

The Oceanport Bulletin

1920-2020



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Michael O'Brien, Council President
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Thomas Tvrdik, Meghan Walker
BOROUGH ADMINISTRATOR
Donna Phelps
BOROUGH CLERK
Jeanne Smith

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June/July 2021

Mayor's Message

Summer is rushing towards us, but not as fast as motor vehicles are rushing through Oceanport's streets. This isn't really a new thing and, quite frankly, even though summer traffic exacerbates the situation, it really isn't even a summer thing. No matter the time of year, whether you are on Comanche, Port-Au-Peck, Burnt Mill Circle, East Main Street, Main Street, Pemberton, Bridgewater, Asbury, Monmouth Boulevard, Asbury or pretty much anywhere else in town, you've undoubtedly noticed a lot of cars going well in excess of the posted speed limit. And it isn't only out of towners cutting through Oceanport who are speeding. The number of Oceanport residents speeding through town -- even in their own neighborhoods -- is both disappointing and frustrating to say the least.

Unlike Monmouth Beach and Sea Bright, however, Oceanport has more than one main vehicular artery and the advent of community-based GPS programs like "Waze" has allowed drivers to avoid speed traps and traffic. Chief Kelly will be allocating his resources so that we will increase both radar-based speed control signage throughout Oceanport and targeted radar/stop sign enforcement throughout the Borough. These targeted radar/stop sign details will be augmented by "Special 2" police officers the Borough recently hired. The Borough's Governing Body, Police Department, and Municipal Court system are going to do everything in their power to ensure that speeding in Oceanport is no longer an option.

Simply stated, if you are pulled over by the Oceanport police for driving in excess of the posted speed limit, you will not get a warning. Instead, you will get a ticket. Under the motor vehicle laws of the State of New Jersey, the fine for driving one mile over the speed limit is the same as it is driving nine miles over the speed limit. The faster you go, the higher the fines climb. The same is true for the points that will accrue to your driving record, except that driving one mile over the posted speed limit results in the same number of points (two) as if you are driving fourteen miles over the speed limit.

The one upside to getting a speeding ticket, though, is that it entitles you to an appearance before the Honorable John A. Patti in Oceanport's Municipal Court. In my personal opinion, the Walt Disney Corporation offers the only other ticket providing more entertainment value than spending a hot, humid Monday afternoon watching Judge Patti adjudicate his motor vehicle docket. As an added bonus, moreover, you are much more likely to have a Buddy Brocklebank sighting at our Municipal Complex than at Disneyworld.

While Monmouth Boulevard is subject to a good number of speeding vehicles on a daily basis, one day that was an

(MAYOR'S MESSAGE continued on page 5)

Calendar of Events June

- 3 Mayor & Council Workshop Meeting
- 5 Paper Shredding @ Keyport Fireman's Field
- 8 Planning Board Meeting
- 9 Parks & Recreation Committee Meeting
- 9 Oceanport Board of Education Meeting
- 12 Monmouth County Rabies Clinic, Neptune Twp.
- 14 Environmental Advisory Committee Meeting
- 14 Water Watch Committee Meeting
- 17 Mayor & Council Regular Meeting
- 19 Paper Shredding @ Shrewsbury Borough
- 22 Planning Board Meeting
- 24 Shore Regional Board of Education
- 27 Paper Shredding @ Freehold Borough



July

- 4 Independence Day, Happy 4th of July!
- 5 Borough Offices Closed
- 12 Environmental Advisory Committee Meeting
- 12 Water Watch Committee Meeting
- 13 Planning Board Meeting
- 15 Mayor & Council Workshop & Regular Meeting
- 17 Paper Shredding @ Oceanport
- 21 Parks & Recreation Committee Meeting
- 22 Shore Regional Board of Education Meeting
- 28 Oceanport Board of Education Meeting
- 30 Movies in the Park, Sing

August

- 1 Quarterly Property Taxes Due
- 7 Paper Shredding @ Matawan
- 10 Planning Board Meeting
- 11 Parks & Recreation Committee Meeting
- 19 Mayor & Council Workshop & Regular Meeting

Recycling

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

COMMUNITY NEWS

BOROUGH NEWS

Paper Shredding Day for OP Residents Only

July 17th, 10:00 am – 12:00 pm or until truck is full. ID is required. For more information go to www.Oceanportboro.com.

Is your Landscaper Registered with the Borough?

When using a landscaper to care for your property be sure to ask them if they are registered with the town. Borough ordinance requires that they be registered so they are provided with the most current information on Borough ordinance for disposal of debris. Thanks for doing your part!

REMINDER

Tree/Bush limbs that are too large to be tied and bundled for garbage service should not be placed at the roadway. Residents/Landscapers may bring this material to the Monmouth County Reclamation Center for a fee. Please help us keep our roadways clear – this especially helps with stormwater runoff in upcoming hurricane season.

Grass Clippings

Reminder, the Borough does not provide for the disposal of grass clippings. Grass can be recycled by leaving clippings on the lawn when you mow. Grass MUST be blown back onto your property and is NEVER to be blown into the streets, down storm drains or into our waterways.

Public Works has a New Phone Number!

Public Works contact # is now the main # : (732) 222-8221 and press option #2.

SEE A POTHOLE? REPORT A POTHOLE!

Please report those “pesky pot holes” for OP’s dedicated staff of pothole killers! Call Public Works at (732) 222-8221 option #2. Or, email to publicworks@oceanportboro.com.

Save the Date!

Centennial Gala Rescheduled

The Oceanport Historical Committee is once again planning a Gala to celebrate the Borough’s Centennial year. Please save the date, Saturday, October 16th. The celebration will be in the Turf Room at Monmouth Park with a semi-formal gala, roaring ‘20’s costumes optional. There will be dinner and dancing which will be a good time for all! More details regarding ticket sales will be available soon, but for now, save the date in your calendar and start talking it up with family and friends!

Oceanport Parks & Recreation Committee Presents the 8th Annual:

Movies in the Park

Blackberry Bay Park at dusk

Friday, July 30th: *Sing*

Enjoy a free and fun night at the movies under the stars at Blackberry Bay this summer! Please bring a blanket and chair to be comfortable. You are also welcome to bring your own food and beverages too (no alcohol permitted).

Summer’s End is Back!

Save the Date!

Saturday, September 11, 2021

Oceanport Parks & Recreation Presents: 44th ANNUAL SUMMER’S END FESTIVAL

Saturday, September 11th from 5:00 -9:00 pm

(Rain date is Sunday, September 12th 5:00 – 9:00 pm)

Tentative Activities – More Details TBD

Children’s Games, Live Band, Food Vendors, Fireworks & a whole lot of fun with your Family, Friends & Neighbors!

Please support the fireworks fund via the enclosed envelope and donate to Summer’s End. Make checks payable to the Borough of Oceanport Summer’s End. Let’s make this the best Summer’s End ever- your generosity is greatly appreciated!

The Parks and Recreation Committee is happy to announce the winners of the 9th Annual Mini Golf Tournament!

GRADES K-4

1st Parker Seybold. (45)

2nd Lillian Seybold. (48)

3rd Tyler Silverman (51)

GRADES 5-8

1st Brady MacRae (39) OVERALL HIGH SCORE

2nd Alex MacMillen (43)

3rd Ryan Bennett. (46)

ADULT

1st Mike O’Brien (42)

2nd Paul Oliveros (43)

3rd Tie - Mike MacStudy & Sean Miller (44)

Thank you to all the participants and to the Blue Grass Mini Golf Course!



Annual Peach Festival

August 18th, 5:00 -7:00 pm

Oceanport United Methodist Church

50 Main Street

Outdoor seating

Hot dogs, hamburgers, homemade sides,
and, of course, peach dessert.

COMMUNITY NEWS



Cub Scout Corner

Oceanport Cub Scouts Pack 58 finished out their scout year with a strong spring season. Thank you to Rick and Susan Gallo, the scouts had a successful Mother's Day flower and honey fundraiser. There were also lots of scouts that volunteered for local cleanups. The Webelos Den did an amazing job on the BlackBerry boat ramp! The Tiger Den had a bicycle safety lesson from Officer Petrillo, followed by a parade through the streets. Many of the scouts marched in the Oceanport Memorial Day parade. They also volunteered to help out the Oceanport Garden Club to weed and plant pollinator flowers in Trinity Park.

Instead of the pack blue and gold ceremony, this year, the individual dens held ceremonies to advance the boys into their new ranks, which begin with the upcoming school year in September. Over the summer the pack will host an activity or two, such as the annual beach bonfire. There might also be a fishing or crabbing meeting. Oceanport Cub Scouts is open for boys and families of 1st-5th grade. They are entirely volunteer based and have lots of fun! If you are interested in joining, please contact just.elk@gmail.com

Boy Scout Buzz

Oceanport Boy Scouts Troop 58 were buzzing with spring activities. The May whitewater rafting trip was amazing. The troop cooked gourmet campfire meals, slept in tents, told scary stories, played basketball, and, rafted on the rapids for over four hours!

Many of the scouts and their families volunteered with Oceanport Paddle Club and cleaned up the Shrewsbury River. On Memorial Day, they marched in the parade, and also laid flags on veteran graves. The June trip to Gettysburg includes historic visits, a ghost tour, hiking, learning and more fun!

During the weekly meetings, scouts work on merit badges. In June, scouts are holding their court of honor to promote individual rank. Over the summer, many scouts will be attending a week long camp at Massewepie in upstate New York. If you are interested in joining our troop, please email oceanporttroop58@gmail.com

Senior Club Notes

Cards: Seniors interested in playing cards are invited to gather every Tuesday and Thursday at the Port Au Peck Fire House, 433 Myrtle Avenue, from 9:00 am – 12:00 noon.

Message from President Barbara Josselyn: All other activities of the Senior Club remain on hold because of the Covid 19 pandemic. Work is being planned but not yet underway to restore the Old Warf House, where the Senior Club is hoping to meet later this year. Meanwhile, please be careful to follow public health precautions (mask wearing, social distancing, etc.), stay well, and enjoy the summer with your families and friends.

Membership in the Senior Citizens Club of Oceanport is open to any Oceanport resident who is 55 years old or older. Meetings are suspended for now. Hopefully, as more members are vaccinated and building capacity limits are raised, the club will be able to resume monthly meetings on the third Wednesday. When the meetings resume, they will include informative presentations by guest speakers, entertainment, or other special events. If you are interested in becoming a member of the Senior Citizens Club of Oceanport, please contact Fran Bendock at (732) 229-0278 for information about joining.

Library News

Although the library is still open on Mondays from 1:00 pm – 5:00 pm and 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm, there are lots of activities planned for the summer! The annual Vacation Reading Clubs from June 1st through August 15th is up and running. Hopefully, there be an increase in participation this year. The theme for Read to Me, Vacation Reading Club, Teens and Adults is Tails and Tales. There are wonderful prizes for each age group. More information will be forthcoming in flyers as well as on the Kid's Page of the county's website at www.monmouthcountylib.org.

The Oceanport Library will have take and makes twice a month - once at the beginning of the month and in the middle of the month. The themes for June are a Fish Bowl and a Horse. In July the themes are Patriotic/4th/ and Peek-A-Boo Puppet.

Join the virtual storytimes! Your favorite children's librarians share songs, fingerplays, stories, and crafts on Monmouth County Library's YouTube channel: <https://bit.ly/MonCoLibraryStoryCraftTime>. Enjoy a new story time and craft every weekday at 2:00 pm! You may see Miss Florence on one of the story times reading some of her favorite books. In addition, share bedtime stories (narrated by authors and celebrity readers) on Facebook, weekdays at 6:30 pm @MonCoLib

That's all the news for now! Stay safe and well. The librarians at the OP Library hope to see you soon again at story time. You are all very missed!

COMMUNITY NEWS

Important Information from the Oceanport Police Department TRAFFIC SAFETY

Motorists are reminded to watch their speeds and slow down. The OP Police Department has received numerous complaints regarding drivers speeding while driving in the Borough.

Throughout the summer months, OP Police officers will be conducting radar enforcement details on targeted streets throughout the Borough. We will be issuing summons, handing out informational pamphlets and brochures related to safe driving, but most importantly, showing a presence for drivers to reduce their speed and be cognizant of their speeds.

Please contact the Oceanport Police Department at (732) 222-6300 to report traffic related complaints or email complaints at traffic@oceanportpolice.org.

CRIME PREVENTION

There have been reports of many types of scams occurring where the scammers are attempting to gain personal information from people. Scammers have been calling advising that your social security number is "locked" or compromised. They attempt to obtain personal information from the victims. There are also the ongoing "Grandparents Scam" when someone calls to claim to be a relative and they have been arrested. They hand the phone to a "bail bondsmen" who request you wire or draw money out of the bank and that they will meet you to retrieve the "bail money". They sometimes use real relatives' names.

Some helpful tips to avoid being scammed:

- Know who you are talking to, do not be rushed into giving information.
- Do not open suspicious texts, pop-up windows or click on links of unknown emails or attachments.
- Keep your personal details secure, never give personal information to an unknown source, or suspicious source.
- Hang up on the suspicious call and verify with the suspected calling agency, department, source and/or entity that they are seeking information.
- Notify the Police of any suspicious scams, calls, transactions, or visits.

Car thieves continue to target and steal high end motor vehicles throughout the area and in Oceanport. They look for unlocked vehicles and take the cars to north Jersey. They have become more brazen and are even committing their crimes during daylight hours. We ask residents to lock their cars, remove keys and keys, park vehicles in well-lit areas, and report any suspicious vehicles, subjects, and activity to the Police.

"Knock, Knock, Whose There?" The Borough has in place a No-Knock ordinance for solicitors and companies who registered and have background checks completed by the Police Department. Solicitors who apply for a solicitor permit through the Borough, once checked, are given the No Knock List, and are given a permit which they must visibly have on along with a company ID.

Many times, companies come into town and solicit without a permit and the Borough and Police Department are unaware of this until a complaint is received or the police are called.

Residents should:

- When observing a subject soliciting on their property and the resident is on the No-Knock list please contact the police department of the incident, including a description of the person(s) soliciting.
- Contact the police of any suspicious incidents, vehicles, or subjects.
- Log onto the Oceanport Borough Website at www.Oceanportboro.com to add your address to the No-Knock List.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

There has been a dramatic rise in overdoses throughout the state and within Oceanport. To help spread the word that there is help for those battling addictions, the Oceanport Police has partnered with the Monmouth County Prosecutor's Office in Operation Helping Hands. One of the initiatives of the program is to distribute Helpline Palm Cards when officers encounter someone whom they believe would benefit from addiction treatment or recovery support services. The Palm Cards have our Helpline number on them (1-833-OHH-CARE). The Helpline is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Recovery coaches from RAFTS (Recovery Advocates for the Shore) are the ones who answer the calls and assist with providing a caller with treatment or recovery support services. If you, or someone you know is battling addiction please utilize this resource.

"Don't Be the Dealer"- Do not leave prescription drugs around the home. The Oceanport Police utilized a Drug Drop off Box located at Police headquarters. Drop off unwanted and unused pills and prescription drugs. No paperwork needed to be filled out and no questions asked. *******SYRINGES AND LIQUIDS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED AT THE DROP OFF*******



Oceanport Volunteer First Aid 911 News

The Oceanport Volunteer First Aid Squad (OPFAS) would like to congratulate Dawn Placer on receiving her certification as an EMT. In addition to Dawn completing her five months of study, she responded to more than 200 requests for service in the year 2020. Congratulations Dawn!

The Squad would like remind community members to be mindful that your house number is visible. It is vital house numbers are clearly displayed. Please check to see that a porch light is on as well.

OPFAS wishes the community a healthy and enjoyable summer season!

COMMUNITY NEWS

Mayor Coffey's Memorial Day Speech



Good morning everyone.

The fact is that the majority of people will not attend Memorial Day events this holiday weekend. So, thank you for taking time out of your day to venerate those who have sacrificed their lives so that we can enjoy the freedoms that we have here in America.

There are three days on our calendar upon which we recognize the people who protect us, keep us safe and keep us free. Armed Forces Day, which was observed on May 15th, is for those who wear the uniform. There are about 1.3 million active-duty members of the military and another 800,000 reserve forces.

Veteran's Day is for those who have worn the uniform. The last World War I veteran, Frank Buckles, died in 2010. 16 million people served in WW2 and only 450,000 are still alive. There are about the same number of surviving Korean War veterans and the average age of surviving Vietnam Veterans is 81. All told, there are about 22 million living military veterans in the US.

Memorial Day, however, is for the 3 million members in the US Military Service who never got to take the uniform off. For most of us Memorial Day is the ONE day of the year that we citizens pay homage to those who gave their lives for our freedom and our way of life. This is the most sacred of all the American holidays. For the family and friends of those who never got to take off their uniform, however, every day is sacred, every day is Memorial Day.

Our peaceful existence and our way of life can be taken away from us in an instant. Ask people who lived in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Lebanon was the Paris of the middle east in 1980. By 1982 it was a war zone. We've already forgotten what happened in NYC on September 1, 2001. It can happen in an instant. And these people who put their lives on the line for us each and every day are what stands between us and what we don't dare think about.

Most of us have not been affected by the horrors of war like many of our nation's veterans and Gold Star Families. We don't really understand the gravity of this day and what it means to lose a loved one to war. Take a moment today and think about how lucky we all are.

We have been gifted this amazing heritage of privileges and rights for which almost all of us didn't have to fight. It is our solemn responsibility to remember those who have died for those privileges and rights.

We can't personally thank those service members who have made the ultimate sacrifice, but people are gathering all across America today to honor them and to pray that the memory of their service will not be forgotten.

World War I was called the "War to End All Wars." It didn't quite work out like that. 320,000 service members died in that war. 320,000 people to honor. 320,00 names to remember. World War II, Korea, Vietnam, Iraq, Afghanistan and so many armed conflicts in so many places followed the World to End All Wars that 1.5 million more service members died. 1.5 million. 1.5 million more people to honor. 1.5 million more names to remember.

We should all just take a moment to pray that at some future Memorial Day there will be no more new names to remember.



(MAYOR'S MESSAGE continued from page 1)

exception was May 31, 2021, during the Borough of Oceanport's Memorial Day Parade. Led by Grand Marshal, Navy veteran and Oceanport Legend Al DeSantis, Sr., this year's parade (after a one-year absence) was bigger and better than ever. A parade, especially in a small town like Oceanport, is one of those special, life affirming events that reminds us all of what being part of a community is all about. And this was certainly a community event! Special thanks to Kim Parent, Paula Lombardo and the Historical Committee, Councilman Billy Deerin and the Recreation Committee, our Department of Public Works and everybody else who helped organize and conduct a fantastic parade through town and a solemn, poignant post-parade memorial service at our new Borough Hall complex.

Speaking of the new Borough Hall complex, the Municipal Building (located at 910 Oceanport Way, just off Main Street) is now open to the public and we will be conducting a formal opening ceremony on July 31, 2021, at which time the Municipal Building will be dedicated to former Mayor Clement V. Sommers. Information regarding the July 31, 2021, dedication ceremony will be forthcoming on the Borough of Oceanport's website. The Borough Council and I look forward to seeing all of you at that event. But remember to take your time driving there.

The Oceanport Bulletin

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**KORTNEY ROSE
FOUNDATION**

Dear Oceanport Friends,

Rich, Kasey, and I could never have made it through the loss of Kortney nor the building of such a significant legacy in her memory without our Oceanport community. Thank you for being loyal supporters of The Kortney Rose Foundation (KRF) mission for so many years. It is hard to believe that April 27th marked the 16th anniversary of Kortney's death which also makes this the 16th annual Kortney's Challenge 2 Mile Fun Run/Walk. This event will be held virtually again this year (July 30-August 1), and we're asking you to support this event **one final time**.

We've poured our hearts and souls, into KRF to fulfill our mission of eradicating pediatric brain tumors by supporting the world's most promising, collaborative research. I've made the difficult decision that this Kortney's Challenge will be the last event for KRF. While it will be our last event, KRF will remain open until year end. Our hope is that our 2021 year-end donation will be substantial enough to leave an even larger mark to Help Get Brain Tumors Off Kids' Minds. Our gifts of over \$2.6 million, have helped to change the landscape of pediatric cancer research and create a beautiful legacy in Kortney's name.

After 2021, donations to continue funding the CBTN and brain tumor research may still be made in Kortney's memory through the Kortney Rose Gillette account at the CHOP Foundation.

Gratefully,
Kristen Gillette

Please Join Us!

HELP GET BRAIN TUMORS OFF KIDS' MINDS

KORTNEY'S CHALLENGE, VIRTUAL WEEKEND

July 30 – August 1

VIRTUAL 2-MILE FUN RUN/WALK

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

- * Raise \$100,000 for pediatric brain tumor research*
- One participant from every U.S. state • Participants from many countries*



Visit-<https://thekortneyrosefoundation.org/kortneys-challenge/>