

The Oceanport Bulletin



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VOL. XVII, No. 1

January/February 2017

Mayor's Message

First, I want to say Happy Birthday to Lauren Davis, a third grader at Wolf Hill School, who told me her birthday was the same day as the Borough Council's Reorganization Meeting!

A lot of amazing things happened in 2016: the Cleveland Cavaliers won a championship, the Chicago Cubs won a championship, and Donald Trump was elected President. If you had bet \$100.00 on that trifecta at the beginning of 2016, you would have won a LOT of money. Really amazing stuff.

Quietly, off the national radar screen, on the very local level, some other amazing things were happening: Councilman Joe Irace sat in for me at a FMERA meeting and nobody got hurt. In fact, he actually complimented the FMERA staff and Board. Oceanport's Emergency Services Providers saved a man's life in such an amazing fashion that they were awarded the "Call of the Year" by the EMS Council of New Jersey. Our own Judge John D'Amico was given the 2016 New Jersey Law Journal's Lifetime Achievement Award in recognition of his years of outstanding public service. The Borough of Oceanport re-established its relationship with Monmouth County, resulting in a \$250,000.00 grant from the County in furtherance of the potential purchase of land at the former Fort Monmouth site, and re-kindled its relationship with the Borough of Shrewsbury, resulting in an extension of the use of their court facilities and the initiation of some shared services agreements designed to save both boroughs money. Thanks to Councilman Briskey, we actually got some movement on the Lake Oceanport problem over on Main Street at the Conrail easement. The Fort Monmouth Ad Hoc Committee, with Patty Cooper, Ray Poerio, Marc Lower, and Wayne Mackenrodt at the helm, got us all the way with FMERA to the point where we can actually consider whether we want to re-locate our municipal complex to the Fort property off of Main Street. And the County of Monmouth stepped up to the plate and funded the purchase of the entire Oceanport section of the Fort by FMERA from the federal government, thereby removing a substantial layer of bureaucracy from the development process.

But make no mistake about it, Oceanport is still a small town with some big city issues. The redevelopment of Fort Monmouth is our long-term issue. The rehabilitation of our school infrastructure is our mid-range issue. And the continued sustainability of Monmouth Park is our near-term issue. But I believe Oceanport is uniquely prepared to handle each of these matters and, in the long run, Oceanport will not only survive, but thrive, by approaching these issues not as "problems", but as opportunities.

We're already doing that at Fort Monmouth. Nobody was more opposed to the legislation that set up the FMERA than

Calendar of Events

January

- 1 Happy New Year! Borough Reorganization Ceremony & Meeting
- 2 Borough Offices & Recycling Yard Closed
- 5 Mayor and Council Workshop & Regular Meeting
- 9 Environmental Commission Meeting
- 10 Planning Board Meeting
- 10 Water Watch Committee Meeting
- 11 Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting
- 19 Mayor and Council Regular Meeting
- 21 Free Rabies Clinic
- 24 Planning Board Meeting
- 25 Oceanport Board of Education Meeting
- 31 Dog & Cat License Renewal Due Date

February

- 1 Property Taxes Due
- 2 Mayor and Council Workshop Meeting
- 7 Planning Board Meeting
- 8 Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting
- 11 ... Port-au-Peck Chemical Hose Co. Fishing Flea Market
- 13 Environmental Commission Meeting
- 14 Happy Valentine's Day
- 14 Water Watch Committee Meeting
- 16 Mayor and Council Regular Meeting
- 22 Oceanport Board of Education Meeting
- 28 Planning Board Meeting

March

- 2 Mayor and Council Workshop Meeting
- 12..... Daylight Savings Time Begins
- 14..... Planning Board Meeting
- 16 Mayor and Council Regular Meeting
- 28..... Planning Board Meeting

Recycling

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

I was. I still believe all 430 acres should be Oceanport's to develop, but that's not going to happen no matter how much I stomp my feet or Councilman Irace holds his breath. So, we're looking at it now as an opportunity. An opportunity for Oceanport to better its lot, improve its position, and protect its standard of living. Although Oceanport has only one vote on the board at FMERA, I can assure you that our voice on the FMERA Board is going to be heard and we will be an active participant in all matters involving Oceanport going forward.

As for the rehabilitation of Wolf Hill and Maple Place, that is up to the Board of Education. But this Governing Body expects

(MAYOR'S MESSAGE continued on page 5)

COMMUNITY NEWS

Overnight Parking Ban

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.

Dog & Cat License Renewal

The Borough began issuing 2017 dog and cat licenses beginning the first of the year. Licenses are required to be renewed by January 31st, 2017. In accordance with state regulations, your pet's rabies vaccination must be valid through October 2017 for a license to be issued. Additionally, please advise the Borough if your pet is deceased. If you have any questions, please call the Borough Office at (732) 222-8221. Oceanport provides a free rabies clinic on January 21st. Take advantage of this free service to get your pet up to date!



Oceanport Borough Free Rabies Clinic

Saturday, January 21st
9:00 – 11:00 am

Port-Au-Peck Chemical Hose Co., on Myrtle Avenue

Please take advantage of this free service provided by the Borough. Dogs must be on a lease and cats should be in a carrier.



Christmas Tree Disposal

Christmas trees for disposal can be placed at the curb on your 2nd garbage pickup of the week up until January 31st.

2017 Mayor and Council Meetings

Please note the 2016 schedule for the Oceanport Mayor and Council Meetings listed below. Workshop Meetings will be held on the first Thursday of each month and Regular Meetings on the third Thursday of each month except for the month of June, meetings which will be held on the second and fourth Thursday. Please note summer schedule is in effect with one meeting for both Workshop and Regular in July and August due to the NJ League of Municipalities Conference and due to holidays one meeting for both Workshop and Regular in November and December.

Workshop Meetings:

January 5th, February 2nd, March 2nd, April 6th, May 4th, June 8th, July 20th, August 17th, September 7th, October 5th, November 2nd, and December 14th.

Regular Meetings

January 5th and 19th, February 16th, March 16th, April 20th, May 18th, June 22nd, July 20th, August 17th, September 21st, October 19th, November 2nd, and December 14th.

2017 Planning Board Meeting Schedule

Please note Planning Board meetings take place the second and fourth Tuesday of each month except where noted. The meetings begin at 7:30 pm and take place at Maple Place School, 2 Maple Place, Oceanport.

- January 10th and 24th
- February 7th* and 28th
- March 14th and 28th
- April 11th and 25th
- May 9th and 23rd
- June 13th and 27th
- July 11th*
- August 8th*
- September 12th and 26th
- October 10th and 24th
- November 28th*
- December 12th*

* Due to holidays, 1st meeting in February will be on the 1st Tuesday of the month, November and December have one meeting scheduled and summer schedule is in effect with one meeting in July and August.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Notice Publicizing the Map Information Service

NOTICE TO: Public, Lending Institutions and Real Estate and Insurance Agents

SUBJECT: Flood Insurance Rate Map Zone Information

The Borough of Oceanport currently participates in the Community Rating System (CRS) under the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). The CRS administered by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), provides that a community, who performs specific activities related to flood protection, flood awareness, and flood prevention, can secure reduced flood insurance premiums for all property owners within the community.

As a public service, the Borough of Oceanport will provide you with the following information upon request:

- Whether a property is in or out of the Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) as shown on the current Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) of the City.
- Additional flood insurance data for a site, such as the FIRM zone and the base flood elevation or depth, if shown on the FIRM.
- Oceanport Borough has a handout on the flood insurance purchase requirement that can help people who need a mortgage or loan for a property in the SFHA.
- Oceanport Borough has copies of completed FEMA Elevation Certificates for buildings built in the floodplain over the past several years.

If you want to make an inquiry, please provide the street address and, if available, the lot and block number. The Borough office is open 8:30 am to 4:30 pm, Monday – Friday. Just drop by the Tax Office in Borough Hall located at 315 East Main Street. Staff in the office can provide the needed information. There is no charge for this service.

Oceanport Borough staff within the Tax Collectors office and Office of Emergency Management will be able to provide you with information; however, the staff will not make a determination for you as to whether you need the coverage.



Join Shore Youth Lacrosse

2017 Registration Deadline is February 1st

Open to boys and girls from 1st grade through 8th grade residing in Oceanport, Monmouth Beach, West Long Branch, and Sea Bright. Boys and girls in 1st and 2nd grade focus on fundamentals and team play with instruction, practice, and games. Boys 3rd through 8th grade have practice, games, and participate in tournaments, as well as being coached by United Lacrosse, a premiere lacrosse program in our area. Girls 3rd – 8th have practice, games, and participate in tournaments with preseason training provided by T3 Lacrosse, also a premiere lacrosse program in our area.

Lacrosse is a fun game for kids to learn and play! It will teach them skills that last and develop strong eye hand coordination which will strength their skills in other sports they participate in. A great way to keep your child active this spring while having fun too.

For more information and to register go to leaguelineup.com/shoreyouthlacrosse.

Cub Scout Corner

Oceanport Cub Scouts Pack 58 finished out 2016 with some wonderful activities! They had a hugely successful fundraising season, selling popcorn and cheesecakes. Thank you to all those who helped make that happen by purchasing these items. In addition to den meetings and Go-See trips, boys worked on their rank requirements, did community service activities, and had fun! In November, some of scouts attended a “Cubmobile” go-kart event. In December, some of our scouts, siblings, and friends, attended a Blessing of the Stockings event, which included a story about Saint Nicholas, decorating Christmas cookies, and making cards for children who were in the hospital during the holiday season.

2017 has started with a pack event at Glow Golf. In February, their pack will have the annual Pinewood Derby car race and in March, they will spend the night at the Museum of Natural History in New York city, how fun is that?! If you are interested in any of our events, as a Cub Scout or as a volunteer, or have questions about your son joining, please contact nagywc@gmail.com.

Water Watch Committee in the New Year!

The Water Watch Committee is looking to expand their group. One of their missions is to test the water surrounding our community. Join them and you’ll learn a lot about this activity as well as the environment within our watershed. All ages are welcome. Please call Doc Kaloss at (732) 728-9276 and he will give you a heads up about this interesting group.

Blue Star Dedication

As mentioned in the last Bulletin, the Blue Star Memorial flag pole was installed on November 11, 2016, and the flag was raised on Sunday, November 13th. Present for this were members of the Elks, VFW, Oceanport Garden Club, and the NJ DOT Blue Star Council.

The Blue Star Memorial Highways are highways in the United States that are marked to pay tribute to the United States Armed Forces. The National Council of Garden Clubs started the program in 1945 after WW II. This

program began with the planting of 8,000 dogwood trees as a living memorial to Veterans of WW II.

When you drive by Monmouth Road and Highway 36 where ShopRite is in West Long Branch is please take notice of this special Memorial which will proudly be maintained by the Oceanport Garden Club.

COMMUNITY NEWS

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>



Garden Club News

On December 8th, the Club met for their final 2016 get together. Members made beautiful baskets and wreaths for Borough Hall and the grammar schools and libraries in Oceanport and West Long Branch. And, also enjoyed a covered dish luncheon. All the members shared their favorites for this occasion.

Please note the Garden Club's upcoming meetings which are held the fourth Thursday of the month at Blackberry Pavilion.

January 26th - *10 Landscaping Mistakes To Avoid*, Debbie LaGattuta, Master Gardener, will be the speaker.

February 23rd - *Shade Gardening*, Carol Palmer, Master Gardener will be the speaker.

March 23rd - Workshop, Spring Arrangements for Oceanport Gardens, hands-on by all members.

April 27th - *Traditional Floral Design*, Demonstration by Mary Hahn.

The Business meeting starts at 10:30 am. If anyone is interested in joining the Club, please contact Penelope Gabriel at (732) 229-8274. You do not have to live in Oceanport to join, we have members as far north as Middletown and Manchester in Ocean County.

GARDENING TIP OF THE MONTH:

Improve indoor air quality in your home and at the office with certain plants:

Peace Lily, Philodendron, Spider Plants, Jade Plant, Bamboo Golden Pathus, and English Ivy.

Fishing Flea Market Vendors Wanted!

The Port-Au-Peck Chemical Hose Company is hosting a "Fishing Flea Market" at their firehouse located at 433 Myrtle Avenue on February 11th, from 9:00 am - 2:00 pm.

For Vendors: Pre-registration is \$20.00 a table (firehouse supplies the table), Registration at the door is \$30.00.

Admission \$3.00 (children under 12 free)

Food and drinks!

Please call Fred Filippone at (908) 489-8286 for information.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Congratulations to the 2016 Holiday Decorating Contest Winners!

The Parks & Recreation Committee thanks all residents whose homes were beautifully decorated and lit up Oceanport for the holiday season. It truly was a pleasure driving through the Borough! As always it is difficult to narrow the many down to one but here are the 2016 Holiday Decorating Contest Winners.

Best Overall 1st Place: 56 Wittenberg Court: 2nd Place 11 Mohawk Avenue

Best Tree 425 Branchport Avenue

Best Yard 24 Dwayne Street

Best Door/Windows 23 Main Street

Best Condo/Townhouse 51 Steeplechase Court

Most Original 86 Horseneck Point

Congratulations to the winners and once again, thank you to all those that decorated their homes!

Save the Date!!

Oceanport Hook & Ladder Fire Explorers

21 Main Street

St. Patrick's Day Breakfast

Sunday, March 19th , 8:00 am – 12:00 pm, Buffet Style

Come out and support the Oceanport Hook & Ladder's Explorers Program. Their first breakfast was such a success they are doing another one! All proceeds go towards purchasing new gear and helping enhance the program as the explorers prepare for the Fire Academy.

For more information please contact (732) 542-7297.

Senior Club Notes

The Oceanport Senior's Club meets on the third Wednesday of each month at the Blackberry Bay Park Pavilion. At many of these meetings the club has either an informative or fun program in addition to a short business meeting. In addition to their monthly meetings, members also plan several yearly trips and luncheons. Why not consider joining the Oceanport Senior's Club so you are able to participate in these meetings, luncheons, and trips? The club is always looking for new members. If you live in Oceanport and are over 55 years old, you are eligible to join. Contact Fran Bendock at (732) 229-0278 for more information about joining.

In December, the club held two of their annual events. The Christmas Luncheon was held on December 6th at The Shadowbrook, which was beautifully decorated for the holidays. Their December 21st meeting featured our annual "Wine & Cheese Party".

The club's first two meetings of 2017 will be on January 18th and February 15th. There is also a fun trip planned for March 3rd to the Hunterdon Hills Playhouse in Hampton, NJ for a "Legends of Pop" musical program featuring the Mahoney Brothers. The cost of this trip also includes the bus and a sit-down lunch at the Playhouse.

In addition to the monthly Wednesday meeting, some of club members meet to play cards at 9:00 am on Tuesday and Thursday mornings at the Blackberry Bay Park Pavilion. Any club member is welcome to join them. If you are not a member already think about it for the new year!

(MAYOR'S MESSAGE

continued from front cover)

that we will be working WITH the members of the Board of Education to fashion a solution that is amenable to as many people as possible. The Board of Ed and the Borough of Oceanport are two separate entities. But, to the taxpayer, we're just two different pockets on the same pair of pants: the taxpayers' pants. This is an opportunity for both the Board of Education and the Governing Body of the Borough of Oceanport to show the taxpayers we can work together, explore various options, provide information, and solve problems to the best of our abilities.

As for Monmouth Park Racetrack, well, Governor Christie has fought the good fight for us with respect to the legalization of sports gambling, I will give him that. But until our legislators pass legislation that allows New Jersey's Horse Racing industry to compete on equal footing with Pennsylvania and New York --- whether it's by purse supplements or, preferably, on-site slots, VLTs or other casino type gaming at Monmouth Park --- Monmouth Park and our entire horse racing industry will remain second tier and on the cusp of extinction. How it is that can't see the opportunity that is Monmouth Park is beyond me. The most beautiful racing facility on the East Coast, bar none, located on the Jersey Shore, five minutes from the Parkway, two minutes from the beach, fifty feet from Mike MacStudy's house, smack dab in the middle of the state, blessed with plenty of parking, its own NJ Transit stop and the capacity to hold over 40,000 people and they don't think people wouldn't flock there to gamble during the summer and year round? People drive from New Jersey to PENNSYLVANIA to gamble in January, February, and March! And they don't think they would drive to Oceanport? And what most people don't know is that Monmouth Park, is already open year round because of Off Track Wagering. This is an opportunity that is too good to pass up and I can assure you this Governing Body is going to be front and center in connection with any and all legislative efforts to capitalize on this incredible asset.

While Oceanport is certainly confronted with myriad fiscal and developmental challenges, by virtue of the fact that we have now identified the issues, analyzed potential problems and strategized potential solutions with educated professionals and local, county, state and federal stakeholders, I am confident that we are now uniquely positioned to ensure that we are actively engaging our problems and we will emerge from this period of uncertainty a stronger, larger, more stable community much better equipped to deal with 21st century problems.

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Deadline for the MARCH/APRIL *Bulletin* is FEBRUARY 14, 2017.

SCHOOL/LIBRARY

Stay Warm at the Oceanport Library!

Oceanport Library News

Start off the new year and fight off the winter doldrums by coming to the Oceanport Library and browse their wonderful collection of books, DVDs, magazines, CDs, and so much more. The library has been fortunate to obtain an AWE computer that includes games and videos for ages 3 and up. The computer can be used anytime the library is open.

In addition to their regular programs, the library has the following specials in January and February.

LEGO® Storytime - Ages 4 and up. Thursday, January 19th from 4:00 - 4:30 pm. Listen to stories and make your own LEGO® creation. The library will provide DUPLO® and LEGO® bricks. Registration required. Please call (732) 229-2626 or stop in beginning January 5th to register.

February is National Children's Dental Health Month! Ages 2 to 5 Thursday, January 26th from 10:30 - 11:00 am the Tender Smiles 4 Kids' pediatric staff will present a fun, informative, and interactive lesson on good dental habits. Registration required. Please call or stop in beginning January 12th.

Thursday, February 16th, 4:00 - 4:30 pm. Ages 4 and up. Presidents Day Program - Learn about our presidents and make a special craft. Registration required. Please call or stop in beginning February 2nd.

Thursday, February 23rd, 4:00 - 4:30 pm. Grades one through 4. Special Lego Program - Make an Amusement Park with Melina Stock from Bricks 4 Kidz. Registration required. Please call or stop in beginning February 9th.

Thursday, March 2nd, 4:00 - 4:30 pm. A dental magic show for children ages 4 and up presented by Dr. Madeline Badalaty. Registration required. Please call or stop in beginning February 16th.

As always, go to the website at monmouth-countylib.org for information about programs at additional libraries.

Application for Oceanport Lions Scholarship

The Oceanport Lions Club has a scholarship available for High School Seniors planning to further their education by attending a college or university. Any senior high school student who resides in Oceanport, or is a son, daughter, or a grandchild of Lion member in good standing, may apply.

The award will be based on school academic achievements, school activities, community service and a TYPEWRITTEN essay of at least 500 words. Applications may be obtained from your Guidance Counselor.

For additional information, please contact your scholarship counselor first or Dr. Joseph M. Buccieri, Oceanport Lions Club Scholarship Committee Chairman at (732) 918-1342.

Oceanport WWII Veteran

Honored at Shore Regional High School Football Game

On November 18th, 2016, Veterans Day, our very own Oceanport resident and World War II Veteran, Mr. Peter Bova, served as Shore Regional Honorary Game Captain for their state football versus Asbury Park. Thank you to Shore Regional High School's hospitality and to their administration as they organized this event to honor Mr. Bova for his brave and courageous service.

Mr. Bova was born June 8th, 1924, in Long Branch to James and Beatrice Bova. He has lived in the same home in Oceanport since he moved there in January, 1955. Mr. Bova is one of 7 and the youngest of 5 boys, all of whom served in World War 2. Brothers Ralph and Paul served in the Air Force, Paul in the Marines, and Joe and Pete in the Army. Pete's brother Joe was also an Oceanport resident. He died almost two years ago at the age of 98. Joe was a POW for 27 months and earned 2 Purple Hearts.

In March of 1944, Mr. Bova sailed from NY to Europe on the Queen Mary with more than 10,000 other servicemen. Mr. Bova courageously served as a medic in the Army First Infantry Division. He was awarded a Bronze Star for his heroic achievement and dedication to duty while serving in a combat zone against hostile forces in 1945.

After the war he moved to Rome, NY but then he moved back to Oceanport in 1955 when a job became available in Fort Monmouth as an Air Force photographer. He was very happy to move back this way as he missed his family and living by the water as he loved to fish.

Mr. Bova has two children, Larry of Pensacola, Florida and Charlotte McRobbie of South Orange, NJ both who graduated from Shore Regional High School. He is also a proud grandfather of four grandchildren.

Many thanks for his service, dedication, and heroism Mr. Bova has given to this country so we can live with the many freedoms and liberties we do today!