

Berlin Community News

Volume 27, Issue 4 Summer, 2016

Mayor & Council of Berlin, MD Summer Events



#### Saturday, June 18

*Little Mister and Miss Peach Pageant 5 p.m.* Downtown at Jefferson Street

Pageant to crown the 2016 Little Mister and Miss Peach. Open to Worcester County children ages 4-7. All participants must register no later than Friday, June 17th at 4:00 p.m. For more information, call 410-629-1716.

## Saturday, June 18 Outdoor Movie Night - Movies on Main Street 8:30 p.m.

Downtown at Jefferson Street

"Tuck Everlasting". Free and fun for the whole family, this is the first of six outdoor movie nights to be held downtown and in Stephen Decatur and Henry Parks this summer. Bring a chair and snacks (alcohol prohibited) and enjoy this showing of "Tuck Everlasting" right where much of it was filmed in downtown Berlin. Movies sponsored by the Berlin Arts and Entertainment Committee and the Berlin Parks Commission and funded in part by the Worcester County Arts Council.



#### Saturday, July 2

# *Outdoor Movie Night - Movies in the Park* 8:30 p.m.

Stephen Decatur Park

"Wizard of Oz". Free. Bring a chair or blanket and snacks (alcohol prohibited) and enjoy the second of six free outdoor movies for summer 2016.

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# Berlin Establishes Tweak Our Peak Program

#### Voluntary program saves customers money

The Town of Berlin Electric Utility is launching its Tweak Our Peak program on June 6, 2016, to reduce energy consumption and costs, announced Mayor Gee Williams.

"Tweak Our Peak is a voluntary energy conservation program that encourages limited energy usage, especially during peak times. The program saves the Electric Utility and its customers money," said Mayor Williams. "With a little extra effort, everyone will be better off," he added.

"Peak times are when our electric utility is purchasing wholesale power at the highest prices. By cutting back on the amount of wholesale power purchased during these peak, high-priced periods, we can reduce our total wholesale power costs," said Town Administrator Laura Allen. "Reductions in wholesale power costs are

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# Berlin Chamber of Commerce News

Join Us for the 27th Annual Bathtub Races on Main Street in Downtown Berlin July 15 from 6 to 8 p.m.! The Bathtub Parade starts promptly at 6pm. The friendly, yet competitive race is open to anyone who wants to compete. Businesses are strongly encouraged to participate – it is an excellent way to advertise while having fun at the same time!

#### RULES:

- $\Rightarrow$  Driver and Rider must be 16 years of age or older
- $\Rightarrow$  Wheels may be no larger than 26 inches
- $\Rightarrow$  Bathtub must have brakes and steering
- $\Rightarrow$  There must be at least one rider (helmet required)
- $\Rightarrow$  No more than one person can push (closed toe shoes required)
- ⇒ Bathtub must hold a minimum of 2 gallons of water
- $\Rightarrow$  There is no limit to the number of wheels
- $\Rightarrow$  Businesses may advertise on the sides of their bathtub

- ⇒ Tub must be under control of a pusher at all times and may not be released until tub has come to a complete stop
- ⇒ Crossing the yellow line during the races will result in disqualification of that heat

Besides the illustrious "Winner Takes All" trophy and year-long bragging rights, first place will take home a free banner ad on the Chamber's Website (\$400 value).

So pick out your Pit Crew, Driver and Pusher and start building!

There is a \$75.00 entry fee per tub for Berlin Chamber members and \$100.00 for non-members, payable via cash, credit card or check to the Berlin, Maryland Chamber of Commerce.

HEAT SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE! Sponsor a heat and have your business mentioned before and during the race as well as in various press releases.

For more information, please contact the Chamber Office at (410) 641-4775. Make sure to check back frequently for up to date information regarding the event.

## **Monthly Chamber Business After Hours**

The Berlin Chamber of Commerce hosts its monthly Business After Hours every 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month,

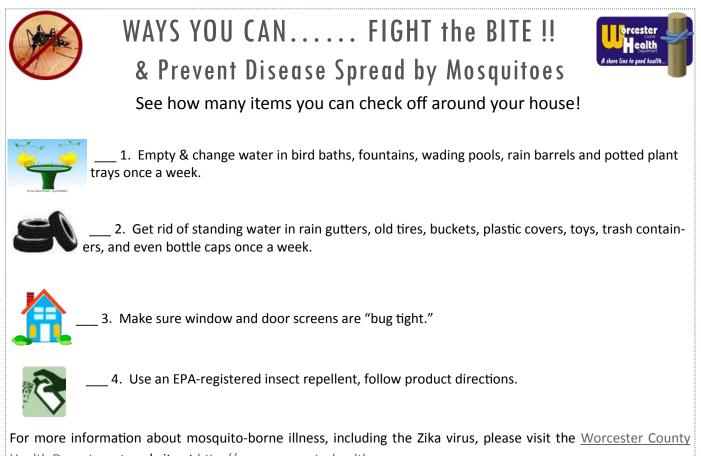
beginning at 5:30 p.m. While the Chamber is already a great networking tool for expanding your business and clientele, these events serve as a gathering of members not only in our Chamber, but Chambers around the area, and an opportunity to collaborate on the expansion and diversification of their businesses. The location changes from month to month, so be sure to check the Chamber website at <u>berlinchamber.org</u>, or call the Chamber office at (410) 641-4775.



Berlin Electric challenges Cropper, Inc./Burley Oak in 2015



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Health Department website at http://www.worcesterhealth.org

# Town Holidays and Refuse Collection Schedule

Because Town offices will be closed on the following holidays, trash/recycling pickup will be re-scheduled as follows:

Monday, July 4 Memorial Day. There will be no recycling collection.

Monday, September 5 Labor Day. There will be no recycling collection

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



# 2016 Municipal Election Schedule

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The Berlin Board of Supervisors of Elections has announced the following schedule for the upcoming 2016 Municipal Election for Mayor and Council seats in Districts 2 and 3.

Please note: For all filing deadlines listed below items must be received by the date/time indicated. Postmark will not be accepted

<u>Voter Registration Deadline</u>: Friday, September 2, 2016. Voters must be registered with the Worcester County Board of Elections. Forms can be picked up at Town Hall and many other public locations. For more information visit the Maryland State website at <u>http://www.elections.state.md.us/voter registration/</u> or call the Worcester County Board at 410-632-1320.

<u>Candidate Filing</u>: 5:00 PM, Friday, Monday, September 2, 2016 for regular filing. (see "Write-In Filing" below)

<u>Absentee Voting</u>: Applications to vote absentee will be available starting Tuesday, September 6, 2016. The following are the deadlines to apply:

- To apply by mail: Deadline is Tuesday, September 27, 2016.
- To apply in person at Town Hall: Deadline is 5:00 PM, Friday, September 30, 2016

Absentee Ballots will be accepted up to 7:00 PM on Election Day.

<u>Write-In Candidate Filing (name will not appear</u> <u>on ballot)</u>: 5:00 PM, Tuesday, September 27, 2016.

<u>Election Day</u>: Tuesday, October 4, 2016, 7:00 AM-7:00 PM.

Polling Places: Districts 1 & 2 Voters: Buckingham Presbyterian Church, 20 S. Main Street.

Districts 3 & 4: Multi-Purpose Building on Flower Street, next to the Head Start Center.

Anyone with any questions regarding Berlin's 2016 Election should contact Administrative Services Director, Mary Bohlen at 410-641-4314 or <u>mbohlen@berlinmd.gov</u>.

# BERLIN ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT NEWS

Welcome to our new businesses! Brooklyn Baking Barons (now open), Gilbert's Provisions (opening soon) and Patty Jeans Boutique (now open), Berlin Butcher Shoppe (opening soon). Berlin Farm Supply has re-opened under new management.

Don't forget the Farmers Market at Urban Nectar every Thursday from 3 pm – 6 pm and a new Farmers Market on Fridays from 4 pm – 7 pm in the parking lot of the Tractor Supply Company.

Like us on Facebook: Town of Berlin

Follow us on Twitter: BerlinMD and

Sign up for event emails at: www.BerlinMainStreet.com

Follow us on Instagram: BerlinMainStreet

Congratulations to the Church Mouse Thrift Shop celebrating 50 years of service to the community.

Congratulations to our Berlin Chamber of Commerce as they celebrate 30 years. Join them on June 16th for a celebration at the Visitor's Center at 5:30 p.m. with refreshments and live music.



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Tweak our Peak (Continued from page 1)

passed through to the customers in the Power Cost Adjustment (PCA)" she added.

The demand for electricity in the summer months is highest during extremely hot temperatures; typically, the peak period is from 2 p.m.– 6 p.m. Demand in the winter months is greatest during extreme cold temperatures, especially between the peak periods of 7 a.m. –10 a.m. and 7 p.m.–10 p.m.

"We should know about 24 hours in advance of an upcoming peak. We'll use a combination of the CodeRED system, press releases, our website and social media to get the word out along with a request to reduce energy consumption," stated Ms. Allen.

"It is in everyone's interest to use energy resources wisely," stated Electric Utility Director Tim Lawrence. "We encourage our customers to examine their energy use and take steps to conserve on a regular basis. At times of peak electricity use, it's even more important to conserve," he added.

Steps customers can take to reduce their energy usage include: shut off lights when not needed; unplug small appliances and electric chargers (especially those with small lights); set the thermostat as high in the summer and as low in the winter as comfortable; cover drafty windows; turn off televisions, computers, radios, and other electronic devices when not being used; and do laundry and other household chores requiring electricity during non-peak hours.

"As a community-owned electric system, it is important that we work together to keep our electric rates as low as possible," said Mayor Williams. "Our customers have the opportunity to make a difference in their system and their electric charges by conserving energy during peak periods. These small steps can really add up," he added. Events (Continued from page 1)

#### Sunday, July 3 Fireworks 9 p.m.

Join us for Berlin's Independence Day Celebration! Fireworks will originate at Berlin Falls and will be visible throughout Town. Sponsored by the Town of Berlin and Burley Oak Brewing Company.

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#### Friday, July 8 2nd Friday Art Stroll 5 p.m. – 8 p.m. Downtown

Come stroll the streets and businesses of downtown Berlin. Enjoy the works of featured artists and musicians.

# Sunday, July 10 Free Concert on the Lawn 6 p.m.

Taylor House Museum

Annapolis Bluegrass. Bring a chair and a picnic and enjoy a free concert on the Museum Lawn. Sponsored by the Berlin Heritage Foundation.

#### Friday, July 15 Berlin Bathtub Races 6 p.m. – 8 p.m. Downtown

See article, page 2.

# Saturday, July 16 Outdoor Movie Night - Movies in the Park 8:30 p.m.

Dr. William Henry Park

"Finding Nemo". Free. Bring a chair or blanket and snacks (alcohol prohibited) and enjoy the third of six free outdoor movies for summer 2016.

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Summer Events (Continued from page 5)

# Saturday, July 30 Outdoor Movie Night - Movies in the Park 8:30 p.m.

Stephen Decatur Park

"Princess Bride". Free. Bring a chair or blanket and snacks (alcohol prohibited) and enjoy the fourth of six free outdoor movies for summer 2016.



Saturday, August 6 Berlin Peach Festival & Heritage Fair 11 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Taylor House Museum & Downtown

This year the annual Peach Festival and Heritage Fair will both be on Saturday, August 6 - something for everyone!

The Peach Festival is Berlin's annual community festival featuring everything PEACH! Pie-eating and pie-baking contests, craft demonstrations, exhibits, games, vendors of handcrafted items, food and music. Sponsored by the Berlin Heritage Foundation and Berlin Main Street. Rain date is Sunday, August 7.

The Heritage Fair invites you to come check out Berlin's history by strolling Main Street to view classic and vintage cars and artisans' works. Beer and wine, and a special peach brew from Burley Oak will be featured. Sponsored by Berlin Main Street and Pat Diniar.

Friday-Sunday, August 12-14 Summer Sidewalk Sale Downtown shops offering great deals.

# Saturday, August 13 Outdoor Movie Night - Movies in the Park 8:30 p.m.

Dr. William Henry Park

"The Goonies". Free. Bring a chair or blanket and snacks (alcohol prohibited) and enjoy the fifth of six free outdoor movies for summer 2016.

# Sunday, August 14 Free Concert on the Lawn 6 p.m.

Taylor House Museum

Chesapeake Brass Band. Bring a chair and a picnic and enjoy a free concert on the Museum Lawn.

**Berlin Community News** 

# Saturday, August 27 Outdoor Movie Night - Movies on Main Street 8:30 p.m.

Downtown at Jefferson Street

"Runaway Bride". Free. The final showing for summer 2016. Bring a chair or blanket and snacks (alcohol prohibited) and enjoy the movie for which Berlin is best known.



# Sunday, September 4 Shakespeare on Main Street 7:30 p.m.

Downtown at Pitts & Main Streets

"Cymbeline". The Brown Box Theatre's performance of Shakespeare has become an annual tradition. Please bring your own chair. Sponsored by Berlin Main Street.

**Saturday, September 10 Touch A Truck Day 10:00 a.m. – Noon** Stephen Decatur Park

Rescheduled from the spring, enjoy demonstrations of the use of many vehicles from the Electric, Water Resources, Public Works, Police and Fire departments. Exhibitions by all departments and K-9. Great fun for all ages, educational and free.

## Sunday, September 11 Free Concert on the Lawn 6 p.m.

Taylor House Museum

Performer TBA. Bring a chair and a picnic and enjoy a free concert on the Museum Lawn.



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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.

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 p.m.

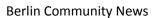
Parks Commission - 1st Tuesdays at 5:30 p.m.

<u>Historic District Commission</u> - 1st Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m.

<u>Board of Appeals</u> - 1st Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. (as needed)

<u>Planning</u> Commission - 2nd Wednesdays at 6 p.m.

<u>Board of Elections Supervisors</u> - Schedule varies. Check website.



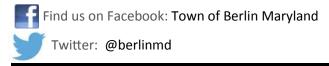
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Vol. 27, Issue 4: Summer 2016

A community newsletter published four times annually by the Mayor and Council of the Town of Berlin.

> Mayor: Wm. Gee Williams, III Council: Elroy Brittingham, Sr. Dean Burrell Thom Gulyas Lisa Hall Troy Purnell Town Administrator: Laura Allen

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





## **Keeping Citizens Informed**

**Uses** The CodeRED<sup>®</sup> system is used to send important notifications to residents and businesses in the Town.

**Join Our Database** To make sure you receive notifications, please register at <u>www.berlinmd.gov</u> and click on the CodeRED logo in the upper corner. You can select to receive messages by phone, email, or text, or any combination. TTY communication for the hearing-impaired is also available.

**Privacy** Your contact information remains private and will only be used for community notifications.

**Need assistance?** Please call Town Hall at 410-641-2770 and we will be glad to help you get signed up.