

The Oceanport Bulletin



MAYOR

Jay Coffey

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Richard A. Gallo, Council President
William Deerin, Bryan Keeshen, Michael O'Brien,
Thomas Tvrdik, Meghan Walker

BOROUGH ADMINISTRATOR

Donna Phelps

BOROUGH CLERK

Jeanne Smith

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January/February 2020

Mayor's Message

The past few months have involved lots of change in the Borough of Oceanport. At the Borough Council's January 1st reorganization meeting, three new council members were sworn in: Bryan Keeshen, Thomas Tvrdik, and Meghan Walker. These three individuals have chosen to volunteer their time and energy for the betterment of the Borough and they have hit the ground running. Councilman Keeshen, as Chair of the Public Safety Committee, Councilman Tvrdik, as Chair of the Planning & Development Committee, and Councilwoman Walker, as Chair of the Health & Human Services Committee, have adapted well to their new positions and are actively reaching out to and meeting with Oceanport's citizens, volunteers, and employees in an effort to maximize the potential of their committees. All three council members offer specific skill sets related to their respective committees and it will be exciting to see what the committees bring to the Council and the Borough in 2020.

In December, the voters in Oceanport and Sea Bright passed a referendum approving the expenditure of 33 million dollars for improvements to both Wolf Hill School and Maple Place School. The referendum was passed by a margin of 61 to 38 in Oceanport and will allow for the first substantial upgrades to both facilities since Buddy Brocklebank was a young man. Maple Place School's renovations will include, but is not limited to, its STEM wing, cafetorium, locker rooms, media center, and guidance center. Wolf Hill School, which will undergo much more substantial renovations and improvements, will see the addition of 6 classrooms, a new cafeteria and media center, a revised bus drop-off, new toilet facilities, and ADA compliant spaces. Both schools will be upgrading their gyms, lighting, roofing, flooring, classroom furnishings, fire alarm & sprinkler systems, and security systems (including cameras, secure vestibules and safety glazing on the windows). At the end of the project, both schools will also have substantially improved mechanical, electrical, and plumbing systems. Oceanport, because of its teachers, administrators, and involved parents, has long been one of the best school systems in the State of New Jersey and soon we will have facilities that will augment that high level of education and allow for Oceanport's school system to thrive for years to come.

As far as Fort Monmouth's redevelopment goes, the "400 Area" – the land to the right of Oceanport Avenue as you drive into Little Silver --- is, in all likelihood, going to be placed up for sale in February. There is an Open House on January 29th for potential developers and the tour/presentation is already fully booked by interested developers. As noted in my last message, the 400 Area is just under 80 acres in size. 25 acres are going to be designated for residential use, 25 acres are proposed to be used for commercial/mixed use, and 30 acres will be dedicated to open space. All existing buildings on this property are to be demolished.

Sadly, Oceanport lost one of its most dedicated and respected civil servants when former Police Chief Robert D.

Calendar of Events January

- 1 Happy New Year
- 8 Parks & Recreation Committee Meeting
- 13 Water Watch Committee Meeting
- 13 Environmental Advisory Committee Meeting
- 14 Planning Board Reorganization Meeting
- 16 Mayor & Council Workshop & Regular Meeting
- 18 Free Rabies Clinic
- 20 Borough Offices Closed in Observance of
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- 23 Shore Regional Board of Education Meeting
- 25 Free Rabies Clinic
- 29 Oceanport Board of Education Meeting
- 31 Dog & Cat License Renewal Due

February

- 1 Quarterly Property Taxes Due
- 2 Groundhog Day
- 6 Mayor & Council Workshop Meeting
- 10 Water Watch Committee Meeting
- 10 Environmental Advisory Committee Meeting
- 12 Parks & Recreation Committee Meeting
- 14 Happy Valentine's Day
- 17 Borough Offices Closed in Observance of
Presidents' Day
- 20 Mayor & Council Regular Meeting
- 26 Oceanport Board of Education Meeting
- 27 Shore Regional Board of Education Meeting

March

- 1 Fire Explorers' St. Patrick's Day Breakfast
- 5 Mayor & Council Workshop Meeting
- 8 Daylight Saving Time Begins
- 11 Parks & Recreation Committee Meeting
- 19 Mayor & Council Regular Meeting

Recycling

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

Joyce passed away on January 6th. Chief Joyce served the Borough of Oceanport in various capacities for over forty years. He was admired and respected by all who worked with and for him and Oceanport will forever be indebted to him for his tireless commitment to our community. His wife, Georgianna, and family have our deepest sympathies.

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 by January 31st

The Borough began issuing 2020 dog and cat licenses on January 1st. If you have not renewed your pet's license with the Borough this is a friendly reminder to please do so. Licenses may be renewed in person at Borough Hall, by mail, and online. Please note that a dog/cat license application submitted online is not complete until the required fee is received by the Borough. Pet license fees are \$15 and \$18 if pet is NOT spayed/neutered. Please make check payable to Borough of Oceanport, and mail to 315 E. Main Street. A \$10 late fee will be added if the license is not renewed by February 28th.

Also, in accordance with state regulation, your pet's rabies vaccination must be valid through October 31st, 2020 of the licensing year. Please advise the Borough if you no longer have the pet. If you have any questions, please call the Borough Clerk's Office at (732) 222-8221.

FREE Rabies Clinic

Provided by Oceanport Borough
Saturday, January 25th
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.

Borough Calendar

The Borough Calendar for trash and recycling that is mailed out every year has been delayed from distribution due to potential changes in the Borough's garbage and recycling contract, services and dates. Presently residents may download months January – April from the Borough's website News and Announcements section on the home page at oceanportboro.com or use the active online calendar available on the Borough website at oceanportboro.com/resident/calendar. Depending on the timing of the new garbage contract, the calendar may not actually be professionally printed but it will be made available on the Borough website at oceanportboro.com.

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.



Oceanport Library Now Offers Home Bound Library Service

Home bound library service is now available to all residents of Oceanport who are home bound due to illness, disability, age, and are physically unable to visit the library. If you don't have a library card the library has an application. For further information, please contact Barbara at the library. She can be reached at (732) 229-2626 or beckert@monmouthcountylib.org.

Oceanport Volunteer First Aid 911 News

The Squad would like to thank neighbors and friends who came out to support their annual Holiday Bazaar. It is wonderful to see old and new friends who helped make the day a success.

Help the Squad help you! In an emergency it is easy to forget important medical information. Please email or reach out to a member for new orange information cards. These important cards should be updated and posted on your refrigerator so medical information is available in the case of an emergency. In addition to basic information make sure to include significant medical history as well as current medications and allergies to medications. Emergency responders know to look on the refrigerator! Please email the Squad at oceanportfas@gmail.com with your name, address, and the number of people in your household for a new card to start the new year!!



SAVE THE DATE!!

Oceanport Hook & Ladder Fire Explorers' St. Patrick's Day Breakfast

Sunday, March 1st
8:00 - 11:30 am
21 Main Street

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

Adults - \$7

Military, Seniors, Kids 5-11 years - \$5

Children Under 5 Years - \$4

Come out and support the Oceanport Hook & Ladder's Explorers Program. All proceeds go towards purchasing new gear, training, and helping enhance the program as the explorers prepare for the Fire Academy!

COMMUNITY NEWS

Senior Club Notes

The Senior Citizens Club is happy to announce the following officers who have been elected to serve in 2020:

President: Barbara Josselyn

1st Vice President: Jo Bartlow

Assistant 1st Vice President: Lois Olsen

2nd Vice President: Francine Katzenberger

Assistant 2nd Vice President: Kathy Maida

Recording and Corresponding Secretary: Barbara Scerbo

Treasurer: Marie Quackenbush

Membership in the Senior Citizens Club of Oceanport is open to any Oceanport resident who is 55 years old or older. The club meets the third Wednesday of each month, weather permitting, at the Blackberry Bay Pavilion. Unless otherwise noted, the meetings begin at 12:30 pm and include informative presentations by guest speakers, entertainment, or other special events.

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

Join the fun by 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 only \$20, a bargain considering many meetings include lunch, and dessert and beverages are always served.

Congratulations to the Parks & Recreation 2019 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! A new category, Best Centennial/Traditional, was added this year to coordinate with Oceanport's centennial celebration.

As always, it is difficult to narrow the many down to a few but here are the 2019 Holiday Decorating Contest Winners.

Best Overall:

1st 219 Comanche Drive

2nd 23 Main Street

3rd 61 Werah Place

Best Tree:

81 Manitto Place

Best Yard:

13 Pocano Avenue

Best Door/Windows:

42 Mohican Avenue

Best Centennial/Traditional:

98 Algonquin Avenue

Most Original:

11 Oneida Avenue

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



Garden Club News

The members of the Garden Club donated their time and talents to decorate the homes that participated in the Oceanport Holiday House Tour conducted by the Historical Committee last December. They were led by the Garden Club's very talented Sigrid Lenzing. She visited the homes prior to the event to get a feel for the rooms being decorated for the occasion so she could coordinate colors, etc. Shown here are one of the beautiful arrangements created by the Oceanport Garden Club which was displayed in one of the homes on tour.

Those members who graciously donated their time for this special event are Linda Dennis; Deb Smith; Cathie Maccioli; MaryLou Chace; Marion Gualtieri; Joan Cooke; Sue Sherrill; Maureen Chenoweth; Judy Walz; and Viola Trollan. These same ladies as well as member Jackie Cole were posted at the homes the day of the event.

The Garden Club is looking forward to the following upcoming programs. On January 23rd, Alicia Vacchiano of Plant Design Events will demonstrate and discuss orchids. She will create a beautiful Orchid Necklace which will be raffled off after the program. Then on February 27th will be Happy Birthday Arrangements presented by the Club's own Sigrid Lenzing. On March 26th the Club will be sharing the Oceanport Centennial Celebration with the residents of Oceanport Gardens. The Club will create more than 100 arrangements for them.

The Garden Club meets the fourth Thursday of the month at the Oceanport First Aid Squad Building, 2 Pemberton Avenue. Meet and Greet is at 10:00 am followed by the Business Meeting at 10:30 am and a speaker is usually 11:30 am - 12:30 pm.

You do not need to be a resident of Oceanport to belong to the Club. Please contact the following people for information to join, Penelope Gabriel at (732) 229-8274 or Diane Dineene at (732) 688-2688

COMMUNITY NEWS

An Update on What the Oceanport Lions Club is Doing for You!

Since 1952 the Oceanport Lions Club has been helping not only sight impaired individuals, but they have contributed in many ways to Oceanport residents through community donations. Here are some exciting programs that may be of interest for you or someone you know.

- The club has information for low vision individuals.
- The club also does vision screening.
- Last November the Oceanport Lions Club made a donation to the Oceanport School System.
- There are several organizations including the state of New Jersey that will assist you with sight friendly devices including a talking books program. The Lions Club can help you connect to the low vision services available.

Oceanport Lions Vision Screening & Screening Program for

Accurate Detection

SPOT accurately detects the potential of these common vision problems:

- Myopia (nearsightedness)
- Hyperopia (farsightedness)
- Astigmatism (blurred vision)
- Anisometropia (unequal refractive power)
- Strabismus (eye misalignment)
- Anisocoria (unequal refractive power)

In 2015, the Oceanport Lions began to donate their time and energy to perform Annual Vision Screenings for Pre-K and early elementary children in Monmouth County schools, including:

- Wolf Hill School, Oceanport
- St. Jerome's School, West Long Branch
- Lenna W. Conrow School, Long Branch
- Morris Avenue School, Long Branch
- Joseph M. Ferraina ECLC, Long Branch

Since 2015 the Oceanport Lions Club has performed vision screenings on over a thousand students! All vision screenings are provided free of charge by volunteers of the Oceanport Lions Club. If you would like to learn more as to how the Oceanport Lions can help you or someone you know just contact them, they are here to help in any way they can. Contact John M. Bonforte, Sr. at JohnSr@monmouthrubber.com or (908) 489-9090. You can also visit their Facebook page @oceanportlionsclub and like it, this will help them get the word out!

Oceanport Lions' Club Eyeglass Recycling Program

In just about any home, one can find a pair of eyeglasses that are no longer being used. That same pair of eyeglasses can change another person's life. Throughout the year, Oceanport Lions and other volunteers collect used eyeglasses and deliver them to regional Lions Eyeglass Recycling Centers. Volunteers clean, sort by prescription strength and package glasses. Recycled glasses are distributed to people in need in low- and middle-income communities where they will have the greatest impact. When you no longer need your eyeglasses drop them in the Lions Collection Box located in front of Circle K, 275 East Main Street, Oceanport.

The Oceanport Lions Club also provides charitable assistance through their Activities & Fundraising at the Local, State, and International Levels and raises funds to support the projects through its annual Lions' Strawberry Fair held at Monmouth Park. For more information on their charitable assistance please go to their website at oceanportlionsclub.com.

If you think you might be interested or would like to learn more about the Oceanport Lions Club please contact: John M. Bonforte, Sr. at (908) 489-909 or by email at johnsr@monmouthrubber.com or visit their website: oceanportlionsclub.com.



Holiday House Tour was a Centennial Success!

The Oceanport Historical Committee would like to extend a warm and very grateful thank you to everyone who opened their homes for the Holiday House Tour on December 8th, including Caputo's Bakery who graciously donated delicious cookie trays for the homes, the Oceanport Garden Club for graciously donating beautiful floral arrangements for the homes, and of course to all of the people who participated in the tour. It was a wonderful event - thanks so much for your support! Here shown are some photos of the wonderful event.

LIBRARY NEWS

Warm up this Winter at the Oceanport Library

The staff at the Oceanport Library wishes residents a Happy New Year! Fight the winter blahs by coming to the library and browse its wonderful collection of books, DVDs, magazines, CDs and so much more.

Children's programs are up and running! Please bring your child in so they can enjoy the library's fun and free programs. And, while you are there you can browse for a book for yourself.

Children's Weekly Program Time

Baby Storytime – 6 months to 23 months

(with parent/caregiver)

Thursdays from 9:30 - 9:50 am

Toddler Storytime - Ages 2-3½

(with parent/caregiver)

Thursdays from 10:15 - 10:35 am

Family Storytime - Ages 2 and up

(with parent/caregiver)

Thursdays from 2:00 - 2:30 pm

Afterschool Activities - Ages 4 and up Thursdays from 4:00 - 4:30 pm

Special Events - Registration required for all programs; call the library at (732) 222-2626, stop in or sign up online <http://bit.ly/OceanportKids>

Winter Tree Painting – Ages 4 and up

Thursday, January 9th from 4:00 - 4:30 pm

Listen to a winter story and paint a lovely winter scene using cotton swabs or pompoms. Please wear smocks or old clothing.

Registration begins December 30th.

Gymboree – Ages 3 and up

Thursday, January 23th from 4:00 - 4:30 pm

Keep fit and build motor skills by doing fun exercises with Gymboree.

Registration begins January 9th.

Marshmallow Snowflake Craft – Ages 4 and up

Thursday, February 6th from 4:00 - 4:30 pm

Listen to stories and make a snowflake craft using marshmallows and pretzels.

Registration begins January 28th.

Monmouth County Sheriff's Office K-9 Unit Demonstration – All ages

Thursday, February 20th from 4:00 to 4:30 pm

Please join us for a special presentation of police working dogs also known as the K-9 unit. The presenters will show and explain how the dogs help police officers fight crime. Registration begins February 6th.

Stay warm and remember the library is also for the adults of Oceanport. There are books of all kinds available for you and all members of your family. There are many books on display which make it even easier to choose from. The beginning of a new year is always a great time to start reading a book!



Wolf Hill School Teacher's Room Gets a Welcomed Back to School Redo!

The designing women of Oceanport were at it again! Thanks again to Oceanport moms and entrepreneurs, Francesca Weber and Amy White, the teacher's room at Wolf Hill School had its turn to receive some tender loving care. Their redesign of the Maple Place teacher's room was such a success it only made sense to tackle the teacher's room at Wolf Hill next! Their specialty happens to be designing beautiful spaces on an affordable budget, so the Wolf Hill teacher's room was a perfect project for them as well.

Not only did this project get done thanks to the volunteer time from Francesca and Amy but also from the very generous donations of Oceanport parents. Donations included gift cards which enabled the pair to purchase a water cooler, coffee maker, accessories, chairs, shelving and much more!

For more information on this project or about Arrow Design, you can follow them on Facebook or Instagram @2homegoodaddicts or email arrowdesign2@gmail.com.

Application for Oceanport Lions Scholarship

The Oceanport Lions Club is happy to announce it will give two \$1000 scholarships this year. These scholarships are 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 the son, daughter or grandchild of an Oceanport Lion member in good standing may apply.

The awards given 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 or can be downloaded at <https://oceanportlionsclub.com/>.

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.

The Oceanport Bulletin

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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 institu-

tions, 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>.