

A LOOK AT OCEAN

Volume 31 No. 1 Spring 2015

A Newsletter of the Township of Ocean in the County of Monmouth

www.oceantwp.org

Message From The Mayor

As we say goodbye to Mayor Larkin, or “Bill” as we call him, we say goodbye to the “Larkin Era.” It was an era in which Ocean saw many improvements, and we can fondly remember Bill’s contributions to our town. Bill served with integrity and dignity and he always put Ocean Township first in all of his actions. His service to our town was the longest to date with nearly 24 years. Bill will be missed.



Councilman
Rich Long

January 1 marked the start of my term as your new Mayor. I am honored to be given the responsibility of representing each of you. Additionally, we are pleased to have Rich Long serve as a new member of Ocean’s Council filling the vacancy created by Mayor Larkin’s retirement. Rich has an extensive history with Ocean Township dating back decades and he is a tremendous addition to your Township Council.



Mayor
Chris Siciliano

As I begin my term as your Mayor, we will work hard to continue to keep alive Ocean Township’s reputation as the “Community of Gracious Living.” The newsletter is one of the items that you will see as it is a way to communicate Township happenings to some of our residents who may not be able to attend meetings or have access to the website or other social media.

Yours truly,
Mayor Christopher Siciliano

Your Voting Location May Have Changed

District	OLD Polling Location	NEW Polling Location
1 & 6	West Park Recreation Center	Same
2	Township of Ocean Sewerage Authority	Same
3	Township of Ocean Municipal Building	Same
4, 5 & 7	The English Manor	Same
8	Wanamassa School	The English Manor
9 & 11	Oakhurst Methodist Church	Same
10	Wanamassa School	Ocean Township Municipal Building
12	Wayside Methodist Church	St. George Greek Orthodox Church
13	Ocean Township Intermediate School	St. George Greek Orthodox Church
14 & 15	Presbyterian Church on the Hill	Same
16	Presbyterian Church on the Hill	Ocean Township Gym & Sports Complex
17	Ocean Township Elementary School	West Park Avenue Recreation Center
18 & 20	Ocean Township Gym & Sports Complex	St. George Greek Orthodox Church
21	Ocean Township Intermediate School	Presbyterian Church on the Hill
19 & 22	Wayside School	Ocean Township Gym & Sports Complex

If you need to obtain the address of your NEW polling location, please visit the Township of Ocean website at www.oceantwp.org or contact the Township Clerk’s Office at (732) 531-5000, ext. 3322.

Property Tax Rewards Program

An innovative program called “Own Ocean” is being developed for residents who choose to shop with local participating merchants. The Township is currently working with local businesses to implement this program and it is anticipated that the “Own Ocean” program will be up and running this summer. All Township residents will receive an “Own Ocean” rewards card to use when shopping and dining with participating businesses here in town. Under the program, a percentage (between 5%

and 15%) of purchases will appear as a credit on property owners’ tax bills or, in the case of tenants, returned to them via a rebate check from the Township.

Participating business owners will see an increase in business as residents patronize our merchants while taking advantage of savings.

Visit us at www.oceantwp.org for information about this upcoming program.



Senior Center Renovations

The Township was recently awarded a Community Development Block Grant in the amount of \$162,714 to complete accessibility improvements at the building entrances and parking lots as well as a new roof, doors and siding. Work is nearing completion and expected to be finished in the spring of 2015.

Coffee with the Mayor

Mayor Siciliano will have regularly-scheduled office hours, so any of our town's residents can come to the Mayor's office and meet with him to discuss any town business, problem, or suggestion. The office hours will be Monday and Friday from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. No appointments are necessary.

Taped Airings of Council Meetings

All Council meetings will be videotaped and will be aired on Ocean TV (channel 77 for Cablevision subscribers and channel 22 for FIOS subscribers). The most current meeting will air daily at 10:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. until the next meeting.



Colonial Terrace Golf Course Facility Opens 3/28/15

*"There's always ...
Time for Nine"*

April Special: \$13.00 greens fees; any day & any time beginning 3/28/15.

*9-Hole Regulation Course
Reasonable Rates*

*Participate in April's **Get Golf Ready** lesson series
8th Annual Mayor's Challenge - April 25, 2015
Ask about our "Loyalty Card"; Play 9 rounds get one FREE
Group, Private & Semi-Private Lessons*

**Call or visit our website for information on Greens Fees,
Tournaments, Lessons & other programming.**

**Colonial Terrace Golf Course
732-775-3636**

1003 Wickapecko Dr., (near Rte. 35) Ocean, NJ

Crime Prevention Tips For Your Home

Keep all doors and windows closed and securely fastened. Doors should have deadbolt locks with a one inch throw and reinforced strike plate with three inch screws.

Secure sliding glass doors. Place a metal rod or piece of plywood in the track and install vertical bolts.

Always lock the door to an attached garage. Don't rely on your automatic garage door opener for security.

Keep the perimeter of your home well lighted. Be sure to light areas around windows and doors.

Create the illusion that you are home by using timers on lights, radios and TV's. Make your residence appear occupied.

Never leave clues that you are away on a trip. Have a trusted neighbor collect mail and newspapers while you are away so delivered items do not accumulate.

Keep shrubbery trimmed away from entrances and walkways. While large, ornate hedges may be beautiful, they also provide a hiding place for burglars who need only a minute to break in through a window or door.

Consider alarming your home and installing a video monitoring/recording system.

For more information, contact the Township of Ocean Police Department Crime Prevention Unit at 732-531-1559 or visit us at www.oceantwp.org/police.

Did You Know?

Ocean's "Peddler/Solicitor Ordinance" has been amended to further protect you and control who is in your neighborhood. These changes to the Ordinance include:

- No soliciting on Sundays
- No soliciting after 6:00 p.m. from Monday through Saturday
- No solicitors may appear at your door without first having a criminal background check and, second, wearing a photo identification badge issued by Ocean's Township Clerk.

If you notice someone in violation of any of these, please call the Police Department at 732-531-1800.

Ocean Twp Summer Recreation A Great Program at a Great Price.....

A summer day camp experience that is safe, exciting and affordable for kids entering 1 - 8 grade.



Register for 6 weeks of full day programming
June 29 - August 7, 7:00 am – 6:00 pm
Half day sessions (9 - 12 noon) also available.

Full day: \$225/\$265/2-week sess. (Res./Non-res.)
Half day: \$65/\$85/2-week sess. (Res./Non-res.)



Your child's day will be filled with
**Swimming, Crafts,
Trips & Special Events**

Information
www.oceantwp.org
or call
732-531-2600

On-Line Payments for Certificates of Occupancy

We are now accepting applications and payments on our website for certificates of occupancy. To access this area of our website simply click on the Housing and Code Enforcement portal along the top banner; then click on the "Forms" link from the left-hand navigation menu. Payment can be made via check, money order, or credit/debit card. If you need assistance, please call 732-531-5000, x. 3392.

Recycling Center

Our Recycling Center has been relocated and upgraded with the help of a \$150,000 grant from the Monmouth County Municipal Recycling Services Improvement Grant. Some of the features at the new drop-off center are the following:

- Residents and businesses are no longer required to place cardboard, glass, plastic, etc., in separate containers and are now able to place these materials into one container.
- Bulk waste and concrete are now accepted from non-commercial sources (one CY per visitor).
- Scrap metal and electronics continue to be separated and placed in individual containers.
- Personnel are available on weekends and weekdays to assist visitors in depositing materials where required. Check our website for seasonal schedule changes.

OCEAN TOWNSHIP DESIGNATED A "SUSTAINABLE" COMMUNITY Recertified with Bronze Level Sustainable Jersey® Certification

Sustainable Jersey representatives recently announced Ocean Township has met the rigorous requirements to achieve Sustainable Jersey recertification at the bronze level. This is the second Sustainable Jersey bronze designation for the Township, which was first certified in 2011 for its efforts to become a more sustainable community.

Sustainable Jersey is a certification program for municipalities in New Jersey that want to go green, save money and take steps to sustain their quality of life over the long term.

Over the past few years, the Township has completed or implemented several energy-efficiency and conservation initiatives at the municipal and community level, including energy-efficiency community outreach programs, a rain and butterfly garden, a community garden, a recycling depot, a bicycle and pedestrian plan, efficient landscape design, tree maintenance and planting programs and a community forestry plan and tree cover goal.

Ocean Township will be recognized at the Sustainable Jersey awards luncheon held at the New Jersey State League of Municipalities conference in November 2015.

TOWNSHIP OF OCEAN COMMUNITY POOL

A variety of membership types are available.
A great place to bring your kids, relax and enjoy your summer days and evenings.
For information call 732-531-2600 or visit www.oceantwp.org



615 West Park Avenue, Oakhurst
Family fun and supervised children's activities in and out of the water.

2015 COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Spring/Summer

APRIL

- 1 Curbside brush collection begins by zone
- 2 Township Council Meeting – 7:00 p.m.
- 8 Deadline for party declaration – Primary Election
- 12 Sharon Steinhorn Exhibit opening reception - Terner Gallery 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- 16 Township Council Meeting – 7:00 p.m.
- 19 Spring Clean Sweep – Registration Oakhurst Fireman’s Field – 11:00 a.m. (Rain date April 26)
- 21 Deadline for voter registration – Municipal Election
- 24 Curbside leaf collection ends
- 25 Mayor’s Challenge Golf Tournament Colonial Terrace Golf Club (Rain date 4/26)
- 25 Museum Spring Tea – 2:00 to 4:00 p.m., West Park Rec Center
- 29 Recreation program registration begins – Summer cycle

MAY

- 1 Second quarter property taxes due
- 5 Deadline to submit vote by mail application for Municipal Election
- 7 Township Council meeting – 7:00 p.m.
- 12 Municipal Election Polls open 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
- 21 Township Council Meeting – 7:00 p.m.
- 23 Community Pool and Tennis Facility opens
- 25 Memorial Day Ceremony 11:30 a.m. Town Hall

JUNE

- 2 Primary Election Polls open 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
- 4 Township Council Meeting – 7:00 p.m.
- 7 Lois Kiely & Diane Novobilsky Exhibit opening reception Terner Gallery – 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- 18 Township Council Meeting – 7:00 p.m.
- 22 Last day of school

JULY

- 1 Township Council Reorganization Meeting (time TBD)
- 3 Independence Day celebration Joe Palaia Park 6:00 p.m.
- 16 Township Council Meeting – 7:00 p.m.
- 12 Museum’s American Girl Doll Tea (Rain date July 19)

AUGUST

- 1 Third quarter taxes due
- 2 A Family of Artists- The Hara’s Exhibit opening reception – Terner Gallery 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- 4 National Night Out on Crime community crime Prevention event - Wegmans
- 5 Ocean Township Festival Joe Palaia Park
- 13 Township Council Meeting – 7:00 p.m.

Dates are subject to change – Please visit www.oceantwp.org

TELEPHONE
732.531.5000

WEB SITE
WWW.OCEANTWP.ORG

MEMBERS OF THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL

CHRISTOPHER SICILIANO, MAYOR
WILLIAM J. GAROFALO • W. MICHAEL EVANS • RICHARD H. LONG • DONNA SCHEPIGA

TOWNSHIP OF OCEAN
POSTAL CUSTOMER

PRSRSTD.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
RED BANK, NJ 07701
PERMIT NO. 694

TOWNSHIP OF OCEAN
399 MONMOUTH ROAD
OAKHURST, NEW JERSEY 07755