steve Taylor.



FALL 2014 YARD WASTE COLLECTIONS

Please see below for information about what will be collected and what dates apply to your neighborhood.

If your <u>NORMAL TRASH DAY</u> is	Then your <u>YARD WASTE PICKUP DAY</u> will be
Tuesday or Wednesday	Wednesday, December 3
Thursdays	Wednesday, December 10

Collection is for residential properties only; commercial and industrial properties are not included. Regular household garbage is not part of these collections. Items should be at the curb by 6:00 AM; materials placed for pickup at any other time may not be collected.

YARD WASTE COLLECTION

DO:

Place leaves, grass clippings, pine needles and cones, and garden waste in a paper bag, plastic bag, or (maximum) 30 gallon container.

Cut brush into 4 ft. lengths and bundles no larger than 18 inches in diameter.

DON'T:

Mix in stones, rocks, metal, other inorganic matter, dirt, sod or other materials.

For more information about acceptable items for either collection, please call the Public Works Department at 410-641-4001 or email Public Works Superintendent Wendell Purnell at wpurnell@berlinmd.gov.



Winter Events (Continued from page 1)

dinner at the hotel. This later dinner seating costs \$60.00 per person. For more information, please call 410-641-1019.

December 4 - Annual Christmas Parade

7-9 PM. Join us for "America's Coolest Christmas" parade down Main Street. Marching Bands, floats, and, of course, you-know-who's first Berlin appearance of the season. Fun for all!

New this year: Park and Ride! Avoid the hunt for a parking space downtown and enjoy our free shuttle service from Berlin Intermediate School. See details page 6.

December 5, 12 & 19- Candlelight Tour

Taylor Museum. 5-8 PM. The museum will be open every Friday night through the month of December for a special candlelight tour of the decorated downstairs.

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Berlin Fire Cadets
ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT
SPAGHETTI DINNER
with **Santa**



Saturday, December 20, 2014
 Berlin Fire Hall, Main Street
Salad, Bread, Beverages & Bake Table
 Dinner: 4 - 7 p.m. Santa: 5 - 7 p.m.
Bring your Camera!
Adults: \$7 • Kids: \$4 (age 10 & under)
Tickets available in advance or at the door
Proceeds to benefit
Berlin Fire Co. Cadet Program

Berlin Fire Company's
ALL-U-CAN-EAT
Breakfast Buffet



Sundays: 7:30 - 11:30 a.m.
(or until Sold Out!)

2014 October 12 November 9 December 14	2015 January 18 February 22 March 15
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Berlin Fire Hall
 Adults: \$9.00 • Carry-outs: \$7.00
 Children (5-12 years): \$5.00 - Children under 5 eat free!
- Menu -
Pancakes, Scrambled Eggs, Bacon, Sausage, Hash Browns, Biscuits, Cereals, Coffee, Milk & Juice

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December 6 - Taylor House Museum Wassail & Gingerbread

Visit the Museums of Worcester County Holiday Traditions Days. Enjoy wassail and gingerbread and tour the Taylor House Museum’s decorated downstairs rooms and our other exhibits throughout the house.

December 12, - 2nd Friday Art Stroll

5-8 PM. Downtown Berlin. Visit the many shops displaying local artists’ works.

December 13 & 20—Taylor House Museum Tours

1-4 PM.

December 31 - New Year’s Eve Ball Drop

10 PM - 12:30 AM. Downtown Berlin. Welcome in 2015 with Berlin’s very own Ball Drop!

Every Weekend through December

Santa Claus visits Berlin

Scenic Horse & Carriage Rides

For more information about Berlin’s Victorian Christmas, please visit www.BerlinMainStreet.org.

January 9, February 13, March 13

2nd Friday Art Strolls

Berlin Hits Tourism Awards Trifecta

America’s Coolest Small Town recognized with three awards at Tourism and Travel Summit

(November 18, 2014) --- The Town of Berlin was the focal point of three awards at the Maryland Tourism and Travel Summit held last week in Ocean City, announced Mayor Gee Williams.

Berlin was recognized as having the Best Social Media Campaign by the Maryland Tourism Council for its drive to become America’s Coolest Small Town. The Berlin’s Coolest Small Town win was also highlighted in the Visit Maryland Award given by the Maryland Office of Tourism to Worcester County Department of Tourism Director Lisa Challenger. The Visit Maryland Award is granted to individuals and businesses that elevate Maryland’s image as a tourism destination.

“Our partnerships continue to keep us cool,” said Mayor Gee Williams. “We could not have won these awards without the support of the Worcester County Office of Tourism, especially Director Lisa Challenger. She nominated us for the Budget Travel contest. She was the catalyst,” he added.

In addition, Berlin figured prominently in the Best Product or Event Award given to the Horses at the Beach, a horse history trail designed to preserve Maryland’s equine history. Spearheaded by Angela Reynolds, Managing Director at Hotels at Fager’s Island, and a volunteer on the Department of Agriculture’s Horse Industry Board’s Horse History Committee, Horses at the Beach is the first horse history trail in the state, with several locations in Berlin.

“Congratulations to Lisa and Angela on a job well done,” said Mayor Williams. “I am proud of the work they’ve done to enhance the economy of our community. They are helping co-create an even brighter future,” he added.



BERLIN CHRISTMAS PARADE

Free Shuttle Service

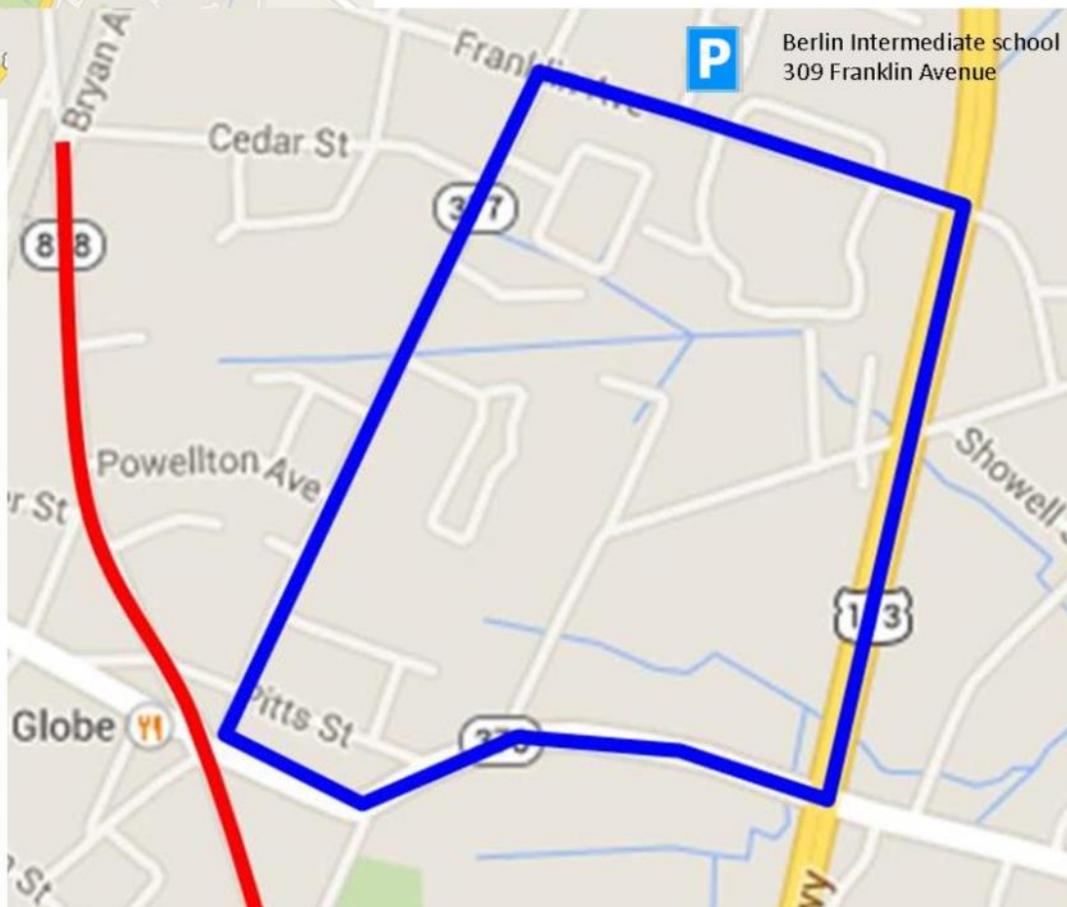
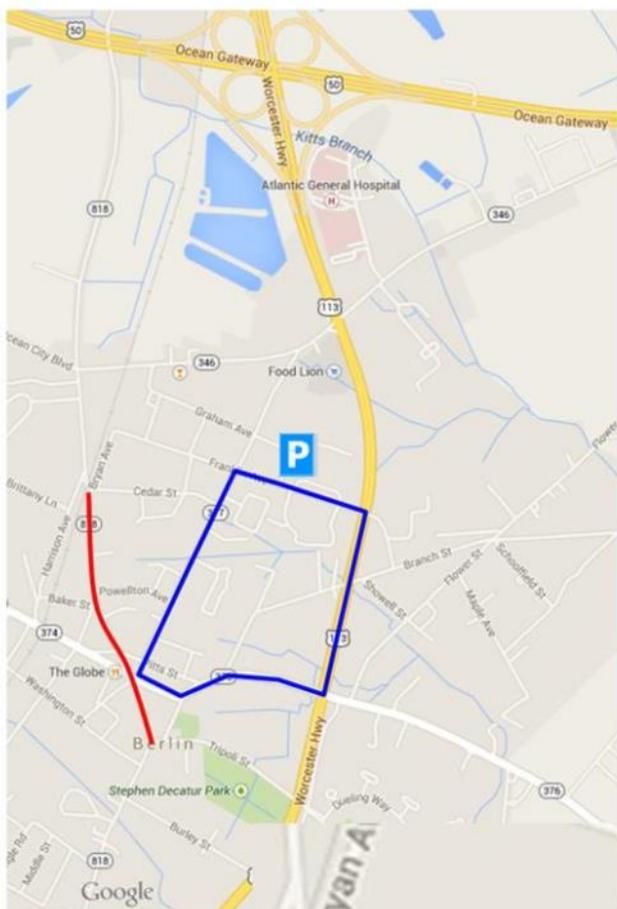
Thursday, December 4, 2014

Shuttles will run approximately every 10-15 minutes from the Berlin Intermediate School parking lot to downtown from 5:45-7:15 PM and then from 8:45-9:30 PM.

P Designated Parking area for FREE shuttle to downtown.

| Parade Route—closed to all traffic from 6:00 PM to end of parade (approx. 9 PM)

| Shuttle Route



Christmas Light Safety

Safely Using and Storing Christmas and Other Holiday Lights (reprinted from firstaid.about.com)

Christmas lights are beautiful and much safer than candles, but all that electricity can cause problems if not used properly. Christmas lights can get hot enough to burn or ignite other decorations. The cords can fray, leading to a short. Decorating with lights often requires the use of a ladder, and improper use could lead to an injury. Practice ladder safety when you are putting up Christmas lights.

When you put up Christmas lights this season - or holiday lights during any season - be sure to follow these Christmas light safety tips.

- * Choose Christmas lights that have been tested and deemed safe by a reputable testing laboratory, the best are UL or ETL. Christmas lights listed as safe by these laboratories will note that on the packaging.
- * Try to use the cooler-burning "mini" Christmas lights as opposed to the traditional larger bulbs. The older style burns much hotter.
- * Only use Christmas lights that have fuses in the plugs.
- * Inspect each set of Christmas lights - old or new - for damage. Return or throw out any set with cracked or broken sockets, frayed or bare wires, or loose connections.
- * Replace burned out bulbs promptly with bulbs of the same wattage.
- * Never hang Christmas lights on a metal tree. The tree can become charged with electricity and shock someone. The tree can also short out the Christmas lights and cause a fire.
- * Want Christmas lights outdoors? Use outdoor

Christmas lights. The packaging will note whether the lights can be used indoors, outdoors, or both.

- * All outdoor electrical decorations should be plugged into a ground-fault circuit interrupter (GFCI). You can buy portable units for outdoor use, or you can have them permanently installed by an electrician.
- * Use extension cords properly. Outdoor cords can be used inside or outside. Do not overload extension cords - they can get hot enough to burn.
- * Stay away from power lines or feeder lines (these go from the pole to the house).
- * Secure outside Christmas lights with insulated holders (never use tacks or nails) or run strings of lights through hooks.
- * When you leave or go to bed at night, turn off your Christmas lights.
- * Never pull on a string of Christmas lights, it stresses the cords and can lead to fraying. Store Christmas lights loosely wrapped for the same reason.

Town Meetings Schedule

All meetings are held at Town Hall, 10 William Street.

Meeting schedule subject to change.

Council Meetings- 2nd & 4th Mondays at 7 PM.

Parks Commission—1st Tuesdays at 5:30 PM

Historic District Commission – 1st Wednesdays at 5:30 PM

Board of Zoning Appeals – 1st Wednesdays at 7 PM

Planning Commission – 2nd Wednesdays at 6 PM

Subscribe to the Berlin Community News

The *Berlin Community News* is available online, via email, or postal mail. If you would like to have the newsletter delivered directly to you, either in paper or electronic form, please let us know! Call 410-641-4314, or email info@berlinmd.gov.

You do not have to be a Berlin resident to subscribe.

We're on the web! www.berlinmd.gov



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Town of Berlin, Maryland

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