

# The Oceanport Bulletin

1920-2020



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**BOROUGH CLERK**  
Jeanne Smith

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FEBRUARY/MARCH 2022

## Mayor's Message

Well, we've had several snowstorms this winter and our Department of Public Works has, once again, been more than equal to the task of keeping our streets as clean and safe as possible. Here's hoping that we've seen the last of the snow and that we can begin the process of spring cleanup as soon as possible. If you are looking for a great way to say goodbye to winter and get your fix of carbohydrates at the same time, the Boy Scouts' annual spaghetti dinner, which was not held in December because of the pandemic, has been rescheduled for April 1, 2022 from 5:30 pm to 8:00 pm at the Port Au Peck Firehouse. This is always a fantastic event for the people of Oceanport to rub elbows (from six feet away) with each other in a relaxed atmosphere, and the Scouts always do a fantastic job of making sure everybody has a belly full of pasta before they leave. If you are lucky, you might be waited on by Oceanport's latest Eagle Scout, Aidan Weiss. On February 5th, this incredible young man became the latest in a long line of incredible young men from Oceanport to achieve the status of Eagle Scout. If you've noticed a few new, free mini-libraries about town, they are the fruits of Aidan's Eagle Scout project this past year. Those of us who are old enough to still read books thank you, Aidan!

Although you won't find it in one of the mini-libraries, a most interesting read will be FMERA's "MEGA-RFP" document that is expected to be issued shortly. Notwithstanding the fact that submission date for the "MEGA-RFP" (which is essentially comprised of all of the unsold land in Oceanport and Eatontown east of Route 35 on the Main Post) has been delayed until late May, redevelopment on Fort Monmouth is proceeding apace. Construction has begun on the Lodging District just north of the old officer's quarters and on Barker Circle on Oceanport Avenue. The Lodging District project is slated for approximately 143 high end, town home style units which will be offered for sale and 37 affordable housing rental units as required by statute. Barker Circle, which is comprised of 5 barrack-like buildings, the old firehouse and the old movie house, has also begun its transformation into active living and working space. Four of the barrack-like buildings are being converted into 75 residential units, 60 of which will be offered for sale as condominium units and 15 of which will be rental affordable housing units as required under the FMERA statute. The old fire house is going to be redeveloped and renovated as a restaurant and the old movie house will become art space. The Fort Athletic Club is up and running and Denholtz Properties has demolished all of the buildings that are not going to be repurposed in the Warehouse and Post Office parcels. Once again, I

*(MAYOR'S MESSAGE continued on page 3)*

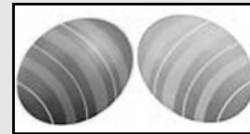
## Calendar of Events

### February

- 1 ..... Quarterly Property Taxes Due
- 3 ..... Mayor & Council Meeting
- 8 ..... Planning Board Meeting
- 9 ..... Parks & Recreation Committee Meeting
- 14..... Happy Valentine's Day
- 14..... Environmental Advisory Committee Meeting
- 14 ..... Water Watch Committee Meeting
- 16 ..... Oceanport Board of Education Meeting
- 17 ..... Mayor & Council Meeting
- 21 ..... Borough Offices Closed in  
..... Observation of Presidents' Day
- 22 ..... Planning Board Meeting
- 24 ..... Shore Regional Board of Education Meeting

### March

- 3 ..... Mayor & Council Meeting
- 8 ..... Planning Board Meeting
- 9 ..... Parks & Recreation Committee Meeting
- 13 ..... Daylight Savings Time Begins
- 14..... Environmental Advisory Committee Meeting
- 14 ..... Water Watch Committee Meeting
- 16 ..... Oceanport Board of Education Meeting
- 17 ..... Mayor & Council Meeting
- 17 ..... Shore Regional Board of Education Meeting
- 22 ..... Planning Board Meeting



### April

- 1 ..... Oceanport Boy Scout Troop 58  
..... Annual Spaghetti Dinner
- 7..... Mayor & Council Meeting
- 9 ..... Easter Egg Scramble (Raindate 4/10)
- 11..... Environmental Advisory Committee Meeting
- 11 ..... Water Watch Committee Meeting
- 12 ..... Planning Board Meeting
- 13 ..... Parks & Recreation Committee Meeting
- 21..... Mayor & Council Meeting
- 26 ..... Planning Board Meeting

### Recycling

- Zone 1 ..... First and Third Wednesday of the Month
- Zone 2..... First and Third Thursday of the Month

# COMMUNITY NEWS

## BULK & METAL SPECIAL PICKUPS NOW SCHEDULED ONLINE!

To schedule a special pickup for metal or bulk items, please use the "Citizen Request" button at [oceanportboro.com](http://oceanportboro.com) and you will be notified by email of the first available collection date.

Just a reminder bulk items are furniture, carpeting, mattresses, etc. if bundled correctly. Please note bulk items are limited to three items (bundles, bags, etc.) no matter the size. Building materials are NOT considered bulk. Building materials are anything used to construct the home such as cabinets, vanities, sheetrock, tile, wood, windows, doors, etc. Construction debris, wood, windows or doors will NOT be collected and cannot be placed at the curb with your bulk. Contractors are responsible for the removal and disposal of their debris. Items shall not be placed at the curb until dusk the night preceding your scheduled collection date but MUST be at the curb by 7:00 AM on the day of the scheduled pick-up.

### Metal Pickups Are Mondays

Appliances, tires, and metal will also be picked up by the Oceanport Public Works Department. To schedule a metal pickup follow the same procedure noted above through [oceanportboro.com](http://oceanportboro.com), call (732) 222-8221 or email [publicworks@oceanportboro.com](mailto:publicworks@oceanportboro.com). Please item(s) at the curb by Sunday evening.

## Overnight Parking Ban Reminder

Please be aware overnight parking on Borough streets is prohibited when the streets are covered in snow – whenever snow has fallen, and the accumulation is such that it covers the streets. The parking prohibition shall remain in effect after the snow has ceased until the streets have been plowed sufficiently and to the extent that parking will not interfere with the normal flow of traffic.

## Summer Action Camp News!

The Parks and Recreation Committee is happy to announce Action Camp will run this summer from June 27 – July 29 from 9:00 am – 12:00 pm for grades Kindergarten through 7th. \$300 for the five week session. Applications available on at [oceanportboro.com](http://oceanportboro.com) on May 1st. Numbers may be limited so early registration is encouraged.

## PLEASE CLEAR A FIRE HYDRANT

The Oceanport Fire Department is requesting the help of Borough residents who have a fire hydrant near their property to please clear the hydrant of snow. This will help firefighters in quickly locating the hydrants and giving them access in an emergency. Please clear an area 3 ft out on all sides.



## If you love them, license them!

The Borough of Oceanport requires all dogs and cats to be licensed every year and to have a current rabies vaccine. The State of NJ mandates current as valid through October 31st of the current year.

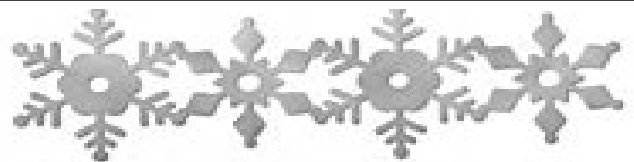
Application for new or renewal of license for 2022 was due January 1, 2022 ONLINE at: [sdportal.com/towns/nj/monmouth/oceanport/requests/petlicense](http://sdportal.com/towns/nj/monmouth/oceanport/requests/petlicense)

Fee: \$18 per pet if not spayed/neutered or \$15 per pet if spayed/neutered. Licenses expire January 31st, 2022 and a late fee applies after February 28th.

### Top Reasons to License Your Animal:

- It greatly improves your chance of getting your animal back if it goes missing.
- It lets law enforcement know your animal is up to date on its rabies vaccine.
- Animal license fees fund animal control and assistance for injured animals and wildlife.
- State Law and Borough Ordinance requires dogs and cats to be licensed.

For more information please contact the Borough's Clerks Office at (732) 222-8221 option 4.



## Sidewalk Clearing after Snow Fall; No Snow to Street After Plowed

The owner, tenant or occupant of any building or lands abutting upon any street within the Borough of Oceanport shall cause the sidewalk in front of the property to be cleared of snow or ice to a width of at least two feet within 48 hours after the cessation of the snowfall or formation of ice. In case of ice on the sidewalk, should it be impracticable to remove same, then the sidewalk shall be covered with sand or some other suitable substance so as to cause the sidewalk to be made safe for persons traveling thereon.

Also, the deposit of snow or ice on plowed streets is prohibited. No person shall sweep, throw or deposit any snow or ice in that part of the street which has been or is being plowed, swept, cleaned or cleared by the municipality for the passage of traffic.

# COMMUNITY NEWS



## Cub Scout Corner

Oceanport Cub Scouts Pack 58 had a quiet few months due to school quarantines. They did get to attend an afternoon filled with archery earlier this winter. The boys have also continued their service to the community. Some of the older scouts helped out their neighbors around town by shoveling snow during the season's heavy snowfalls! They still left time to enjoy the snow and went sledding on the hills of Quail Hill Scout Camp.

Upcoming activities will include an indoor climbing and the Pinewood Derby. The Spring will be filled with many more outdoor activities for the scouts! If you or someone you know is interested in joining Cub Scouts, please contact [just.elk@gmail.com](mailto:just.elk@gmail.com).

## Boy Scout Buzz

Oceanport Boy Scouts have been buzzing with activity lately, even with all the quarantining they have been supporting each other and our communities. They have continued to meet every week (thank you Oceanport Fire department!) and work on our merit badges and plan spring activities.

Troop 58 is happy to announce that they are once again able to host their annual Spaghetti Dinner! It will be held on Friday, April 1st (for information on tickets and supporting the scouts please email [Oceanporttroop58@gmail.com](mailto:Oceanporttroop58@gmail.com)) This delicious meal will be prepared and served by scouts! So, bring your scout smile and come support the scouts by eating some delicious pasta!

Several weeks of planning go into Boy Scout events and the boys have some cool stuff coming up like the Allaire State Park overnight biking trip and a zip lining trip in mid-May! For more information on joining boy scouts email please, [Oceanporttroop58@gmail.com](mailto:Oceanporttroop58@gmail.com).

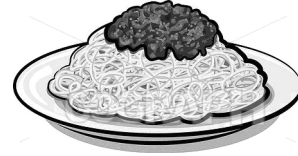
## Senior Club Notes

Upcoming Meetings: The Senior Citizens Club will be meeting at 12:30 PM on March 16, for a St. Patrick's Day lunch and April 20, for Casino Day, at Blackberry Bay Pavilion. Lunch is included on March 16th and light refreshments will be served on April 20th.

Membership in the Senior Citizens Club of Oceanport is open to any Oceanport resident who is 55 years old or older. Meetings include informative presentations by guest speakers, entertainment, or other special events. If you are interested in becoming a member of the Senior Citizens Club of Oceanport, please contact Fran Bendock at (732) 229-0278 for information about joining. Membership dues for 2022 are \$20.

Cards: Seniors interested in playing cards are invited to gather every Tuesday and Thursday at the Port Au Peck Fire House, 433 Myrtle Avenue, from 9 AM to 12 Noon.

*"You know you are getting old when the candles cost more than the cake." Bob Hope*



## Oceanport Boy Scout Troop 58 is Happy to Announce:

**Their Annual Spaghetti Dinner & Fundraiser is Back!!**

**Friday, April 1st, 5:30 – 8:00 pm**

**Port-Au-Peck Firehouse on Myrtle Avenue**

(please note new venue!)

Spaghetti, Meatballs, Salad, Bread, and

Assorted Drink and Desserts

Please come support the Troop's largest fundraising event of the year!

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*(MAYOR'S MESSAGE continued from page 1)*

invite you to take a ride through the old Fort so that you can see all the progress being made.

Speaking of progress, the Borough of Oceanport now has the ability to accept pet license payments via credit card and e-check! Once you've submitted your application, a staff member will send you a request for payment with a link to complete your payment online for credit card and e-check. Cash and regular check will still need to be mailed or dropped off to Borough Hall. If you have not registered your cat or dog, as is required by our ordinances, you can now obtain a license by visiting the Borough's website at [www.oceanportboro.com](http://www.oceanportboro.com) and scrolling down until you see the pet licensing notice. We'd like to get as many cats and dogs registered as possible before April 1, 2022 so that we can fund programs related to animal control and assistance.

Recently, the County temporarily closed the bridge located at the corner of Oceanport Avenue and Main Street due to concerns about its safety. The County reopened the bridge (with a Jersey barrier) to vehicles weighing up to 15 tons (this includes school buses and emergency vehicles) after conducting a structural examination and determining that the bridge, while in need of some repair, was safe to travel upon. Having said that, it is expected that comprehensive repairs will be made to the bridge some time this spring to restore full vehicular capacity. It is expected that the comprehensive repairs may take up to 60 days to complete, so we can expect traffic to be temporarily rerouted by the County while the repairs take place. While inconvenient, these repairs are necessary to ensure the long term safety of those traveling over the bridge. The Borough will keep our residents updated and aware of any pending traffic disruptions prior to the comprehensive repairs taking place. We hope to have Buddy Brocklebank back re-directing traffic at that time.

On a sad note, longtime resident and World War II veteran Peter Bova passed away on January 8, 2022, we lost Volunteer Fireman Steve Widmaier on February 5th and Oceanport's first female Councilwoman, Miriam Smart Bryan, passed on January 26th. They were all part and part of the fabric of this community and they will be sorely missed.

# COMMUNITY NEWS



## 2021 HOLIDAY DECORATING WINNERS

Congratulations to the Parks & Recreation Committee 2021 Holiday Decorating Contest Winners! The Committee thanks all residents whose homes were beautifully decorated and lit up Oceanport for the holiday season. As always, it is difficult to narrow the many down to a few.

**Best Overall:** 25 Port Au Peck Avenue

**Most Outrageous:** 15 Irma Place

**Best Yard:** 18 Shrewsbury Avenue

**Best Condo/Townhouse:** 57 Bridgewater Drive, #13

**Best Window/Door:** 6 Bungalow Place

**Most Traditional:** 38 Doreen Drive



## The Parks & Recreation Committee invites you to hop on by for the Annual Easter Egg Scramble!

**Saturday, April 9th at 11:00 am**

(Rain date is Sunday, April 10th at 2:00 pm,  
please note time change.)

**Blackberry Bay Park**

Egg hunt, prizes, and free photos with the Easter Bunny!

# SCHOOL/LIBRARY NEWS

## Oceanport Lions Club Application Information - 2022 Updates

Lions Clubs International is one of the world's largest service club organizations. Its 1.4 million members, 47,000 local clubs globally, which Oceanport Lion's Club is one of, are dedicated to bettering the quality of life for the disabled, the poor, the sick, and the aged. The motto of Lions Clubs International is "WE SERVE," and Lions live this motto with enthusiasm.

For many years our annual scholarship has been made available to a high school student who resides in Oceanport or is the son, daughter, or grandchild of an Oceanport Lion member in good standing and planning to further their education by attending a college or university. The scholarship application has prioritized academic achievement, SAT/ACT scores, school activities, community service, and a TYPEWRITTEN essay of 500 words or less.

**In 2022, you will see some changes to the application criteria that will further prioritize service and activities, and allow for the inclusion of family responsibilities as a consideration of community service or activities a student is involved in. The application will still collect all the information it always has, but with a different approach to evaluation and weighting. It will also now be open to students furthering their education through alternatives such as trade or vocational schools.**

The Lions Club goal is to make this scholarship opportunity more inclusive and to consider more students who can benefit from the \$1000 grant who may not have considered applying. Service is a Lions Club priority and is demonstrated in many ways by young adults, and the Lions Club wants to evaluate more of them!

Applications may be obtained from your Guidance Counselor or downloaded at Oceanport Lions Club Scholarship Application. For additional information, please contact your high school scholarship counselor first, or you may contact Mark Barreca, Lions Club Scholarship Committee Chair, at (201) 563-2948 or at mjbarreca@comcast.net. Our club is excited to see this year's candidates! Deadline for submissions is April 30, 2022.

## Oceanport Library Association Sal Gentile \$1000 Scholarship

### Requirements

1. Must be an Oceanport resident.
2. Must be a high school senior furthering their education.
3. Must submit a high school transcript.
4. Must submit a letter of recommendation from a subject area teacher.
5. Must submit a typed 200 minimum word essay on: How the library (school, local, county, or other) contributed to your education.
6. Must submit by April 14, 2022 to: Oceanport Library, 8 Iroquois Ave., Oceanport, NJ 07757  
Attention: Mrs. Risden

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Name of High School \_\_\_\_\_

College Enrolled – Fall of 2022  
\_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

# SCHOOL/LIBRARY NEWS

## Library News

The Oceanport Library continues to be open on Mondays from 1:00 – 5:00 pm and 6:00 – 9:00 pm. Stop in and browse the many books it has to offer you! Beat the winter blues by enjoying a good book! The children's programs have been cancelled for February. Hopefully programming can resume in March. Here are some virtual programs available for children on the Monmouth County Library website at [monmouthcountylib.org](http://monmouthcountylib.org).

### Virtual Storytime

Enjoy songs, fingerplays, stories, and crafts!

<https://bit.ly/MonCoLibraryStoryCraftTime>

### Take 'N Make Crafts

Stop in and pick up a craft project kit to make-at-home! Find directions and reading suggestions in the slideshow on the Monmouth County Library's Kids page - February 1 - 14: Love Birds AND February 15 - 28: Cool as a Cactus.

### Sleuthing In The Stacks: A Library Scavenger Hunt!

For readers of all ages . . . Become a library detective! Grab a worksheet from now through March at your local Monmouth County Library branch and hit the shelves to look for books that match each clue. Complete the scavenger hunt for a peek through the treasure chest to claim a reward!

### Special Virtual Events

Meet the Author: Mike Ciccotello! A Book Reading and Drawing Event was held on February 5th. This program is available to watch through March 5th on the Monmouth County Library Kids page at [monmouthcountylib.org](http://monmouthcountylib.org). In addition to his many children's books, he is the host of Draw with Mr. Mike, an online series of videos geared to children ages 3 - 7. He'll read his book, Beach Toys vs. School Supplies, and teach us how to draw characters from the story! Please have paper and pencil or crayons ready at home to participate.

Jumpin' Jamie's Music Show! Family fun for all ages! Rock 'n roll along with "Kindie rock" musician Jumpin' Jamie in a virtual show filled with his original music and songs! Watch on-demand Monmouth County Library Kids page.

Mark your calendars for March 26th. The children's librarians will present Maker's Day. The program will be virtual. More information should be forthcoming on the Kids Page of the Monmouth County website.

Looking forward to seeing you next month at the Oceanport Library's children's programs!

## Shore Regional High School's Shore Players is proud to present:

### Legally Blonde The Musical

Tickets are available now available for the following performances:

Friday, March 11, 7:00 pm

Saturday, March 12, 7:00 pm

Sunday, March 13, 2:00 pm

Friday, March 18, 7:00 pm

Saturday, March 19, 7:00 pm

Sunday, March 20, 2:00 pm

### Ways to purchase:

Tickets are available online at <https://sp.booktix.com>. Tickets may also be purchased in the SRHS lobby beginning one hour before each performance.

Tickets purchased by Thursday, March 10th will be available at the discounted price of \$10! On Friday, March 11th ALL Tickets are \$15.

Tickets purchased online or by credit card are subject to a small service fee (\$1.50 per ticket). Tickets purchased in person with cash or check (either in advance or at the door on performance day) will not be subject to a service fee. There are no refunds, exchanges, or cancellations.

Come see and enjoy a terrific show! Show support for your community high school students!



## Attention Oceanport and Sea Bright Residents

### Any parent who has concerns about the development of:

- a preschool child attaining age 3 within the next year
  - a child between the ages of 3 and 5
  - a school age child between the ages of 6-21
- should contact the Oceanport Child Study Team.

A disability may include physical, sensory, emotional, communication, cognitive, or social difficulties. The Oceanport School district is responsible to locate, identify, and evaluate all children between the ages of 3 – 21 who may have a disability.

Included in this Child Find are public and nonpublic children who are highly mobile such as migrant and homeless children. Please share this information with Oceanport and Sea Bright residents who may benefit from it.

Please contact the Oceanport Office of Special Services at:  
(732) 229-0267 at extension 2213 with your concerns.

# The Oceanport Bulletin

910 Oceanport Way  
PO Box 370  
Oceanport, NJ 07757  
www.oceanportboro.com

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LAURA McCRAE, Editor (Lmccrae@comcast.net)  
MEGHAN WALKER, Councilwoman and *Bulletin* Liason  
Deadline for the MARCH/APRIL *Bulletin* is MARCH 14, 2022.

## POLICE NEWS

### Important information from the Oceanport Police Department

#### Traffic Safety

Drivers be reminded to watch your speed when travelling within the Borough. Oceanport Police officers continue to conduct radar enforcement details throughout the Borough. Sign board and radar display boards will be placed in targeted locations to educate drivers and slow them down.

Residents with speeding complaints are asked to call the Oceanport Police Department at (732) 222-6300.

#### Crime Prevention

**“Lock it or Lose it”** - The Oceanport Police remind residents to lock your vehicles, and remove key fobs and valuable items from your parked vehicles. The police continue to respond to vehicle burglaries and vehicle thefts which remain a problem in our area. It only takes a second to lock your car. Do not give the criminals the opportunity to steal your car and place other people at risk. If you see someone or something suspicious in your neighborhood, please do not hesitate to call the police at (732) 222-6300, or if the matter is serious in nature call 911. (An active car burglary, theft in progress, etc.)

**“Don’t Be Scammed”** - There have been reports of many types of scams occurring where the scammers are attempting to gain personal information from people. Scammers have been calling posing as the IRS, bail bondsman, utility companies, the FBI, debt collectors, or that a relative has been arrested and needs bail money, that social security number is “locked” or compromised. They attempt to obtain personal information from the victims. There are the ongoing **“Grandparents Scam”** - when someone calls to claim to be a relative and they have been arrested. They hand the phone to a “bail bondsmen” who request you wire or draw money out of the bank and that they will meet you to retrieve the “bail money”. They sometimes use real relatives’ names.

#### Some helpful tips to avoid being scammed:

- Know who you are talking to, do not be rushed into giving information.
- Do not open suspicious texts, pop-up windows or

click on links of unknown emails or attachments.

- Keep your personal details secure, never give personal information to an unknown source, or suspicious source.
- Hang up on the suspicious call and verify with the suspected calling agency, department, source and/or entity that they are seeking information.
- Notify the police of any suspicious scams, calls, transactions, or visits.

#### Community Outreach

**“Don’t Be The Dealer”** - Do not leave prescription drugs around the home. The Oceanport Police utilizes a Drug Drop off Box located at their police headquarters. Drop off unwanted and unused pills and prescription drugs. No paperwork needed to be filled out and no questions asked.

**\*\*\*SYRINGES AND LIQUIDS WILL NOT BE  
ACCEPTED AT THE DROP OFF\*\*\***

### Important Notice to Residents: OCEANPORT POLICE DEPARTMENT USE OF BODY WORN CAMERAS

The Oceanport Police Department utilizes the Watchguard V300 Body worn Camera system. The public can now expect to see, and interact, with members of the Oceanport Police assigned to the uniform patrol division wearing and utilizing these cameras while on duty. The Oceanport Police Department’s policy is in accordance with State Law and New Jersey Attorney Generals Guidelines, as well as the Monmouth County Prosecutor’s office policies and directive. We encourage members of the community to reference the Body worn Camera policy established by the New Jersey Attorney General’s Office for further information:

[www.nj.gov/oag/dcj/agguide/directives/ag-directive-2021-5\\_BWC-Directive.pdf](http://www.nj.gov/oag/dcj/agguide/directives/ag-directive-2021-5_BWC-Directive.pdf)