

# The Oceanport Bulletin



**MAYOR**  
Jay Coffey

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## Mayor's Message

The Borough of Oceanport has welcomed the New Year with some dramatic changes, not the least of which is Arctic-like weather and the windswept, not so fluffy white landscape that accompanied our first winter storm. Lucky for us, the members of Oceanport's incredible Department of Public Works were, once again, more than equal to whatever Mother Nature threw at them. By all accounts, our Borough's roads were cleared in a coordinated and orderly fashion and were in much better shape than most of the surrounding communities. We are certainly lucky to have such a dedicated, professional, and caring group of workers.

Unfortunately, while our roads were free of snow, once again we had quite a problem with snow removal from our sidewalks. In 2013, the Borough adopted an ordinance requiring, in part, that the owner, tenant or occupant of any building or land abutting a sidewalk clear the sidewalk of snow or ice to a width of at least two feet within 48 hours after the cessation of snowfall or formation of ice. The exact language of the ordinance can be found in section 295-3 of the Borough's Code.

Under the ordinance, those who choose not to clear their sidewalks within 48 hours can be ticketed and fined. There are those in our little burg, however, who believe they do not have to shovel their sidewalks because the Borough may have put in sidewalks as part of a DOT or Safe Routes to School Program Grant. Let me disabuse them of that belief right now: To put it simply, like it or lump it, if you've got a sidewalk abutting your house, it's YOUR responsibility to maintain it. Going forward, those who choose not to clear their sidewalks within 48 hours WILL be ticketed and fined.

Quite frankly, though, we should not have to ticket anybody. This is an issue that should not be on the government's agenda because it is an issue rooted in being a good neighbor. If you have the fiscal or physical ability to shovel your walk, then you should shovel your walk because it's the right thing to do in a small community. If you have a neighbor who doesn't have the ability to shovel their walk, get a couple of people together and shovel the walk for them because it's the right thing to do in a small community. Actually, it is the right thing to do in any size community. This is Oceanport, not Gotham City, and neighbors should be working together to solve first world problems such as this. In fact, as evidenced by some wonderful people in town --- like Joe LaValle and his kids ---who have volunteered on the Oceanport Resident's Facebook page to shovel other people's walks for free if they

*(MAYOR'S MESSAGE continued on back cover)*

## Calendar of Events



### January

- 1 . . . . . Happy New Year! Reorganization Ceremony  
Borough Offices & Recycling Yard Closed
- 3 . . . . . Board of Health Meeting
- 8 . . . . . Environmental Committee Meeting
- 8 . . . . . Water Watch Committee Meeting
- 9 . . . . . Planning Board Meeting
- 10 . . . . . Oceanport Board of Education Meeting
- 10 . . . . . Parks & Recreation Committee Meeting
- 15 Borough Offices and Recycling Yard Closed in Observance  
of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- 18 . . . . . Mayor and Council Workshop Regular Meeting
- 20 . . . . . Free Rabies Clinic
- 23 . . . . . Planning Board Meeting
- 24 . . . . . Oceanport Board of Education Meeting
- 31 . . . . . Cat & Dog License Renewal Due

### February

- 1 . . . . . Mayor and Council Workshop Meeting
- 1 . . . . . Quarterly Property Taxes Due
- 2 . . . . . Groundhog Day
- 11 . . . . . Fire Explorers' Valentine Breakfast
- 12 . . . . . Environmental Committee Meeting
- 12 . . . . . Water Watch Committee Meeting
- 13 . . . . . Planning Board Meeting
- 14 . . . . . Happy Valentine's Day
- 14 . . . . . Parks & Recreation Committee Meeting
- 15 . . . . . Mayor and Council Regular Meeting
- 21 . . . . . Oceanport Board of Education Meeting
- 27 . . . . . Planning Board Meeting

### March

- 1 . . . . . Mayor and Council Workshop Meeting
- 7 . . . . . Daylight Savings Time Begins
- 13 . . . . . Planning Board Meeting
- 15 . . . . . Mayor and Council Regular Meeting
- 27 . . . . . Planning Board Meeting

### Recycling

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

# COMMUNITY NEWS

## Office Hours for Borough Hall and Police Records

Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday - 8:30 am – 4:30 pm  
Thursday (extended evening hours) - 8:30 am – 4:30 pm  
Friday - 8:30 am – 12:30 pm

## Overnight Parking Ban

Just a friendly reminder to 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 2018 dog and cat licenses beginning the first of the year. Please come into Borough Hall to pick up or renew your pet's license. Licenses are required to be renewed by January 31st, 2018. In accordance with state regulations, your pet's rabies vaccination must be valid through October 2018 for a license to be issued. Please take note that Oceanport will provide a free rabies clinic on January 20th. Take advantage of this free service to get your pet up to date! 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 Borough FREE Rabies Clinic

Saturday, January 20th  
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 leash 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 2018 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 and as otherwise noted below. All meetings will begin at 7:00 pm except for Regular Meetings that follow a Workshop will begin immediately following the Workshop meeting. Meetings are held in the Maple Place School, 2 Maple Place, Oceanport. 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 in November and December due to holidays.

### Workshop Meetings:

January 18th, February 1st, March 1st, April 5th,  
May 3rd, June 7th, July 19th, August 16th, September 6th,  
October 4th, November 1st, and December 13th.

### Regular Meetings

January 18th, February 15th, March 15th, April 19th,  
May 17th, June 21st, July 19th, August 16th, September 20th,  
October 18th, November 1st, and December 13th.

## Did you know?

You are now able to watch Borough Council meetings and other Borough events on Verizon Fios channel 28.

**BE SURE TO CHECK OUT THE BOROUGH'S  
TV CHANNEL on VERIZON FIOS CH. 28**

Also, for your information, the Oceanport Borough website has some new features and tabs which may be helpful to you. Take look at the Borough website at [oceanportboro.com](http://oceanportboro.com). Here are some of the features listed below.

**TAX INFO ONLINE**  
**Make a Payment / Check Tax Information**

You can pay your quarterly property taxes online very easily or look up your tax information just by going onto the OP website home page and clicking on this tab on the right side pictured above.

**NEW**  
**Report a Concern**

You can also report a concern you may have just by clicking on this tab pictured above. It is located on the left side of the OP Borough Home page. Please note this is not an emergency reporting system. Report a Concern requests are reviewed during the Borough's regular business hours. All requests will be reviewed and addressed in the accordance with the Borough of Oceanport's policies and within the limits of available resources.

# COMMUNITY NEWS



## Save the Dates!

The Oceanport Lions Club is proud to announce the Strawberry Fair Dates. The fair will take place Wednesday, May 30th through Sunday, June 3rd. This Oceanport staple has been back at the Monmouth Park Race Track parking lot for the past couple of years and it has been a spring season hit. Look out for more information in future OP Bulletins.

The Oceanport Lions Club is also proud to celebrate its 65th anniversary. For 65 years the OP Lions Club has served the Borough of Oceanport and many in need throughout the state and around the world through the kind and caring efforts of many Lions. They have dedicated their hearts and minds in the service of others.

The Lions Club is always looking for new members. Please go to their website at [oceanportlionsclub.com](http://oceanportlionsclub.com) for more information about what the Club does, to become a member, or if the club can assist you in any way.

## Join Shore Youth Lacrosse

**2018 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/2nd grade with full equipment will focus on fundamentals and team play with instruction, practice, and games. Boys 3rd through 8th grade with full equipment have practice, games, and participate in tournaments, as well as being coached by United Lacrosse, a premiere lacrosse program in our area. Girls 3rd /4th grade and 5th/6th grade teams are parent coached with supplemental training provided by T3, also a premiere lacrosse program in our area. Girls 7th/8th grade teams have practice and game coaching by T3 Lacrosse.

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 as well. 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](http://leaguelineup.com/shoreyouthlacrosse).

## Congratulations to the Parks & Recreation 2017 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 a few but here are the 2017 Holiday Decorating Contest Winners.

### Best Overall:

1st Place: 75 Iroquois Avenue

2nd Place: 85 Gooseneck Point Road

3rd Place: 58 Wittenberg Court

### Best Tree:

42 Burnt Mill Circle

### Best Yard:

42 Pemberton Avenue

### Best Door/Window:

165 Monmouth Road

### Best Condo/Townhouse:

21 Hunters Run

### Most Original:

11 Oneida Avenue



Congratulations to them and once again, thank you to all of those that decorated their homes!



## Kortney Rose Foundation Teams Up Again with the Turning Point!

Please support the Kortney Rose Foundation on Saturday, February 24th & Sunday, February 25th for the annual "Great Food for a Great Cause" event held at all Turning Point Restaurants in New Jersey and Pennsylvania. Restaurant patrons who donate to The Kortney Rose Foundation (KRF) supporting their mission to raise money for pediatric brain tumor research will receive a gift card for free entrees on their next visit, to any of the Turning Point Restaurant locations.

The money raised directly benefits the Children's Brain Tumor Tissue Consortium (CBTTC), a worldwide multi-institutional consortium of 17 hospitals working together to accelerate findings into better treatments and cures for pediatric brain tumors. The CBTTC is operated out of the Center for Data Driven Discovery in Biomedicine at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP). To date, KRF has donated over \$1.5M to research in memory of their 9-year-old daughter Kortney, who died from a brain tumor in 2006.

Last year at the 8th annual KRF and Turning Point Great Food for a Great Cause Fundraiser over \$57,000 was raised! Please help make the 9th annual even more successful and visit any Turning Point on February 24th and 25th. Your support is greatly appreciated!

# COMMUNITY NEWS

## Notice Publicizing the Map Information Service

**NOTICE TO:** Public, Lending Institutions, 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. 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 decide for you as to whether you need the coverage.

## Seeking Volunteers, The Borough Needs You! Green Team Advisory Committee

Are you interested in working on various projects that will enable the Borough to remain a sustainable community? If so, please go to the Borough website on the Home page at [oceanportboro.com](http://oceanportboro.com) and click on green box link titled Seeking Volunteers to complete a Call to Service application.

## Senior Club Notes

The Oceanport Seniors Club had their annual Christmas Luncheon at The Shadowbrook in Shrewsbury on December 4th. It was well attended by their members and their guests and everyone had a wonderful time. Mayor Coffey and some of the Oceanport councilmen attended as well. The Mayor proudly swore in the Club's 2018 slate of officers. The Club's annual Wine & Cheese Party was held on December 20th which is always a very festive gathering!

The Club's January 2018 meeting will be held on January 17th and the February meeting will be held on February 21st. The Club meets on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at the Blackberry Bay Pavilion. The social time begins at 1:00 pm with refreshments and members have time to talk to and visit with their Oceanport neighbors. The business meeting is called to order at 1:30 pm.

Some of our Club members meet to play cards at 9:00 am on Tuesday and Thursday mornings. Any club member is welcome to join them. Please call Marie Quackenbush at (732) 229-0454 for more information.

Membership in the Oceanport Seniors Club is open to any Oceanport resident who is 55 years old or older. Contact Fran Bendock at (732) 229-0278 for more information about joining.

## 2018 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. A Workshop Session will be held at 7:00 pm prior to each Regular Meeting if the Board deems necessary.

- January 9th and 23rd
- February 13th and 27th
- March 13th and 27th
- April 10th and 24th
- May 8th and 22nd
- June 12th and 26th
- July 10th\*
- August 14th\*
- September 11th and 25th
- October 9th and 23rd
- November 13th and 27th
- December 11th\*

\* Summer schedule is in effect with one meeting in July and August and due to holidays, December has one meeting scheduled.

### *Save the Date!*

## Oceanport Hook & Ladder Fire Explorers'

### VALENTINE'S DAY BREAKFAST

Sunday, February 11th

8:00 am – 11:30 am

21 Main Street

Buffet Style (pancakes, eggs, sausage, bacon, pork roll, and beverages)

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

For more information, please contact (732) 996-6531.

# 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 [fema.gov/how-request-flood-hazard-determination-review-fema](http://fema.gov/how-request-flood-hazard-determination-review-fema).



## From Oceanport OEM: What Winter Weather Warnings Mean

What is the difference between a winter storm watch, warning, or advisory?

Knowing the difference means how much time you have to prepare for the storm.

The National Weather Service (NWS) issues outlooks, watches, warnings and advisories for all winter weather hazards. Here's what they mean and what to do. Use the information below to make an informed decision on your risk and what actions to take.

- **Winter Weather Advisory:** Be Aware. An advisory informs you that winter weather may produce hazardous conditions.
- **Winter Storm Watch:** Be Prepared. A watch means that severe winter conditions may affect your area. NWS issues a watch to provide 12 to 36 hours' notice.
- **Winter Storm Warning:** Take Action! NWS issues a warning when it forecasts four or more inches of snow or sleet in the next 12 hours, six or more inches in 24 hours, or 1/4 inch or more of ice accumulation. Travel will become difficult. Delay your travel plans until conditions improve.
- **Blizzard Warning:** lets you know that snow and strong winds will combine to produce a blinding snow (near zero visibility), deep drifts, and life-threatening wind chill.

Listen to your local officials for the latest information. You can also download the *How to Prepare for a Winter Storm Guide* located at the FEMA Media Library and go to [Ready.gov](http://Ready.gov) for information on snowstorms and extreme cold.

# The Oceanport Bulletin

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LAURA McCRAE, Editor (Lmccrae@comcast.net)  
PATRICIA COOPER, Councilperson and *Bulletin* Liaison  
Deadline for the MARCH/APRIL *Bulletin* is FEBRUARY 14, 2018.

## SCHOOL/LIBRARY NEWS



### Warm up with some books this winter!

Happy New Year to everyone! Fight the winter blahs by coming to your very own Oceanport Library and browse its wonderful collection of books, DVDs, magazines, CDs, and so much more.

Along with our regular story times, the library has the following special programs.

Thursday, January 18th – 10:30 to 11:00 am. Ages 2-5.

February is National Children's Dental Health Month. Tender Smiles 4 Kids' pediatric staff will present a fun, informative, and interactive lesson on good dental habits. Registration required; call (732) 229-2626 or stop in beginning January 4th.

Thursday, January 18th – 4:00 to 4:30 pm. Ages 4 and up.

Special Dental Health Program – Show Me Your Smile. Listen to teeth stories and make a mini-marshmallow teeth craft. Registration required; call or stop in beginning January 4th.

Thursday, January 25th – 4:00 to 4:30 pm. Ages 4 and up.

Read to Major, the library's own therapy dog. Bring a favorite book from home or choose one from the library. If you are not reading yet, tell Major a story or talk about the pictures in a book. Registration required; call or stop in beginning January 11th.

Thursday, February 1st – 4:00 to 4:30 pm. Ages 3 and up.

Author visit by Annie Silvestro. She will be reading from her new book entitled *Mice Skating* followed by a craft. Registration required; call or stop in beginning January 18th.

Thursday, February 22nd – 4:00 to 4:45 pm. Grades 1-4.

Create a puppet and become the character. Ellen Williams from the Rutgers Cooperative Extension will lead a workshop in puppetry. Registration required; call, stop in beginning February 8th.

As always go to the library website at [monmouthcountylib.org](http://monmouthcountylib.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.

*(MAYOR'S MESSAGE continued from front cover*

*cannot shovel themselves, they are already working together. We need a lot more of that.*

Now, I know that most of you are wondering, "Geez, Jay, when did you become such a grouchy, old man? Have you thought about the fact that if I am going to be spending so much time shoveling sidewalks, I won't have the time to attend your incredibly exciting monthly Council Meetings so that I can keep myself informed and up to date about how the Borough is being governed and what is going on in town?" Well, fear not, my friends, because if you can't come to our Council Meetings, then we will bring our Council Meetings to you! That's right, thanks to the exhaustive efforts of Councilwoman Cooper, Councilman Solan, B.A. Poerio, and the Cable & Technology Committee, Oceanport now has its own Municipal Channel on Fios (Channel 28) and we will be broadcasting our meetings live INTO YOUR HOUSES each month. Yes, those are goosebumps on your arm. We hope to have a Comcast channel by the end of the year. If you miss the live version, you can catch replays throughout each month. You might even get to hear Buddy Brocklebank speak. Now, get out there and start shoveling.