

Mayor's Message....

Spring 2025

IMPORTANT DATES

Mayor & Council Meetings

TIME: 7:00pm

LOCATION:

Borough Hall Council Chambers

REGULAR MEETINGS

May 1 & May 15

June 5 & June 19

July 17

August 21

Sept. 4 & Sept. 18

Oct. 2 & Oct. 16

November 6

December 11

Planning Board Meetings

TIME: 7:00pm

LOCATION:

Borough Hall Council Chambers

May 13 & May 27

June 11 (Wed.) & June 24

July 8

August 12

Sept. 9 & Sept. 23

Oct. 14 & Oct. 28

November 12 (Wed.)

December 9

2nd Quarter Taxes

Due: May 1

3rd Quarter Taxes

Due: August 1

Borough Offices Closed

May 26

Memorial Day

July 4

Independence Day

Dear Residents,

Spring has finally sprung, warmer weather is right around the corner, and beautiful, colorful, blooming trees and flowers are beginning to grace our Borough's landscape. I am happy to announce the colorful landscape is matched by our newly revamped color bulletin! Going forward, the Borough will be issuing a bigger and full color edition of the *Bulletin* on a quarterly basis. Four times a year (spring, summer, fall, and winter editions) *The Oceanport Bulletin* will be delivered to your mailbox and posted on the Borough's website. For the past 25 years, Edward Lawrence and Atlantic Printing have composed and delivered the bulletin to Oceanport's residents, and I want to thank both Mr. Lawrence and Atlantic Printing for their decades of service to the Borough's residents. Change, as they say, is inevitable, and we believe that this change to a larger, quarterly, color bulletin is a positive one which will be more reflective of 21st century sensibilities.

Another important change for the Borough of Oceanport involves our garbage and recycling contract. Because our existing contract expires June 30, 2025, we recently solicited bids for these services, and we will have a new garbage and recycling contract with Roselle/Suburban Carting beginning on July 1, 2025. To keep costs under control, some, but not all, of the changes in the new contract are: (1) a reduction in garbage/recycling zones from three zones to two zones, (2) the elimination of Saturday pick-ups, and (3) the implementation of WEEKLY recycling pick-ups. Residents (and by "residents" I mean Timoteo "New In Town" Vawn Grom) have been calling for weekly recycling pickups for years. Now, the recycling fairy will be in a neighborhood close to you on a weekly basis as of July 1, 2025. So, there is no need to fan the flames any further, Timoteo, because your prayers have been answered. More information about the garbage and recycling changes can be found on the Borough's website.

Something that doesn't change, however, is the number of people who drive at excessive speeds on the Borough's streets. Contrary to what some people on social media say, the Borough has been acutely aware of this problem for the longest time and has, over the years, tried several different methodologies to reduce the number of speeders in town. The governing body and everybody who works for and with the Borough prioritize health and public safety. A good portion of our hard-earned tax dollars have been allocated towards emergency services training, equipment, vehicles, salaries, and staff. Police Chief Gary Grimes has been especially focused on reducing speeding here in town since he was sworn in as Chief. As of the first week of April, our police department has issued more than 700 tickets. 700 tickets in a little over three months! By way of comparison, last year our police department made approximately 2500 stops throughout the Borough but issued about 1250 tickets. As I have been saying in my Mayor's Messages, in public, and at council meetings, a good number of the people speeding on our streets are residents of Oceanport. Once again, I encourage you all to please proceed with caution when driving on the streets of Oceanport!

To assist our police department with speeding related tickets and prosecutions, the Governing Body enacted an ordinance that designates many of the "cut-through" streets in Oceanport as "targeted enforcement zones". Now, when you are pulled over within the targeted enforcement zones for any moving violation, an appearance in the Oceanport Municipal Court is mandated and violators will be unable to pay a ticket without going to court. Hopefully, this will prove to be successful in reducing speeding on our side streets and within Oceanport in general. The Borough will be installing the required signage, and the ordinance should be in full effect within a short period of time.

The redevelopment of Oceanport's Fort Monmouth section is running on all cylinders. The Riverwalk development along Oceanport Avenue is taking shape beautifully. Of particular
Mayor's Message continued on page 6.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Event, Club, & Committee Meeting Calendar

May

- 3&4 Boujee Foodie Con
- 8 Historical Society Committee Meeting
- 9&10 OP Boy Scout Troop Mother's Day Flower Sale
- 10 Community CPR at OP First Aid Squad Building
- 11 Happy Mother's Day
- 12 Water Watch Committee Meeting
- 12 Environmental Commission Meeting
- 14 Parks & Recreation Committee Meeting
- 17 Bingo Night at First Aid Squad Building
- 19 Mini Golf Tournament
- 21 Oceanport School District Board of Education Meeting
- 22 Shore Regional HS Board of Education Meeting
- 26 Annual Memorial Day Parade

June

- 7 Bingo Night at First Aid Squad Building
- 9 Water Watch Committee Meeting
- 9 Environmental Commission Meeting
- 11 Parks & Recreation Committee Meeting
- 12 Historical Society Committee Meeting
- 11 Oceanport School District Board of Education Meeting
- 15 Happy Father's Day
- 19 Music in Old Wharf Park, *The Soulstirs*
- 26 Shore Regional HS Board of Education Meeting
- 30 Action Camp begins and runs through August 1st

OCEANPORT PARKS & RECREATION'S 13TH ANNUAL MINI-GOLF TOURNAMENT

Monday, May 19th, 5:30 - 7:30 PM (Rain date: 5/23)

Blue Grass Mini Golf Course, Oceanport

The tournament is **FREE** for Oceanport residents.

Play your round anytime between 5:30 - 7:30 PM.

Prizes awarded for each age group: K-4th, 5th- 8th, high school, & adult.

For questions, please email OPRecreation@oceanportboro.com.

Sponsored by Blue Grass Mini Golf



Thankfully, the Easter Egg Scramble made it before the rain came! The kids had fun, and more than 120 people were there to enjoy the festivities.

Annual Memorial Day Parade

MONDAY, MAY 26TH • STEP-OFF @9:30 AM

Please join your neighbors and friends for Oceanport's Annual Memorial Day featuring Bagpipers, Antique and Classic Cars, Blue Knights Law Enforcement Motorcycle Club, Borough Sports Teams and Organizations, and more!

The parade route begins on Comanche Drive, proceeds down Monmouth Boulevard, and ends at the Port Au Peck Firehouse on Myrtle Avenue. A brief Memorial Day Ceremony will be held at the conclusion of the parade at the Port-Au-Peck Firehouse. Bring your chairs and family to line the parade route and enjoy this annual Borough tradition to honor those who have sacrificed and served in the U.S military.

The Borough is proud to have Frederick Elsen as this year's Grand Marshal. Fred is a former Oceanport resident and recently celebrated his 100th birthday. His children, grandchildren and

great-grandchildren all live in Oceanport. He enlisted in the Navy in 1942 at the age of 17 and was an electrician's mate second class petty officer aboard the USS Crosley, a high-speed destroyer escort. He participated in the Battle of Okinawa where the USS Crosley came to the aid of nearby ships that had been struck by Japanese kamikaze planes. After the war, he married and settled in Oceanport and raised a family. Fred was an electrician by trade and ended his career as an electrical inspector for Middletown Township in 1990. He lived in Oceanport until 1988 when he and his wife sold their house to his daughter Kim, and her husband Pete Jungfer. Fred now resides in Eatontown but still has strong ties to Oceanport.

Parade participation and floats are welcome! Please call the Borough Recreation Office at (732) 222-8221.

2025 TENNIS AND PICKLEBALL SEASON BADGES NOW ON SALE

Log in to your Community Pass account on the Borough website at Oceanportboro.com to purchase your new badge for this year. Residents are \$25 and non-residents are \$50 - Ordinance #1082. You can pick up badges at Borough Hall. If you do not have a Community Pass account to create one go to the Oceanportboro.com home page.

ALL players MUST obtain a membership badge to reserve and play. Players 18 years old and younger do not need a badge to play, but those with reservations have the right of way to the court.

For help with a new Community Pass account set up please contact: Oceanport Recreation at (732) 222-8221, ext. 1040.

ATTENTION ALL GARDENERS!

The Borough is happy to announce the Community Garden is now open! If interested in joining the garden community, please fill out an application on the Borough website [@oceanportboro.com](http://oceanportboro.com) under News & Announcements. The Community Garden is next to the Borough municipal building. Small, medium, and large plots are available.

A garden is where the mind rests, the heart beats, and the soul blossoms.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FROM THE OCEANPORT POLICE DEPARTMENT

Electric Bikes

The Borough of Oceanport enacted a new ordinance regarding the operation of low-speed electric vehicles (E-Bikes) last year. Below is a summary of the key points of the ordinance. Parents are encouraged to review the ordinance with their children if they are going to allow them to operate an e-bike.

- Shall obey the instructions of official traffic control signals, signs, and other control devices applicable to vehicles, unless otherwise directed by a police officer.
- Ride as near to the right-side of the traveled roadway as practicable, exercising due care when passing a standing vehicle or one proceeding in the same direction.
- Not ride at a speed faster than is reasonable or proper, taking into account the presence of traffic and/or pedestrians in the area.
- Shall have reflectors in the front and back. At night shall have a light in the front and a red lamp in the rear.
- Must be equipped with an audible device.
- All persons under the age of 17 are required to wear a protective helmet.
- No person shall operate upon a sidewalk or walking path within the Borough of Oceanport.
- No person shall ride or operate in a reckless or careless manner which endangers or is likely to endanger the safety or welfare of themselves or other persons or property.
- It shall be prohibited to allow another person to ride as a passenger.
- Prohibited from operating within or upon any of the Borough owned property or recreation areas to include the Maria Gatta Park, Blackberry Bay Park, Community Center Park, Charles Park, Trinity Park, Old Wharf Park, and Sommers Park.

Violations and Penalties

First Offense: Adults fine of up to \$250. Juveniles written warning and notification to parents.

Second Offense: Juvenile's parents fined of up to \$250 and/or e-bike impounded not less than 7 days nor more than 60 days.

Third Offense: Juvenile's parents fined of up to \$250 and/or e-bike confiscated and possible forfeiture. *If the name of the parents cannot be determined the e-bike will be automatically confiscated and held at Police Headquarters.

If there are any questions regarding the ordinance or e-bikes please call the Oceanport Police Department at (732) 222-6300 or email the Traffic Safety Unit at traffic@oceanportpolice.org.



BINGO NIGHT

REMINDER BINGO NIGHTS AT THE SQUAD BUILDING!

Doors open at 6:00 PM and Bingo starts at 7:00 PM

DATES: May 17, June 7, Aug. 9, Sept. 22, Oct. 18, and Nov. 15.
Win cash prizes, door prizes, and 50/50 too!

No one under 18 is permitted.



THE OCEANPORT HOOK & LADDER LADIES AUXILIARY 2025 CALENDAR RAFFLE

\$10 a Ticket • 12 Chances to Win • \$2,000 total cash prizes

One weekly drawing September 17 - December 3

Drawing will be held at 3 pm at the:

Oceanport Hook and Ladder Fire House, 21 Main Street, Oceanport, NJ

Winners will be notified by phone and prize will be sent to the address entered.

CALENDAR RAFFLE WINNERS WILL BE SELECTED ON THE DATES INDICATED FOR EACH MONTH.

SEPTEMBER 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17 \$200.00	18	19	20
21	22	23	24 \$175.00	25	26	27
28	29	30				

OCTOBER 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 \$150.00	2	3	4
5	6	7	8 \$125.00	9	10	11
12	13 Columbus Day	14	15 \$200.00	16	17	18
19	20	21	22 \$175.00	23	24	25
26	27	28	29 \$150.00	30	31	

NOVEMBER 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2	3	4	5 \$125.00	6	7	8
9	10	11	12 \$200.00	13	14	15
16	17	18	19 \$175.00	20	21	22
23	24	25	26 \$125.00	27	28	29
30						

DECEMBER 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3 \$200.00	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

To purchase tickets please contact:

Darlene – (732) 996-6531/darcrochet@verizon.net

Maggie – (732) 610-6694/maggie.lippolis@gmail.com

Beky – (732) 963-7710/rpcrochet@verizon.net

All proceeds to benefit the Oceanport Hook & Ladder Fire Company

OCEANPORT VOLUNTEER FIRST AID SQUAD

911 NEWS

Oceanport First Aid will be holding a Community CPR class at their building, 2 Pemberton Avenue, on Saturday May 10th at 9:00 AM. Please register at: <https://forms.gle/taD735koJvkZ48k7>.

The only fee is \$15.00 if you need a certified card. Let's all be prepared and hope we never need to use it.

BOROUGH OF OCEANPORT OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

The Mandatory Purchase of Flood Insurance Requirement

This community participates in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) which makes federally backed flood insurance available for all eligible buildings, whether they are in a floodplain or not. Flood insurance covers direct losses caused by surface flooding, including a river flowing over its banks, a lake or ocean storm, and local drainage problems.

The NFIP insures buildings, including mobile homes, with two types of coverage: building and contents. Building coverage is for the walls, floors, insulation, furnace, and other items permanently attached to the structure. Contents coverage may be purchased separately if the contents are in an insurable building.

Mandatory Purchase Requirement: The Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 and the National Flood Insurance Reform Act of 1994 made the purchase of flood insurance mandatory for Federally backed mortgages on buildings located in Special Flood Hazard Areas (SFHAs). It also affects all forms of Federal or Federally related financial assistance for buildings located in SFHAs. The SFHA is the base (100-year) floodplain mapped on a Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM). It is shown as one or more zones that begin with the letter "A" or "V."

The requirement applies to secured mortgage loans from financial institutions, such as commercial lenders, savings and loan associations, savings banks, and credit unions that are regulated, supervised or insured by Federal agencies such as the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation and the Office of Thrift Supervision. It also applies to all mortgage loans purchased by Fannie Mae or Freddie Mac in the secondary mortgage market. Federal financial assistance programs affected by the laws include loans and grants from agencies such as the Department of Veterans Affairs, Farmers Home Administration, Federal Housing Administration, Small Business Administration, and the Department of Homeland Security's FEMA.



How it Works: Lenders are required to complete a Standard Flood Hazard Determination (SFHD) form whenever they make, increase, extend, or renew a mortgage, home equity, home improvement, commercial, or farm credit loan to determine if the building or manufactured (mobile) home is in an SFHA. It is the federal agency's or the lender's responsibility to check the current Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) to determine if the building is in an SFHA. Copies of the FIRM are available for review in most local government building or planning departments. Lenders may also have copies or they may use a flood zone determination company to provide the SFHD form. If the building is in an SFHA, the Federal agency or lender is required by law to require the recipient to purchase a flood insurance policy on the building. Federal regulations require building coverage equal to the amount of the loan (excluding appraised value of the land) or the maximum amount of insurance available from the NFIP, whichever is less. The maximum amount available for a single-family residence is \$250,000. Government-sponsored enterprises, such as Freddie Mac and Fannie Mae, have stricter requirements. The mandatory purchase requirement does not affect loans or financial assistance for items that are not covered by a flood insurance policy, such as vehicles, business expenses, landscaping, and vacant lots. It does not affect loans for buildings that are not in an SFHA, even though a portion of the lot may be. While not mandated by law, a lender may require a flood insurance policy, as a condition of a loan, for a property in any zone on a FIRM. If a person feels that an SFHD form incorrectly places the property in the SFHA, he or she may request a Letter of Determination Review from FEMA. This must be submitted within 45 days of the determination. More information can be found at <https://www.fema.gov/how-request-flood-hazard-determination-review-fema>.

WATER WATCH NEWS | *Why Should You Pick Up After Your Pup?*

Contamination by dog waste continues to be a threat to human health and the environment, particularly in waterfront communities like Oceanport Borough. With more than 2,000 Oceanport households, assuming 760 own dogs, the total amount of dog waste produced in our town is about 209,000 pounds/year.* It has been estimated by the National Recreation and Park Association, that only 60% of dog walkers pick up their dog waste, with even lower numbers who walk their dogs in parks. Aside from being inconsiderate and unsanitary, leaving dog waste on the ground can kill vegetation, spread disease and bacteria, and contaminate both the land and water environment. Dog waste contains high levels of phosphorus and nitrogen that burn lawns and kill greenery. Parasites, bacteria and viruses in dog waste cause serious illnesses like salmonella, giardia; fecal coliform and parvovirus are spread through the waste, with pathogens lingering on the ground for months or years.

Dog waste represents a particular threat to surface water quality in low-lying towns like Oceanport, located on or near water bodies such as the Shrewsbury River and tributaries. Stormwater runoff will breakdown and transport the waste, but harmful bacteria and chemicals contained in dog waste percolate through the soil and are carried in ground water and discharged to wetlands and streams, or transported over land or through storm sewers and discharged directly to surface water bodies. These transport pathways contribute contaminants to our streams and rivers that are already burdened with other sources of contamination further impacting our local surface water and ground water quality.

If concern over harm to the environment is not enough, consider that Oceanport Ordinance No. 342 states, No person owning, harboring, keeping or having custody and control of a dog shall suffer, permit or allow such dog to commit any nuisance, urinate or defecate on or otherwise damage property of the public or of another.

Do the right thing when no one is watching. Set a positive example for others. Respect your neighbor and the environment by the simple act of cleaning up your own dog's waste.

In trying to keep Oceanport waterways clean and safe, our volunteer Oceanport Water Watch Committee performs monthly sampling for fecal coliform, with dog waste being a primary contaminant source.

If you would like to learn more about the Water Watch Committee or our field sampling program, please fill out the Volunteer/Call to Service Application on the Oceanport Borough website under Government/Applications & Forms/Clerk's Office available here: oceanportboro.com/government/forms or contact Stephanie in the Borough Clerk's office at skramer@oceanportboro.com for more information. Please feel free to attend the Water Watch Committee monthly meetings on the second Monday of each month at 7:00 PM in the Old Wharf building. You must be 18 years or older to participate; no experience is necessary other than a desire to maintain and improve the quality of our surface water resources in the Borough and to learn more about this sensitive area!

* Assumptions that went into these calculations are widely applied and conservative: 38% of households own dogs; an average dog produces 275 pounds of waste per year.





LIBRARY NEWS

Spring is here and with warmer weather it allows for outdoor story time weather permitting. Fresh air and story time are a perfect combination. Please bring your children to fun and free story time on Thursdays 4:00 - 4:30 PM. Stories are read, fun crafts are made, and special programs are had!

In April and May the Library is happy to have a new program.

Open Sensory Playtime! Ages 1 and up, with parent/caregiver

Thursday, April 24th, 2:30 - 3:30 PM and May 8th, 2:00 - 3:30 PM.

Drop-in open playtime to explore, socialize, and engage with educational sensory toys. Stay the whole time or just a little while. No registration needed.

TAKE' N MAKE CRAFTS

May 1-14 – May Flower, May 15-30 – Bee

June 1-14 – Avocado, June 15-30 – Lemonade

SPECIAL IN-PERSON EVENTS – Registration appreciated by phone at (732) 229-2626, online at monmouthcountylib.org or in person.

Munchkin Music with Miss Cristine – Ages 6 months to 3 years old

Thursday, May 8th, from 10:00 - 10:30 AM

Come for fun-filled family music time, from catchy tunes to a jam session with instruments.

MINI MARTIAL ARTS LESSON! – Ages 3 and up, with parent/caregiver

Thursday, May 15th, 4:00 - 4:30 PM

Kick off some fun with Satori Academy for a martial arts story time and lesson.

LEGO® Storytime – Ages 2 and up (with parent/caregiver)

Thursday, May 29th from 4:00 - 4:30 PM – No registration needed.

Listen to LEGO® stories and make your own LEGO® creation.

LEGOS® and DUPLO® will be provided by the library.

S.T.E.A.M. Activity – Making Rain - Ages 3 years and up

Thursday, June 12th, 4:00 - 4:30 PM

Big Jeff's Music & Movement – A Family Event

Move and groove to our favorite classic kid's tunes with musician Big Jeff.

Thursday, June 26th at 4:15 PM

Vacation Reading Clubs begin on June 1st. Information will be forthcoming in subsequent flyers.

Save the date for the Vacation Reading Club party on August 28th.

The Oceanport Library has a huge selection of books for teens and adults too! Whether it's sci-fi, mystery, a love story, or learning more about a hobby like gardening or cooking, the Oceanport Library has the book you are looking for. Stop by and pick out a book to enjoy this spring!

"The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go." – **Dr. Seuss**

Save the date for the OP Library

Popsicle Party!

AT THE OCEANPORT LIBRARY

8 IROQUOIS AVENUE

Monday, July 14th 6:00-7:30PM

Get a FREE library card and sign up for the Summer Reading Program! Arts, crafts, and story time and have an ice pop on us!

Rain or shine, under the Action Camp tent

~ Sponsored by the Oceanport Public Library Association ~

ANNUAL OCEANPORT BOY SCOUT TROOP 58

Mother's Day Flower Sale

AND FUNDRAISER



FRIDAY, MAY 9th, 4:00 - 7:00 PM

SATURDAY, MAY 10th, 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Hanging Baskets and Honey

Foggia Wholesale, 196 Monmouth Blvd.

Also, the Boy Scout Troop would like to thank Oceanport residents and businesses for supporting their annual spaghetti dinner. It was a great success thanks to all of you! About 300 dinners were served, wow! Looking forward to the dinner next spring.

MAYOR'S MESSAGE

Continued from front page.

note is that The Riverwalk is being developed by two Oceanport residents, Michael Abboud and Christopher Ilvento. In the next few weeks, retail establishments at The Riverwalk will begin opening and we will be able to visit Skinny Flowers Brewery and sign up for a pickleball, squash, and padel membership at Nicol New Jersey. My recommendation is you play the racket sports first, THEN visit the brewery, but that is entirely up to you. Some of the new stores that should open during the summer in The Riverwalk include, but are not limited to, Playa Bowls, Rogue Salon, CKO Kickboxing, Stonefit, Round Dough Bagels, Black Belt America Karate, and Broadway Chicken.

As much as The Riverwalk has turbocharged redevelopment in the Fort Monmouth section of Oceanport, it is Netflix that will have the most profound impact on Oceanport's commercial tax base and redevelopment in general. The Netflix development is moving at a rapid pace, with an anticipated closing date in December of this year. Netflix officials have been meeting with both Eatontown's and Oceanport's construction departments and demolition checklists and permits have been issued. The project manager, JT Magen, has contracted with multiple demolition companies to perform the work needed to remove approximately 85 buildings throughout the 300 acres in Oceanport and Eatontown. At first, buildings closer to Highway 35 in Eatontown will be torn down and they will make their way to the 400 District on Oceanport Avenue. The anticipated timeline for the completion of demolition is May of 2026.

Netflix has also received approvals to commence phase 1A, which includes four soundstages, reuse of the McAfee center and the current FMERA headquarters, in addition to multiple mill and accessory buildings. Netflix plans on breaking ground during the first quarter of 2026 and anticipates completing the first four soundstages within 12 months. This means we can expect to see them operating as early as mid- 2027 if everything goes smoothly.

New Jersey American Water has notified the Borough that they plan to replace all the existing lead and galvanized waterlines in the Blackberry Bay Park neighborhood. NJAW plans on changing out the service in every street from Monmouth Boulevard to Pocano Avenue between Comanche and Port Au Peck Avenue and it will take about a year for NJAW to complete this project. This, of course, will disrupt many of the streets the Borough just paved, including Comanche Drive in its entirety. Please be assured it has been made crystal clear to NJAW that any street that is disturbed which falls under the five-year moratorium will be required to be paved in its entirety curb to curb! A patch will not be accepted. With respect to the older streets throughout the neighborhood, NJAW will be obligated to pave half of the street. As such, we will go over the mileage and square footage and have NJAW pave certain streets in their entirety, patch the other streets, and the Borough will come behind with the road program and pave the roads NJAW is patching. This work is anticipated to start in May and the Borough has agreed to a 7:30 AM start time.

Memorial Day is right around the corner and the Grand Marshal of this year's parade is Frederick W.B. Elsen. Frederick is a WW2 veteran who served in the U.S. Navy on the U.S.S. Crosley, a destroyer escort in the Pacific. Frederick served as an Electrician's Mate 2nd class from 1942 until the end of the war. I look forward to seeing you all at the parade and to honor the brave military men and women who have greatly served this country!

MONMOUTH COUNTY PAPER SHREDDING

Dates Thru August

Is it time for you to dispose of confidential documents and old files? Bring your documents to be shredded on location in the mobile truck. Do not be a target of identity theft!

May 10	Union Beach	Union Beach DPW/Recycling Yard, 1400 Florence Ave.
May 31	Millstone	Millstone Park, 4 Red Valley Road
June 14	Tinton Falls	Tinton Falls Borough Hall, 556 Tinton Ave.
June 28	Marlboro	Marlboro Township Middle School, 355 Route 520
July 14*	Howell	Memorial/Adelphia School, 485 Adelphia Road
Aug. 9	Eatontown	Borough Hall Parking Lot, 47 Broad St.
Aug. 23	Matawan	Matawan-Aberdeen train station, Parking Lot No. 1

ALL EVENTS TAKE PLACE ON FROM 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM (*with the exception of July 14 which is 4:00-8:00 PM) unless the truck fills first and then the event will stop. Remove large binder clips. Staples and paper clips can remain. Limit of 100 lbs. of documents which is equivalent of four office paper boxes or four large sized trash bags. Free service to Monmouth County residents only. For more information please call (732) 683-8686 ext. 8967 or visit www.visitmonmouth.com.

SENIOR CLUB NOTES

UPCOMING MEETINGS: The Senior Citizens Club meets at Old Wharf House at 12:30 PM on the third Wednesday of each month. The May meeting will feature advice from Oceanport's Police Chief Gary J. Grimes on avoiding Senior Scams plus chair yoga. There will be a Spring Brunch at the June Meeting. July's meeting will feature a Barbecue of hot dogs and hamburgers, and there will be an Ice Cream Social at the August meeting. Members will be reminded of meeting dates.

OCEANPORT SENIOR'S CLUB FACEBOOK (META) PAGE: The "Oceanport Senior's Club" Facebook (Meta) page is a private page open for viewing by any senior citizen living in Oceanport. There you can learn about the club and view our monthly activities, trips, and parties. On Facebook, search for "Oceanport Senior's Club." When you find the page, click on the request to join button. Contact Lois Olsen at (732) 299-9986 if you have any questions.

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, and lunch or light refreshments are served. 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. Annual Membership dues are \$25. Please send dues payments to Lillian Lockwood, 132 S. Pemberton Avenue, Oceanport, NJ 07757. Phone: (732) 542-3826

CARDS: Seniors interested in playing cards are invited to gather every Tuesday and Thursday at the Old Wharf House from 9:00 AM - 12:00 Noon.

You're on Earth. There's no cure for that.
-Samuel Beckett

Oceanport Recreation is Happy to Announce Music at Old Wharf Park this Summer!

Mark your calendars for **THURSDAY, JUNE 19TH** to groove to the sounds The Soulstirs and on **THURSDAY, AUGUST 14TH** Living Proof will perform.
7:00 – 9:00 PM

Bring your lawn chairs and refreshments for a free entertaining night of music.

THE OCEANPORT HISTORICAL COMMITTEE IS HAPPY TO AGAIN HOST THE 63RD ARMY BAND!

**CONCERT IN THE PARK
Wednesday, July 2nd
6:00 PM at Blackberry Bay Park**

Come enjoy an evening of patriotic music and more performed by the 63rd Army Band which is the only National Guard Army Band in NJ. This is a perfect addition to the July 4th holiday and a great way to celebrate America's independence and freedom! Bring a lawn chair as seating is limited.

GARDEN CLUB NEWS

THE OCEANPORT GARDEN CLUB IS EXCITED SPRING HAS SPRUNG AND IS PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE ITS UPCOMING EVENTS AND INVITE THE COMMUNITY TO JOIN IN THE FUN AND JOY OF GARDENING.

In March gardeners created mini arrangements for the Oceanport seniors. Members made 95 small flower arrangements using brightly colored mini carnations, baby's breath, and a variety of evergreens (brought in by the members of the garden club from their own garden), topped with moss. The arrangements were then delivered to the seniors for Easter. At the April meeting, Patti Schlegel presented a "world of beauty" with orchids.

Business discussed at the last meeting:

The Garden Club goes nautical! Next month there is a trip to visit the Manasquan Reservoir. The trip includes a 45-minute boat tour around the Manasquan Reservoir, narrated by the Monmouth County Park System Naturalists. There will be opportunities to view local wildlife such as turtles, egrets, and ospreys in their natural habitat.

Unfinished business: The Garden Club is considering which venue to host their June luncheon.

Gardening tips: Tomato, fruit, or vegetable? We can all agree home grown Jersey tomatoes are the best! As April ushers in growth, tomato plants put their energy into their main stalk development, critical for supporting their heavy plump fruit come summertime. Tomato plants grow stronger and taller with this simple soil trick, coffee grounds. Coffee grounds make some of the best fertilizer, the reason being it's packed with nitrogen. After you enjoy your morning cup of "Joe", sprinkle those used coffee grounds in your tomato garden.

Oceanport Garden club monthly meetings take place at The Old Wharf House, 316 East Main Street, Oceanport on the fourth Thursday of each month, beginning at 10:00/10:30 AM with light refreshments. These gatherings feature conservation education, guest speakers, and opportunities to connect with fellow gardening lovers. The Oceanport Garden Club welcomes gardening enthusiasts of all levels to connect with and learn. If interested, please call Diane Dineen for more information at (732) 688-2688.

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