Volume 38 No. 02 Spring/Summer 2023 A Newsletter of the Township of Ocean in the County of Monmouth

www.oceantwp.org www.facebook.com/twpofocean

### Message From The Mayor



John P. Napolitani, Sr. Mayor

Dear Residents,

Historical preservation is paramount for any municipality. Over the Winter, thanks to Paramount Realty and Maurice Zekaria, the Stucile Tower on Deal Rd. and Rte. 35 is now lit up and becomes a cornerstone to the Township. This will truly enhance this bustling area as our current council is looking for ways to improve the Route 35 corridor in the Township of Ocean over the next 5 years.

We started the Spring season with our annual St. Patrick's Day Celebration on March 17 at the Renaissance, where we honored former Mayor Chris Siciliano for his years of service. Our Easter egg hunt was held on April 2, with Senator Vin Gopal co-sponsoring this event for the kids. And later in Spring, on April 22, the Council will be dedicating our newly created Veteran's Memorial behind the library at 11:00am. We thank all the volunteers for their hard work who made this memorial possible.

The Mayor's Charity Ball is set for Saturday, May 6, 2023, which will be held at the prestigious Deal Golf and Country Club. This year's theme is the Kentucky Derby and fittingly on the same day. Proceeds from the event solely benefit the Mya Lin Terry Foundation for pediatric cancer. We will honor Chris Siciliano with the Award of Excellence, Jen Nordstrom and Mike Butrico for our Community Leader Award, and The Stavola Realty Company's Ocean Plaza for the



Mayor's Charity Event

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Landmark Business Award. There are some excellent sponsorship opportunities starting at \$20.00 so everyone can be involved. For more information email: <a href="mailto:kellylynnterry@msn.com">kellylynnterry@msn.com</a>.

Township of Ocean Municipal elections are being held on Tuesday, May 9, 2023. Polls will be open between the hours of 6:00am and 8:00pm. Vote by mail applications can be downloaded from the Monmouth County Board of Elections site or picking



up the application in Municipal Hall. There is a vote by mail drop box in front of Town Hall that will also be utilized for this election. If you have any additional questions, please contact Jessie Joseph, our Clerk.

Ocean Township will officially kick off the Summer on Wednesday, May 24, 2023, with a live concert in Joe Palaia Park featuring So Watt with Red Bank Mayor and Ocean Township alum, Billy Portman. Our annual 4th of July fireworks show will be held on Saturday, July 1 in Palaia Park. The Ocean Township PD will hold their annual National Night Out on Tuesday, August 8 at our pool complex. And we will culminate our Summer with the annual Italian Festival sponsored by the Italian American Association of Ocean Township from Wednesday, August 9 through Sunday, August 13, again, in Palaia Park, with another fireworks show on Friday, August 11. Keep an eye out for additional events to be announced.

In closing, we provide a myriad of events throughout the year. Our recreation department has done an outstanding job creating new events to enhance the existing ones we are already have to offer. Mike Butrico also has been working on getting turf fields throughout the township with some help from donors, such as the Irvin family and the Open Space Trust Fund, so that there is no burden to the taxpayer. We thank Gino Dellome of Shrewsbury Volkswagon, John Napolitani of A&N Power Washing, IAATO, the Vin Gopal Civic Assoc., Robby Silverstein and the many other corporate sponsors for generously donating to the recreation fund. If you are interested in sponsoring Township events or would like to be a corporate sponsor, please contact Jen Nordstrom from our Recreation department. We wish you a fun filled Spring and Summer season and look forward to seeing you at our events this Spring and Summer!

### **Public Works News and Updates "KNOW YOUR ZONE"**

Brush collection begins in April. PLEASE KNOW YOUR ZONE. Brush should be placed at the curb no more than 10 DAYS PRIOR to your zone's scheduled pick-up. Zone information and pick-up dates can be found on our website and on the Township's calendar. It is the resident's responsibility to inform your landscaper or gardener of your zone's schedule. Grass clippings are NOT PERMITTED curb side at any time. Grass clippings can be taken to the Recycling Drop Off Center. Our drop off center is located at 3603 Sunset Avenue offers extended summer hours from April 15-September 30:

Monday through Friday – 7:30 a.m. - 2:30p.m. Extended hours Tuesday and Thursday until 5:00p.m. Saturday 8:00 a.m. - 12:00p.m. Sunday-**CLOSED** 

Curbside metal collection dates are as follows:

May 29, 2023, July 31, 2023 & October 30, 2023

Additional garbage/recycling carts are available for lease through the Dept. of Public Works. Call 732-531-5001 for more information or visit our website www.oceantwp.org

#### RECYCLING INFORMATION

All recyclables must be loose inside the blue cart. Permitted recyclables include: Glass bottles, jars, aluminum cans, tin cans, plastic milk containers, plastic soda bottles, water bottles, bleach, laundry detergent, newspaper, mixed paper, magazines, mail, office paper, school paper and cardboard. PLASTIC BAGS ARE NOT PERMITTED IN BLUE RECYCLING CART.

### PAPER SHREDDING EVENTS FOR TOWNSHIP RESIDENTS' CONFIDENTIAL PAPERS

June 3, 2023 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Dow Avenue School



### **OEM Message**

We have just come to the end of a fairly uneventful Winter. Probably one of the most uneventful ones that I can remember. That doesn't mean that we can let our guard down. The Atlantic hurricane season starts up on June 1. Just because we had a quiet Winter does not mean that the Spring and Summer will follow

suit! Check the OEM webpage at <a href="http://www.oceantwp.org/emergencymanagement">http://www.oceantwp.org/emergencymanagement</a> as well as our Facebook page for helpful hints to help you Be Prepared for Emergencies.

Also, remember to sign up for CodeRed and NIXLE to stay informed of situations that may arise.

### Friends of the Library

The Friends of the Township of Ocean Library will be holding two book sales again this Spring and Summer. Sale dates and times are April 26 and 27, and July 12 and 13, from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. all days. The sales are held at the Ocean Township Library, 701 Deal Rd. All of the profits from the book sales go directly to support

the library's children, young adult and adult programs, resources and services, and provide the extras that make our library such an awesome town resource. See the Friends website for more information or to become member: <a href="https://www.friendsofoceantwplibrary.org">www.friendsofoceantwplibrary.org</a>

# **Election Information**

The Township of Ocean Municipal Elections will be held Tuesday, May 9th and the last day to register to vote before the election is April 18th. The Clerk's Office will be open until 7:00 p.m. that evening. Polls are open on election day from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. Primary Elections will be held Tuesday, June 6th and polls are open from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. Poll locations can be found on the Township website at <a href="https://www.oceantwp.org">www.oceantwp.org</a>.





### **Police Tips**



Vehicle theft rates in the State of NJ are extremely high right now. Make sure that vehicle windows are rolled up completely when your vehicle is parked and that the doors are locked at all times while your vehicle is unoccupied. Do not leave valuables in view and do not leave key fobs inside your vehicle. Car thieves operate during all hours of the day and night so protect your property at all times. Don't make it easy for the criminals to take a joy ride in your car!



Ocean Township has seen an increase in our population as well as several new construction projects that are attracting people to our community. There has been and will continue to be a significant increase in vehicular and pedestrian traffic. Remember to avoid any distractions when driving, especially cell phones. As the weather continues to get warmer and more people go outside, be sure to yield to pedestrians that are in the crosswalks throughout our Township. Let's work together to keep the members of our community safe.



Over the past year there have been several scams that have been targeting elderly members of our community. The most common scams are the Family Emergency Scam, the Utility Company Scam and the IRS Scam. The majority of companies will not require you to provide your personal information over the phone nor will they ask you to provide payment in the form of any type of gift card. If you receive one of these calls make sure to ask questions and attempt to verify who is calling. In order to verify the call, hang up and call the customer service number listed on your credit card statement or call the police department where your family member may is supposedly being held. Resist the urge to act immediately no matter how real the story sounds.



The Ocean Township Police Department is open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Please contact 911 for any emergencies and 732-531-1800 for non emergent matters.

### **Improvements to Sports Courts in Oakhurst**

Thanks to our mild winter weather, the Recreation Department was able to unveil new improvements to Oakhurst First Aid & Fire Company Memorial Fields in time for spring play. The basketball court was given a complete facelift with the installation of colorful new surfacing and new backboards, rims, nets and fencing.

Three new pickleball courts, set to open in mid-April, will add more pickleball courts to meet the growing demand in Ocean Township.

Pickleball is also offered indoors at the Municipal Gym this spring, and lessons are offered for those interested in learning how to play this fast-growing sport. Check the Recreation Brochure for more information.



### What's New at the Senior Center?

Socialize with others, learn something new, celebrate and have fun at the Don & Marie Curtis Senior Center!

Seniors can find a variety of activities at the center, located on West Park Avenue. Most are free, but be sure to register, because space is limited. Join our email list by calling the Department of Human Services, 732-531-2600 or visit OceanTwp.org/seniors for details.

New events and programs will be added, so be sure to check the website or sign up for email alerts for the latest news.

### Garden Club

June 12th is our annual Garden Club plant swap. The swap is open to the public. For every item you bring, you swap the item for another. Please have plants labeled and in containers. No plastic bags. This is an outdoor event at the Pavilion at Fireman's Field. Refreshment are served at 6:30p.m. The swap is from 7 to 8. We hope to see you there.



#### **DID YOU KNOW?**

FREE round-trip transportation via
Monmouth County SCAT is available 4 times a month
for Ocean seniors age 60 and older?

Round-TripTransportation to ShopRite and Wegmans

### FREE RIDES FOR OCEAN TOWNSHIP SENIORS

#### **HOW TO REGISTER:**

Step 1: Register with Monmouth County DHS 732-431-6480 Option 1 Step 2: Call Ocean Twp DHS, 732-531-2600, to schedule pickup.



More information can be found at oceantwp.org/seniors

SCAT is a service of the Monmouth County Dept. of Human Services, Division of Transportation. The program for Ocean Township is coordinated by the Township of Ocean Dept. of Human Services.

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR – Spring/Summer (In person events to be held at Town Hall unless otherwise indicated)

	APRIL
1	William F. Larkin Golf Course at Colonial Terrace
	Opens
1	Easter Egg Hunt & Bonnet Contest 11 a.m. Fireman's
	Field
20	Board of Adjustment Meeting* - 7:30 p.m.
22	VFW Veterans Memorial Unveiling at 11 am -
	701 Deal Road
23	Greenfest - 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Joe Palaia Park.
24	Planning Board Meeting* - 7:30 p.m.
26/27	Friends of Library Book Sale 10 a.m 8 p.m.
	701 Deal Rd.
27	Township Council Workshop and Regular Meeting* -
	5:00 p.m./ 7:00 p.m.
29	Museum Spring Tea, Woman's Club of Asbury Park, 57
	Wickapecko Drive, 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
29/30	Clean Sweep 10 a.m 2 p.m. Fireman's Field

### MAY

- Second Quarter Municipal and Sewer Taxes Due Registration begins for Summer Recreation Program and Fall Youth Soccer (residents) Shade Tree Commission Meeting – 7:00 p.m. Environmental Commission Meeting – 8:00 p.m. Mayor's Ball – 5:30 p.m. D.G.C.C. Municipal Elections – Polls open 6 a.m. - 8 p.m. Township Council Workshop and Regular Meeting\* –
- 11 5:00 p.m./ 7:00 p.m. Board of Adjustment Meeting\* - 7:30 p.m. 18
- Planning Board Meeting\* 7:30 p.m. 22 So Watt Concert in Park 6:30 p.m. - Fairgrounds at JPP 24 Community Pool and Tennis Facility Opens for the 27
- Metal Collection 29 30 Memorial Day Ceremony - 10:00 a.m.

### JUNE

Shade Tree Commission Meeting - 7:00 p.m.

- Environmental Commission 8:00 p.m.
- Paper Shredding Event 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., Dow Avenue School
- Primary Election Polls Open 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. 8 Township Council Workshop and Regular Meeting\*-
- 5:00 p.m./ 7:00 p.m. Garden Club Annual Everything Garden Swap-Fireman's Field Meeting Room. 6:30 p.m. refreshments swap 7 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
- Board of Adjustment Meeting\* 7:30 p.m.
- Senior Wellness + Recovery Fair -1 p.m. 3 p.m. West Park Ave Rec - Large Room
- Township Council Workshop and Regular Meeting\* -22 5:00 p.m./ 7:00 p.m.
- 26 Planning Board Meeting\* - 7:30 p.m.

#### **JULY**

- Fireworks at dark at Joe Palaia Park (rain date TBD)
- Shade Tree Commission Meeting 7:00 p.m.
- Environmental Commission Meeting 8:00 p.m. Friends of Library Book Sale 10 a.m. - 8 p.m. - 701 Deal 12/13
- - Township Council Workshop and Regular Meeting\* -5:00 p.m./ 7:00 p.m.

#### **AUGUST**

- Third Quarter Municipal and Sewer Taxes Due
- National Night Out 4:00 p.m. 8:00 p.m. Ocean Community Pool & Tennis Facility
  - Shade Tree Commission Meeting 7:00 p.m.
- Environmental Commission Meeting 8:00 p.m.
- Museum American Doll Tea 1:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. location to be determined.
- 9-13 Ocean Township Italian Festival - 5:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m.
- Township Council Workshop and Regular Meeting\* -5:00 p.m./ 7:00 p.m.

#### **SEPTEMBER**

- Community Pool and Tennis Facility Closes Shade Tree Commission Meeting - 7:00 p.m.
- Environmental Commission Meeting 8:00 p.m.
- Township Council Workshop and Regular Meeting\* -5:00 p.m./ 7:00 p.m.
- 28 Township Council Workshop and Regular Meeting\* -5:00 p.m./ 7:00 p.m.
- Fall Fest Joe Palaia Park 10:00 a.m. 3:00 p.m. Rain date 10/1

#### **OCTOBER**

- Shade Tree Commission Meeting 7:00 p.m.
- Environmental Commission Meeting 8:00 p.m.
- Township Council Workshop and Regular Meeting\* 12 5:00 p.m./ 7:00 p.m.
- Township Council Workshop and Regular Meeting\* 26 5:00 p.m./ 7:00 p.m.
- Township Curfew Begins at 8:00 p.m. through 6:00 a.m. 29 on Nov 1
- Metal Collection

Please visit www.oceantwp.org for updated information on events. \*All Council, Planning Board and Board of Adjustment

meetings are aired on Ocean TV. Channel 77 on Cablevision; Channel 22 on FIOS



TELEPHONE 732.531.5000 WEB SITE

WWW.OCEANTWP.ORG

### Members of the Township Council



JOHN NAPOLITANI, SR., MAYOR

Council Members: Robert V. Acerra, Sr. • Dr. Margie Donlon • Dr. David Fisher • Kelly Terry

### TOWNSHIP OF OCEAN POSTAL CUSTOMER

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