



OCEAN PINES REPORT

ELECTION ISSUE



KEY DATES in the Election Process

The candidates are vying to fill three vacant Board positions, all of which are for three-year terms. This year, the top three vote-getters will each be elected to three-year terms on the Ocean Pines Board.

Paper ballots must be received – NOT mailed – by 4 p.m. on AUGUST 10. Paper ballots may be returned either to the ballot box inside the lobby of the Ocean Pines Police Department on 239 Ocean Parkway OR mailed to the Ocean Pines post office box in Berlin. Paper ballots must be sealed and returned in the envelope provided in the mailing.

Important upcoming election dates:

Wed, JULY 6: Cutoff date for voter eligibility

Week of JULY 12: Paper ballots mailed to Association members in good standing

Wed, AUG 10: BALLOT DEADLINE by 4 p.m.

Thu, AUG 11: Ballots counted & vote totals announced starting at 10 a.m. (Clubhouse Meeting Room)

Sat, AUG 13: Annual Meeting 9am (venue TBD)

For questions about the election, email elections@oceanpines.org or call 410-208-3989

Election season is here!

Six candidates are vying for three open seats on the Board of Directors

Board approves electronic voting

The Ocean Pines Association Board on June 27 approved electronic voting for annual elections, and for referendums.

Elections Committee Chairperson Carol Ludwig said the committee had recommended electronic voting as far back as 2020. This year, she said voters would have the option to return a paper ballot, or to vote online.

“The Elections Committee is pleased that the OPA Board of Directors has accepted their recommendation to include the option of electronic transmission of ballots for the 2022 Board of Directors election,” she said. “Along with the announcement of the annual meeting, eligible property owners will receive the bio insert for the six candidates and a paper ballot/and return envelope, as well as individual random codes to access the online provider’s website.

“Instructions for completing paper or online transmission will be included,” Ludwig continued. “Members who have provided their email to the OPA assessment database will also receive emailed information from the online contractor (Vote HOA Now). Links to

instruction videos and voting website will be available at oceanpines.org.”

Elections materials are scheduled to be mailed to all eligible voters no later than the week of July 12 and only one option (either paper OR electronic transmission) can be used to vote.

Voters are asked to follow all instructions included in the mailing and to vote for no more than three candidates. Any paper ballot marked for more than three candidates or that includes any writing will not be counted. The online voting website will not accept more than three candidate choices.

Paper ballots may be returned until Aug. 10 at 4 p.m., either to the ballot box inside the lobby of the Ocean Pines Police Department on 239 Ocean Parkway or mailed to the Ocean Pines post office box in Berlin. Paper ballots must be sealed and returned in the envelope provided in the mailing. Return envelopes with any information blacked out, or covered with any type of label, will not be opened or counted.

Online voting will be accessible until Aug. 10 at 4 p.m.

Annual Meeting Notice

The Annual Meeting will be held on Saturday, Aug. 13 at 9 a.m. The venue will soon be determined. As per our governing documents, members will be checked in to verify voter eligibility. Members are urged to arrive at least 30 minutes early to ensure the verification process is completed prior to the meeting start time. Members will be required to provide a valid ID with photo and name.

The Board of Directors is investigating the addition of virtual attendance for Association members. If approved, OPA will

publicize this option along with instructions on how to attend the meeting virtually at www.oceanpines.org and through other channels.

The agenda will include: Call to Order, Appointments, Presentation of the Sam Wilkinson Volunteer Award, Ascertainment of Quorum, Approval of Agenda, Approval of Minutes from the 2021 Annual Meeting, Reports, Unfinished Business, New Business, Elections Committee Report: Validation of Election Results, Public Comments, Adjournment.

Neighborhood Watch plays part in safest community

Volunteer group seeks new members

The Ocean Pines Neighborhood Watch has been something of an invisible backbone of the community for many years.

The volunteer group, active at least since the early 1980s, has been in the background of virtually every big event, helping to direct traffic and keep the flow of people safe and orderly. They also, as the name implies, help to watch over the community that is consistently ranked one of the safest in the United States.

Jim Hamlin joined the Neighborhood Watch a decade ago, in June of 2012. The New York native and U.S. Army veteran came to Ocean Pines in 1998 after a career working for the Exxon/Esso corporation.

He remembers calling the police after watching a group of teenagers in Teal Bay acting suspiciously.

"There were three teenagers with leaflets in their hands, and I noticed that they only went into homes with garage doors open and no one there," he said. "They were looking in the garage and coming out, not leaving any leaflets or anything, so I just called the Ocean Pines Police Department and said, 'I think you ought to check this out.'"

Police arrived and escorted the teenagers out of the area.

Hamlin said the Police Department later put him in contact with Charlie Watson, who at the time ran the Neighborhood Watch program in Ocean Pines.

"I got involved, and the next thing I knew he asked me to be the treasurer," Hamlin said. "Unfortunately, Charlie had a brain aneurysm in 2014 and he passed away. Unbeknownst to me, everything from his house [related to Neighborhood Watch] was put on my deck one day when I got home. So, I thought, 'I guess I'm the new person in charge.'"

Hamlin said Lt. Greg Schoepf, affectionally known in Ocean Pines as "LT," became his point of contact at the Police Department.

"If he needs something, he calls me and says, 'Ocean Pines is having something at White Horse Park,' which they do quite a bit. [Recreation and Parks Director] Debbie [Donahue] has a lot of events there," Hamlin said. "And it seems to always be on a Saturday, when they have the Farmers & Artisans Market."

It can be challenging, he said, to help hundreds of motorists find parking. Not to mention helping hundreds of pedestrians, including many families and children, safely use the designated crosswalks.

"Fortunately, we have the back gate, and we utilize that as much as possible, even when the farmers market is open," he said. "We'll have someone there telling people, today only, you're going to be exiting out the back gate, because there's too many kids and there's too many people."

Hamlin said Schoepf, like clockwork, sends a "thank you" email after each event, which he then forwards to the other

Neighborhood Watch members.

"It lets them know that they're appreciated," he said. "We know the Police are shorthanded, so we do what we can to help."

The group also works with the Worcester County Veterans Memorial Foundation during events, including Memorial Day and Veterans Day ceremonies, and the recent The Wall That Heals visit. All the current Neighborhood Watch members are veterans.

"We just had the Memorial Day service and we had six or seven guys parking cars. And so many people on the way out thanked us for what we did, because it was so, so organized," Hamlin said. "A person who was never there before told me he couldn't believe how organized it was."

"We were also really involved with The Wall That Heals, working with the First State Detachment Marine Corps. Those guys were fantastic," he added.

Another part of being in the Neighborhood Watch, Hamlin said, is just

being visible. For example, the members place "Ocean Pines Neighborhood Crime Watch" shields on their cars during events.

"Believe it or not, it really does slow people down," he said.

Neighborhood Watch also occasionally holds public membership drives, handing out literature and offering a few general safety tips.

"One of the biggest things is just, lock your car, lock your car, lock your car. We can't stress that one enough," Hamlin said.

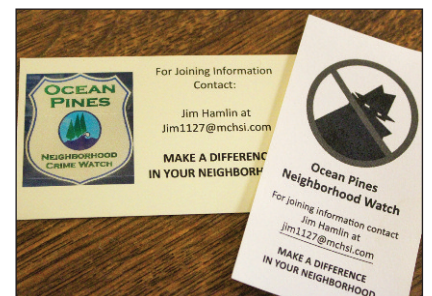
Another good general tip, he said, is simply to report suspicious activity to the police.

"There's a story about people being away, and a U-Haul backed into their driveway and emptied out the house. The neighbors afterward said they thought it was strange - they thought they were friendly with the neighbors, but they never told them they were moving. Well, pick up the phone and call the police and have them investigate!" Hamlin said.

"Keep your eyes open and, if you see anything, don't confront anyone - just call the police. Let them handle it, which is what I did with those three kids walking around with leaflets," he added.

Hamlin said there are only a small handful of people left on the Neighborhood Watch, and new members are needed. For information on joining, email Hamlin at jim1127@mchsi.com.

"We're just trying to give back to the community the best way that we can," he said.





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Guest column:

Hurricane Preparedness in Worcester

By the Worcester County Health Department

The Atlantic Hurricane Season began on June 1 and runs through November 30. Now is the perfect time to start thinking about emergency preparedness. Planning ahead for what you may need during a weather emergency can help you feel more prepared for the situation. Please read this valuable information about planning for weather emergencies including evacuation, shelter and how to avoid floodwaters and high winds during a hurricane. When it comes to a hurricane evacuation, it is important to know what to pack, how to prepare and where to go.

During an emergency, you may need to survive on your own for several days. Being prepared means having your own food, water and other supplies to last for several days. A disaster supply kit is a collection of basic items your household may need in the event of an emergency. Make sure your kit is stocked with the items on the checklist below. Download a printable version to take with you to the store. Once you take a look at the basic items, consider what unique needs your family might have, such as supplies for pets or seniors.

To assemble your kit, store items in airtight plastic bags and put your entire disaster supplies kit in one or two easy-to-carry containers such as plastic bins or a duffel bag.

A basic emergency supply kit could include the following recommended items:

- Water (one gallon per person per day for several days, for drinking and sanitation)
- Food (at least a several-day supply of non-perishable food)
- Battery-powered or hand-crank radio and a NOAA Weather Radio with tone alert
- Flashlight
- First aid kit
- Extra batteries
- Whistle (to signal for help)
- Dust mask (to help filter contaminated air)
- Plastic sheeting and duct tape (to shelter in place)
- Moist towelettes, garbage bags and plastic ties (for personal sanitation)
- Wrench or pliers (to turn off utilities)

- Manual can opener (for food)
- Local maps
- Cell phone with chargers and a backup battery

If you are in the path of a major hurricane, authorities may advise you to evacuate from your home. Please use the following protective actions related to evacuation, including:

- Keeping a full tank of gas in your car at all times
- Leaving early to avoid delays caused by long lines high winds and flooding
- Following officially posted evacuation routes and not trying to take shortcuts because roads may be blocked
- Remembering the Five P's of Evacuation – People, Prescriptions, Papers, Personal Needs and Priceless Items

If you are in an area without an evacuation notice, take shelter from high winds and floodwaters by following these tips:

- Stay inside away from windows and glass doors. If you are in a mobile home or temporary structure, move to a sturdy building.
- For protection against high winds, go to a small, interior, windowless room such as a bathroom or closet, on the lowest level not likely to flood.
- If you are in an area that is flooding, move to a location on higher ground before floodwaters prevent your ability to leave.

Stay safe during and after a hurricane by avoiding floodwaters on roads, walkways, bridges and on the ground. Do not attempt to cross floodwater. A foot of water can sweep away a large vehicle.

Taking a few simple but important actions now can help you weather the storm. Sign up to receive CodeRED notifications on your cell phone. CodeRED is an emergency notification service that allows emergency officials to notify residents and businesses by telephone, cell phone, text message, email and social media regarding time-sensitive general and emergency notifications. Only authorized officials have access to the CodeRED system. To sign up, visit <http://www.co.worcester.md.us/>.

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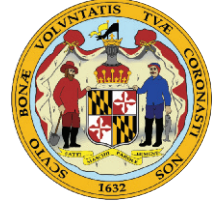
 

Guest column:

Putting the public safety of constituents first

By Mary Beth Carozza

Maryland State Senator for District 38 –
Somerset / Wicomico / Worcester Counties



Over the past two years, two local law enforcement officers have been killed in the line of duty with the brutal, fatal attack of **Delmar Corp. Keith Heacock**, and the shooting and murder of **Wicomico Dep. Sheriff Glenn Hilliard** of Berlin, who was promoted posthumously to corporal at his memorial service on June 21. Both law enforcement officers were killed by criminals who had active arrest warrants and who had no fear of the law. Both men made the ultimate sacrifice in protecting our shore home communities and neighborhoods.

So where is the **accountability** and **consequences** in our laws and in the administration of justice? Where do we go from here in stopping gun violence, mass shootings, attacks on law enforcement and the overall spike in crime across the state? In my view, a **multi-prong, comprehensive public safety approach** is necessary as opposed to a single solution.

Given the severe police shortage, I believe we start with increased funding for Maryland's law enforcement and for commonsense violent crime legislation. Passage of Gov. Hogan's **Re-Fund the Police Initiative**, a three-year, \$500 million investment in law enforcement, crime control and victim protection services, was a major accomplishment this session and a real win for the people of Maryland. I was proud to support re-funding Maryland's law enforcement.

Yet, during the same session, it was a major disappointment and extremely frustrating that the majority in the Maryland General Assembly **failed to take action** on legislation to increase penalties against repeat, violent offenders using a firearm; to make theft of a handgun a felony; and to close the "drug-dealer loophole" where drug dealers are exempted from increased penalties for committing a crime with a firearm. I will continue to support and push for these reasonable crime bills.

I also support continued efforts to **harden our schools**, expand **mental health services**, increase the number of **school resource officers**, and build partnerships with retired military and law enforcement to provide additional security to our schools.

It is encouraging that **bipartisan solutions** that are being sought, with Gov. Hogan being one of eight governors named to a bipartisan workgroup that will focus on state-level solutions to gun violence and safety at schools. In addition, with a bipartisan gun violence bill moving through Congress as of this writing, we may see consensus

on enhanced background checks and review of juvenile and mental health records of gun purchasers younger than 21, which I support.

Public safety must be job number one for law enforcement, fire personnel and all first responders, and for all of us elected to public office. Wicomico Sheriff Mike Lewis honored Dep. Hilliard during his memorial service by noting that "Our badge represents the trust of those we are

sworn to protect. That is our way of life, and that was Glenn Hilliard's way of life." For those of us in public office, we too have an obligation to **put the public safety of our constituents first** and that is my top priority.

Turning to public safety in Ocean Pines, I am so grateful that Gov. Hogan included \$1.35 million in his

2022 supplemental budget for the **new Ocean Pines Volunteer Fire Department's south station**. It was helpful that the OPVFD leadership and the Ocean Pines Board had worked so hard during the planning process before making the official request. Both Del. Hartman and I made the south station project a priority by requesting funding for the south station from the Hogan administration and the Maryland General Assembly, which approved \$200,000 for the OPVFD south station in this year's capital budget. I am glad to see that the OPVFD is holding public forums for this **local public safety priority**.

Serving my constituents in Ocean Pines and throughout District 38 remains my top priority. You may contact me at MaryBeth.Carozza@senate.state.md.us and visit my website at www.marybethcarozza.com. I hope to see you as I make my district rounds!





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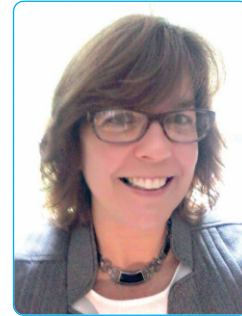
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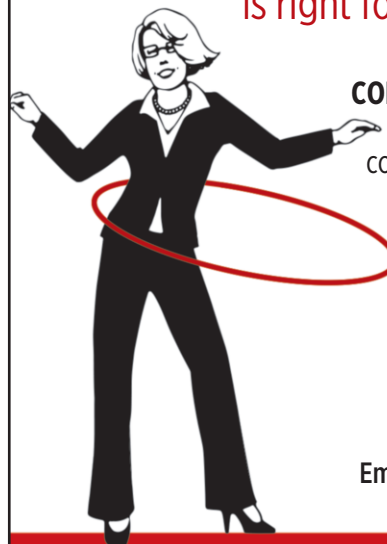
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Guest column:

Budget passed; complex questioned

By Chip Bertino

Worcester County Commissioner, Ocean Pines District



During its first meeting in June, the county budget of \$226,916,778 was approved. You'll be happy to know the current property tax rate of \$0.845 (second lowest in the state) for real property taxes and the local income tax rate of 2.25% remains unchanged.

Due to unfunded state mandates ratified by the state legislature regarding law enforcement body cameras, county taxpayers will allocate more funds to the State's Attorney's Office and the Sheriff's Office. The increases are necessary to pay for equipment and additional personnel required to handle the intensified workload associated with body cameras worn by all law enforcement officials; the creation of units within the State's Attorney's office and the Sheriff's office to collect, manage, store and collate tens of thousands of hours of video each year; and the establishment of new, multiple law enforcement review panels.

In meetings with State's Attorney Kris Heiser, the Sheriff's Office and Ocean Pines Police Chief Leo Ehrisman, it's clear to me that law enforcement agencies throughout the county are working collaboratively, professionally and proactively to balance state law with the welfare of the public and law enforcement.

The proposed sports complex continues to be a topic of interest. A majority of commissioners voted immediately following the April 19 public hearing on the proposed county sports complex to move ahead with issuing an \$11.2 million, 15-year bond to fund the venture.

The debt service on this bond will be upwards of \$800,000. About \$7.2 million of the bond money will be used to purchase a 95-acre tract of land on Route 50 adjacent to Stephen Decatur High School. I voted against this motion, as did Commissioners Jim Bunting and Ted Elder.

To be clear, I have no problem with a sports complex if it's a private endeavor. I do not support the taxpayer-funded project this effort has become.

Keep in mind the \$11.2 million is just the beginning of what could become a taxpayer responsibility for many tens of millions of dollars over many years for construction, maintenance, marketing and personnel.

Subsequent to the public hearing, a group of citizens formed The People for Fiscal Responsibility, whose mission it is to bring to referendum the question of whether the county should bond the \$11.2 million. To that end, a petition drive was coordinated involving about 50 people who

fanned out across the county to collect the necessary number of signatures (4,494) to have the question placed on the November ballot.

By the initial deadline of May 31, 68% of the required signatures were certified by the Worcester County Board of Elections. The remaining signatures must be turned in by July 1 for the drive to be successful. I am writing this a couple of weeks before that deadline so by the time you read this, we'll know if the petition effort was successful.

The chronic problem with this effort has been the overabundance of haste to build the facility and the lack of planning, public input and solidified partnerships.

To date, no business or marketing plan has been prepared or made available. No partnership or discussions between the commissioners and Ocean City government, which is actively supporting the endeavor, or Berlin, in whose backyard this project

will be constructed, have occurred, been outlined, discussed or agreed upon.

I attended a Town of Berlin Planning Commission meeting in which the complex was discussed. It's clear from what was said during the meeting as well as conversations I've had with Town of Berlin Councilmembers and other residents, that concerns are mounting that this project will negatively impact the community, especially around Flower Street, which will likely see increased traffic volumes and congestion as a result of being the sole entrance/egress for the facility.

There are multiple, conflicting timelines in motion. The referendum petition deadline is July 1. The county goes to the bond market in July. The closing date for the land purchase is September 29, just over a month before the November election.

Some questions arise. What will the county's course of action be if the petition is successful and the referendum is placed on the November ballot? If that happens will a motion be made to use a different funding source for the land purchase thereby bypassing the referendum? Would a commissioner majority approve such a motion? Would the property closing deadline be extended until after the election? What happens if an overwhelming number of citizens vote against the bond issue?

The reality is that the issue may already be resolved and the closing finalized as a result of other (cont. on pg. 10)





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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Election News.....1, 38-43

Ocean Pines News.....1-2, 12, 14

Guest column:

Worcester County Health Dept.....4

Guest column:

Mary Beth Carozza.....6

Guest column: Chip Bertino.....8, 10

Advertiser Index.....14

From OPA Board President.....16

Board of Directors.....17

Green Street.....17

From General Manager.....18

Administration.....19-21

Police Department.....22

Fire Department.....24-25

From Director of Rec. & Parks.....26

Recreation & Parks.....26-27

From Director of Aquatics.....28

Aquatics.....28

Racquet Center.....30

From General Manager of Golf.....32

Golf Club.....32-33

From Public Works / CPI Dept.....34

Finance Department.....35

Marinas.....36

Election News:

Know the Candidates.....38-43

Community Profile:

Founding Mothers & Fathers...44-45

Community Stories.....46, 48

Farmers & Artisans Market.....49

OPA Frequently Asked Questions..50

Food & Beverage.....51

Yacht Club.....51-52

ON THE FRONT COVER: (top photo)

"A glorious sunrise over the Yacht Club"

Photography by George Ball

(cont. from pg. 8) funds being used. Even though the referendum narrowly pertains to whether a county bond should be issued for the project, voter expression could be broadly interpreted to mean taxpayers do not want a taxpayer-funded facility at all. Then what?

As energy around this issue intensifies, complex advocates have said that either the county moves forward with the project or county taxes will increase. This statement is incongruent to fact. Why would taxes increase if a taxpayer-funded sports complex is not constructed? In fact, the opposite is possible. It's been stated that increased room and food taxes will flow into the county coffers. Yes, but how much?

The county collects a 5% tax for all room rental activity in the county and earns a 1% collection fee on room tax collections on behalf of incorporated towns such as Ocean City and Berlin.

Room tax collections in the unincorporated areas including West Ocean City are retained by the county.

So, for example, if there was a \$1 million increase in overall lodging revenue in West Ocean City because of the new facility, the county would receive an additional \$50,000 in direct room tax revenue.

If a guest decides to stay in Ocean City and the overall increase in lodging for the season is \$1 million, the additional revenue to the county would be \$500. So, using this example, a sports complex would generate \$50,500 in additional room tax revenue for the county.

The county also collects a one half of 1% tax for food sales only in Ocean City and retains a 5% administrative charge for the collection fee.

So, an increase in food sales of \$100,000 for the season attributable to the sports facility would yield the county \$25.

Combined, the county would net about \$50,525 in additional tax revenue, which is much less than the roughly \$800,000 annual bond debt service. And let's not forget that the property taxes the county currently receives on the privately-owned property will end once the county owns it. In the case of the undeveloped property currently under consideration, the county will lose about \$26,000 in annual taxes.

Statements have been made that funding could come from the Maryland Stadium Authority, private sponsorships/partnerships and various state and federal grants. That sounds good, but to date no specifics are available and no proposals have been presented to the county.

With what is known at this time, the bottom line is this: despite assertions that the cost of this project will not be on the backs of county taxpayers, the only group presently on the hook for this project is county taxpayers. You have to look no further than the successful bond vote taken after the April 19 public hearing to see that's so. Stay tuned.

Remember to vote on Primary Election Day on July 19.

If you have any questions or comments, please reach out to me at 443-783-3248 or cbertino@co.worcester.md.us.

Enjoy summer!

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WCVMF dedicates 'The Wall That Heals' panel in Ocean Pines

Hundreds gathered at the Worcester County Veterans Memorial in Ocean Pines on Memorial Day for a special dedication ceremony for retired "Panel West 30" of The Wall That Heals.

The panel was part of the traveling Vietnam Veterans Memorial exhibit that visited Ocean Pines last April. It was gifted to the Worcester County Veterans Memorial by the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund of Washington D.C.

Worcester County Veterans Memorial Foundation President Marie Gilmore said the panel was retired last year because new names were added to the exhibit.

Below are remarks from Gilmore during the dedication, as well as remarks from guest speaker Ben Dawson, chaplain of Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 1091, and chaplain of American Legion Post 166 of Ocean City.

Marie Gilmore, president of the Worcester County Veterans Memorial Foundation:

Good morning. I am Marie Gilmore, president of the Worcester Veterans Memorial Foundation.

On behalf of the Foundation, I welcome you all to the dedication of this very special part of The Wall That Heals. To the many Vietnam veterans here today, we say "welcome home."

April 20, 2021 was a proud day for our community. After many months of fundraising and planning meetings, our community gathered and welcomed The Wall That Heals to Veterans Memorial Park and Ocean Pines. Escorted by more than 200 motorcycles and some cars, The Wall was greeted by hundreds of people waving flags and many with tears in their eyes. The next day, The Wall was assembled by volunteers, and over the course of the next several days was visited by over 5,000 people.

Many Vietnam veterans expressed their gratitude to us for bringing the wall to them. Many had not been able to get to Washington, D.C. to see the memorial there, and many, too many, could not get past the emotion and memories of war to go to Washington. But here was The Wall, in their community. They came to see it, touch it, and allowed the wall to give them comfort, for the very first time to remember their comrades who did not come home with them. We heard from family members that their husband/

father/brother spoke of his time in the service for the very first time.

What an honor, and a blessing, to be a part of something so powerful! The Worcester County Veterans Memorial Foundation will forever be grateful for the opportunity.



The Wall That Heals is a three-quarter size replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C. It travels the country each year, giving so many communities the opportunity to visit, giving so many veterans of the Vietnam war closure.

The Wall is made up of 140 numbered panels, and is 375 feet in length, 7.5 feet tall at its highest point. This, the largest of all touring walls, is the only one accompanied by a mobile education center containing the names and photos of our

hometown heroes. We were proud to be able to honor the memories of our heroes from every county on the Eastern Shore of Maryland, Virginia and Delaware.

Shortly following the Ocean Pines visit of The Wall That Heals, three additional names were added to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C., bringing the total number of known casualties to 58,281. This action necessitated the need to carve new panels for the wall in Washington, D.C. and from The Wall That Heals. We are honored to be selected as a recipient of one of the retired panels.



Panel West 30 represents casualties of the war from March 1 to March 10, 1969. Five hundred and sixteen names are inscribed on this panel. Five hundred and sixteen known casualties, now 517, with the addition of Pfc. Larry Tenda, whose remains were found and repatriated this year.

Names engraved on this panel represent casualties from every state in our nation, including 12 from Maryland and two from Delaware. Casualties are recorded from many

of the 61 provinces in Vietnam, following Tet '69.

The Worcester County Veterans Memorial Foundation is proud to dedicate this panel, on Memorial Day, when we remember those who gave their lives in all wars.

I want to take this opportunity to thank Geoff Charvat and Haines Fabrication for creating the frame for our panel, Ben Briles of East Coast Powder Pro and Todd Dundore, American Granite and Tile. These men and their companies provided us the ability to permanently display our panel. They took such good care of it and donated (cont. on pg. 14)



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ADVERTISER INDEX

5 Star Plumbing, Heating & Cooling....	11
Adcock Art Studio - Jim Adcock....	15, 44
Advanced Climate Care.....	31
AES Drafting Services.....	31
AES Laser Etching and Engraving.....	31
All American Roofing.....	9
Amy Peck.....	7
Atlantic General Hospital.....	29
Avery Hall Insurance.....	47
Ayers Creek Adventures.....	25
Baby Boomer Insurance.....	7
Bank of Delmarva.....	13
Bay Area Wildlife Solutions.....	19
Brenda Archer-Nichols, Realtor.....	25
Catered Living at Ocean Pines.....	29
Chesapeake Health Care.....	11
Chesapeake Hearing.....	26
Choptank Electric.....	21
Cindy Poremski, Realtor.....	6
Coastal Services.....	23
Copy Central.....	21
Covenant Contractors.....	5
Deeley Insurance Group.....	37
Donna Frankowski, Realtor.....	31
Eagle Roofing & Roof Cleaning.....	4
Eastern Shore Cremation.....	21
Empower U PT & Performance.....	22
ERA Martin Assoc/Shamrock Division...7	
Faye & David Carey, Realtors.....	19
Fyzical Therapy & Balance Centers.....	5
Habitat Restore.....	25
Headlines Salon.....	27
Hileman Real Estate.....	23
Home Instead Senior Care.....	23
John Bennish / Edward Jones.....	26
John Talbott, Realtor.....	37
Jolly Roger Amusement Parks.....	27
Josette Wheatley.....	15
Marlene Ott, Realtor.....	43
Mickey Lobb.....	35
Mid-Atlantic Insurance Group.....	35
Mike's Flooring & Design Center.....	36
Montgomery Financial Services.....	13
My Backyard.....	37
Poole Contracting & Consulting.....	13
Pro Tech HVAC.....	15
Sea Floor Carpet, Hardwood & More.....	25
Seaside Plumbing.....	5
Shore Therapy Solutions.....	28
Steve Howse, Realtor.....	7
The Moore Team.....	50
The Pros to Know, Realtors.....	15
The Wisch Team, Realtors.....	11
TidalHealth.....	3
Tyler Building Co.....	47
Weed Pro.....	5, 46

(cont. from pg. 12) their time and materials so we and future generations can learn about and appreciate the sacrifice of those whose names are inscribed on Panel West 30, as well as all those who died in Vietnam.



Ben Dawson, chaplain of Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 1091, and chaplain of American Legion Post 166 of Ocean City:

What a beautiful day we have to come together to this sacred place to dedicate this panel of The Wall That Heals. Panel West 30 contains the names of 516 young men who went off to war in Vietnam and never returned. Young men whose lives were taken long before their time, in just 10 short days of each other from March 1, 1969 to March 10, 1969. Fifty-one lives per day. Hard to imagine that much loss in such a short period of time.

The only order the names are in is the date they were lost. Although just names, they were all sons, fathers, brothers and loved by so many left behind to

grieve. Each have their own story and the wall provides some of their stories.

The first name on the wall is Warrant Officer Arthur A. Crosby Jr., helicopter pilot from Guilford, Connecticut; date of birth, October 17, 1946. Arrived in Vietnam Aug. 20, 1968. Died March 1, 1969.

The last name on this wall is Col. Carter Purvis Luna, pilot from Hazelhurst, Mississippi; date of birth, September 25, 1928. Arrived in Vietnam January 2, 1969, lost on March 10, 1969. His remains were never found.

Between the first and last names are 514 more names. Each so much like the others, but also so different. Some were in country just a few days before being lost, some were just a few days away from going home, some just a day or so before or a day after their birthday.

The majority of them were between 18 and 21 years old. I know these things because I went to each name on this wall panel and read their stories. I encourage you to go to the Wall of Faces, see their photographs and read their stories.

We are truly honored to have been presented this panel, this panel that will remain here, on this spot at this veterans memorial to remind us of the terrible cost of freedom and the many sons and daughters who go off to war to preserve it. We gratefully dedicate this panel to all those inscribed here and all the other 58,281 heroes lost in Vietnam.





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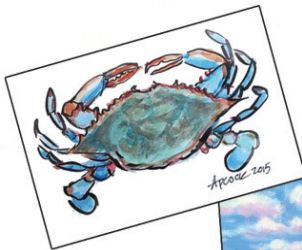
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Message from the OPA BOARD PRESIDENT



Dr. Colette Horn
OPA President

Much progress has been made

May 1 was the start of our new fiscal year and marked the ramping up of our amenity use by members, guests and vacationers, as we swing into summer. It's a good time to take stock of the Board's work to support the mission of the Association: to provide the governance, administration, facilities, services and amenities that are necessary to make Ocean Pines an attractive, affordable, safe and enjoyable place to live and work.

The start of this new fiscal year is our opportunity to celebrate last year's outstanding financial results, including a record \$100 reduction in the base assessment. We can also celebrate record financial results that include a \$1.9 million positive variance to our overall operating budget, and significant operating profits at our Yacht Club (\$212,000), Beach Club (\$159,000), Beach Parking (\$444,000) and Golf Club (\$288,000).

The Board's contribution to OPA's success largely involves governance and policy-making functions, and approval of the larger expenditures from our General Manager's budget. The GM's budget supports the work of staff, and initiatives aimed at maintaining and improving member enjoyment of our community and its amenities.

Some might say that the Board's job is to supply necessary oversight, guidance and support, and then stay out of the way so that our GM and his staff can do what they do best - keep things running well and in good shape, so it remains easy for members to love being a part of this great community.

Our Association has made incredible progress during the last three years, from shepherding an unprecedented financial turnaround, to building a new Golf Clubhouse and expanding our Police headquarters, to navigating through the worst parts of a once-in-a-century pandemic.

Much progress was also made during the last year. Some of the funding requests the Board approved during the last fiscal year include:

- New pickleball courts, sprucing up of our Har-Tru tennis courts & our platform tennis warming shack & patio at the Racquet Center.
- The purchase of equipment & hiring of a subcontractor to improve the quality of the Golf Course.
- Purchase requests for equipment to improve the efficiency of landscaping maintenance throughout the community, & to install liners to culvert pipes to improve drainage.
- Beautification efforts at the North Gate bridge & planting cherry trees at the north & south gates.
- Installing new t-docks & bringing in a water taxi service for the Marina.
- Installing equipment for hybrid meetings in the Clubhouse Meeting Room.

The Board also tackled important governance and policy issues including:

- A nearly two-year long review of our bylaws, culminating in a referendum that yielded overwhelming support for all 28 changes meant to strengthen & clarify the language in this key governing document.
- A new weekly column from the OPA President in our eblast, highlighting the history of Ocean Pines & information to support appreciation for all that OPA has to offer, as well as a monthly report from our GM's administrative & finance teams on the financial health of the organization.

With all of that accomplished, there is still work to be done. This next Board will continue work on short-term rental reform and a referendum to allow for better enforcement of declarations of restrictions violations. We will also continue to provide oversight of our GM who, with his staff, will look to continue their fine work in supporting the Association's mission and keeping our positive financial streak alive.

Finally, I want to say thank you to all the candidates who volunteered to run for the Board in the 2022 election, and to all our many, many volunteers. So much of our success is thanks to those who volunteer their time on the Board, on our 13 advisory committees, and throughout this wonderful community. Thank you all for helping to foster a positive and productive Ocean Pines.

I would also like to wish everyone a safe, healthy, and enjoyable summer!

Ocean Pines Association BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The OPA is governed by a 7-member Board of Directors elected by the lot owners who make up the membership in the homeowners association.

Seven elected Directors (4 officers, 3 Directors at-large); unpaid positions. Members are elected for 3-year terms (can run for a 2nd consecutive term).

Board officers are chosen at the Organizational Meeting held within 2 weeks of Association's Annual Meeting.

Email: directors@oceanpines.org



PRESIDENT
(TERM 2020-2023)

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(TERM 2021-2024)

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EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT



GENERAL MANAGER

John Viola
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jviola@oceanpines.org

Referendum vote totals announced: all 28 proposed changes pass

The Ocean Pines Elections Committee in May announced vote totals for the 2022 bylaws referendum. The referendum asked homeowners to vote on 28 proposed changes to Ocean Pines bylaws. According to the Elections Committee's count, all of those changes passed. Voting totals for each **QUESTION** were as follows:

1. (Definition of Owner of Record)	Yes: 1386 / No: 401
2. (Definition of Who is Eligible to Vote)	Yes: 1408 / No: 321
3. (Confirmation of Eligible to Vote)	Yes: 1417 / No: 307
4. (Special Meeting by Petition Requirements)	Yes: 1382 / No: 342
5. (Notice of Meetings)	Yes: 1366 / No: 346
6. (Submission of Certified or Rejected Petition)	Yes: 1370 / No: 345
7. (Petition Signature Requirements)	Yes: 1376 / No: 347
8. (Referendum Approval Requirement)	Yes: 1303 / No: 428
9. (Board Member Qualification – Owner of Record)	Yes: 1352 / No: 365
10. (Candidate Eligibility – Family Member Serving on the Board)	Yes: 1344 / No: 380
11. (Candidate Eligibility – Involved in Litigation with OPA)	Yes: 1277 / No: 453
12. (Candidate Eligibility – OPA Employee Prohibition)	Yes: 1328 / No: 402
13. (Candidate Eligibility – Corporate Entity Ownership)	Yes: 1354 / No: 370
14. (Candidate Eligibility – Payment of Annual Charges)	Yes: 1429 / No: 297
15. (Candidate Eligibility – Felony Conviction)	Yes: 1366 / No: 356
16. (Search Committee)	Yes: 1339 / No: 387
17. (Candidate Applications)	Yes: 1377 / No: 342
18. (Candidate Eligibility Determination)	Yes: 1312 / No: 415
19. (Appointed Director Qualification)	Yes: 1405 / No: 327
20. (Board Decisions Outside of a Board Meeting)	Yes: 1334 / No: 393
21. (Board Compensation – Family Membership)	Yes: 1331 / No: 392
22. (Removal of a Director for Cause – Felony Conviction)	Yes: 1366 / No: 367
23. (Approval of Sale, Mortgage or Development of Property)	Yes: 1343 / No: 368
24. (Check and Contracting and Fund Withdrawal Authority)	Yes: 1421 / No: 310
25. (Clarification of the Secretary's Review of Petitions)	Yes: 1402 / No: 314
26. (Secretary Resignation if Running for the Board)	Yes: 1418 / No: 301
27. (Transfer of Budget Items Procedure)	Yes: 1392 / No: 333
28. (Personnel Policy Clarification)	Yes: 1411 / No: 287

Association President Colette Horn thanked the committee, along with the scores of other volunteers and Association staff who aided in the referendum effort.

"This represents the culmination of many hours of work by our Bylaws and Resolutions Committee, our Board of Directors, and our Elections Committee," Horn said. "In addition, our General Manager's staff provided many hours of support in the way of materials preparation, meeting set-up, press releases, and technology. I thank everyone involved for getting us to this conclusion. I also thank the Association members who took the time to carefully consider all 28 questions and vote affirmatively on those with which they agree, and against on those with which they do not agree."

Habitat modification

The members of your Environment and Natural Assets Committee (E&NAC) are dedicated individuals with the goal of keeping our community safe and beautiful for all residents, including the wildlife that call Ocean Pines home. Among environmental concerns, such as pond erosion, we are focused on finding solutions to enjoy and manage our wildlife, specifically Canada geese, as we research the various options to humanely co-exist.

One of the best tried and true methods recommended by professionals is to modify their habitat. In Ocean Pines, this means we would need to allow some natural vegetation and grasses to grow around our ponds.

Canada geese require upland and aquatic habitats for resting, feeding, and breeding. Habitat modification involves physically altering property to make it less attractive to the geese. These modifications should focus on eliminating or reducing nesting sites and food sources, as well as the access between these items and our ponds.

Habitat modifications would make the area less suitable to geese and limit the number that can exist in the area. These modifications are the most effective long-term solution to deterring large geese gatherings and help prevent land erosion.

According to the Maryland Department of Natural Resources, where much of this information has been garnered, flocks of non-migrating Canada geese have become established throughout Maryland and other Atlantic flyway states. In urban areas like Ocean Pines, Canada geese have congregated around landscape features that provide expanses of short grass for food, lack of natural predators, absence of hunting, and hand feeding by some people.

Another highly recommended solution to reduce large gatherings of waterfowl is to ask residents to discontinue feeding them. We anticipate posting new signs around our ponds to educate the public as to reasons not to feed the waterfowl. Although many people enjoy feeding ducks and geese at our ponds, this often contributes to problems for the wildlife. Feeding may cause large numbers of geese to gather in unnatural concentrations.

To modify the habitat around our ponds, the E&NAC is researching indigenous flowers and plants. Experts recommend letting the vegetation grow 12-14 inches tall, especially along the shorelines, so that the geese do not feel comfortable walking through it.

We are focused on purposefully planting native vegetation to accomplish this goal. If geese cannot see across the area, predators could be lurking. Taller vegetation would make them nervous and reluctant to nest and hang out in our ponds. The buffer around the ponds can be up to 20 feet maximum, according to the Maryland Department of Natural Resources.

Your E&NAC members plan on discussing natural vegetation and plants with seasoned master gardeners familiar with Maryland indigenous plants. This process will allow us to create an effective habitat modification plan. The goal is that these native plants will not only act as buffers deterring gathering geese but, also very important, help control and prevent the erosion issues at our South Pond.

If you have ideas to help in our endeavors, we would like to invite you to our committee meetings. Be sure to check the community calendar at www.oceanpines.org for locations and times.

Message from the GENERAL MANAGER



John Viola
General Manager

Initiatives we've completed

Our most recent unaudited year-end numbers for fiscal 2021-2022 are approximately \$1.94 million favorable to budget. However, we measure our results by more than just great numbers – it's about all the initiatives we've completed.

During the last fiscal year, we finished a "DMA-Lite" study of Ocean Pines reserves and presented the study to the Board, the Budget and Finance Committee and the public.

We addressed pipes that were more than 30 years old by installing pipe liners along Ocean Parkway and in three other locations, to help with the outflow of water. This represented a new process where we didn't have to dig up the roads. It's also less expensive and a great product.

The Bainbridge Park project will help improve drainage and water filtration in that area. That project was a major undertaking and included financial and other assistance from Worcester County, the State of Maryland, and the Maryland Coastal Bays Program.

We jumpstarted our bulkhead and road repair programs, after several years of inactivity, and are in the progress of restarting the dredging program with the Maryland Department of the Environment.

Our new customer service initiative utilized the info@oceanpines.org address to help answer general questions in a more timely and efficient manner.

Our beautification efforts included planting new cherry trees at the North and South Gates, addressing the North Gate Bridge for the first time in perhaps decades, and cleaning mailbox clusters and replacing worn out cluster pads. Public Works also made improvements at the Clubhouse, Beach Club, and Yacht Club. We are currently making improvements to the Swim and Racquet Club.

We made progress on Northstar, moving forward on implementation, addressing more open tickets, and for the first time accepting online payments through our website, oceanpines.org.

Our Golf Course is in the best shape it's ever been, and the proof is in the strong financial returns produced this year. It was a total team effort.

Our Aquatics operation was also improved by efficiencies introduced by Kathleen Cook and her team. In combination with organic revenue growth, we have seen some of the best operating results in years.

At Racquet Sports, we addressed the need for more courts and court repairs. We expect to have four new pickleball courts done by the end of July, and court repairs are also underway at our racquet center, in addition to fence maintenance.

Recreation and Parks experienced a return to "normal" after the COVID-19 pandemic, including a full slate of summer camps happening this summer.

We will install new t-docks at the marina and brought in a new water taxi service at no cost to Ocean Pines.

Our food and beverage operation continues to break records under the management of the Matt Ortt Companies.

And, for the first time, Ocean Pines introduced hybrid meetings for all Board meetings and town halls, allowing for both public and remote participation through Microsoft Teams.

The numbers at the end of the fiscal year are like a report card. However, we have been able to deliver results for amenities, administrations, departments, and infrastructure. Key initiatives for infrastructure include drainage, bulkheads, roads and our buildings.



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VISION: Ocean Pines will be a premier resort community, offering exceptional value & quality of life to property owners who are diverse in age, economic status & interests.

MISSION: Provide the governance, administration, facilities, services & amenities that are necessary to make Ocean Pines an attractive, affordable, safe & enjoyable place to live & work.

.....

**The Ocean Pines Association
will observe the following
upcoming holidays.**

**Please note that Ocean Pines
administrative offices will be closed for:**

Independence Day: Mon, July 4

Labor Day: Mon, Sept. 5

Ocean Pines MARKETING & PUBLIC RELATIONS DEPARTMENT

Responsible for promoting Ocean Pines' amenities, as well as establishing and maintaining the Association website, cable access channels, and serving as the staff liaison to the local media.

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Josh Davis

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Marketing Coordinator Julie Malinowski

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OCEAN PINES ADMINISTRATION

Water taxi and water shuttle have strong start

Early returns have been strong for the new water taxi and water shuttle services in Ocean Pines.

The water shuttle – like a bus on the water – makes regularly scheduled stops throughout the day at several locations along the bay, including Ocean Pines. The water taxi – like an Uber on the water – is a point-to-point service that riders can schedule at their convenience. Both are run by OC Bay Hopper.

“The water transportation services that the OC Bay Hopper is providing makes it very easy for people to get to and from Ocean Pines,” OC Bay Hopper cofounder Steve Butz said. “It takes the hassle out of driving and parking in Ocean City. The water shuttle and taxi services can pick-up or drop-off at most restaurants and bars on the bay.”

But the response, so far, has been very positive. The shuttle service started just after Memorial Day, and the taxi service kicked off in June.

“Ocean Pines had more traffic in and out on our boats [recently] than any other location by far. People seem to be eating it up,” he said.

This summer, the water shuttle is scheduled to travel from Ocean Pines to locations southbound each day at 12:45 p.m., 3:45 p.m. and 6:45 p.m. Boats will return to Ocean Pines heading northbound at 2:15 p.m., 5:15 p.m. and 8:15 p.m. The shuttle will make stops in Ocean City and West Ocean City.

One-way shuttle tickets cost \$15 per person and round-trip tickets

run \$25 per person.

The water taxi service runs Thursday through Sunday, from 9-11:30 p.m., for those who need to travel outside of the water shuttle’s schedule. The boats travel as far north as Fenwick Island and south to Assateague Island.

There is a \$60 minimum for the water taxi, which will cover up to four passengers for a one-way trip. For groups of five or more, there is an added \$15 charge for each additional passenger. There is also a small surcharge per passenger.

OC Bay Hopper also offers a sightseeing trip from Ocean Pines to Assateague on Tuesday and Thursday mornings.

“We pick up riders at the docks in Ocean Pines at 9 a.m. and whisk them down to Assateague for a tour of the island by water,” Butz said. “They’ll get an amazing view of the wildlife and then return to the Yacht Club just in time for lunch.”

Ocean Pines General Manager John Viola said he sees the OC Bay Hopper partnership as both a service for residents and a potential benefit for Yacht Club business.

“We encourage Ocean Pines residents to take a trip over to Ocean City and stop by the Yacht Club for a drink or bite to eat, before or after their ride,” Viola said.

For more information or to book a seat on the OC Bay Hopper, download the OC Bay Hopper Mobile App. The OC Bay Hopper Mobile App is available for both Apple and Android devices.





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Disc golf town hall held

On May 23, the Association held a 90-minute town hall in the Clubhouse Meeting Room hosted by Ocean Pines General Manager John Viola, Recreation and Parks Director Debbie Donahue, and Brian Dean from Eastbound Disc Golf.

Eastbound Disc Golf installed a disc golf course in Bainbridge Park in May on a trial basis, at no cost to Ocean Pines.

The course has 10 holes. Each has a small tee box where play begins, and a basket that functions like a golf hole. Players must bring their own discs, or frisbees.

"This is a trial basis for both ends," Viola said, adding that he received several calls and emails on the course. "I've asked Brian to come in to tell everybody about it, to explain it ... and obviously to answer any questions that you all have."

Dean said he and his family live in Ocean Pines.

"We're members of the community just like all of you are," he said. "We've lived here year-round and have done so for quite a while now."

He said the idea for the course came up when Donahue approached him to help plan an ultimate frisbee league as part of Ocean Pines' Recreation and Parks programming.

"At that time, I also presented her with a plan that I had been working on for quite a while now, that I believed ... it would serve as a great addition to the park to have a disc golf course installed there."

Dean said he gave Donahue a layout plan in February or March, and they both toured the park area at that time. Dean also inspected the park with Public Works Director Eddie Wells and Public Works Manager Nobie Violante "to make sure there were no conflicts from their end."

"Having received a go-ahead from them, we went with our first level of installation, which is the baskets that you all see now," Dean said.

Addressing concerns that came up during the town hall, Dean said he met with Dave Wilson. Wilson is the former executive director of Maryland Coastal Bays Program, and current president of the Maryland Bird Conservation Partnership, the Breeding Bird Atlas Coordinator for Worcester County, and the Amphibian and Reptile Atlas Coordinator for Worcester County.

"I walked the course with him, and his conclusion at that time was that there is zero to no impact on the surrounding wetlands [and] the surrounding environment that would be a cause from this park," Dean said.

Wilson confirmed that statement is correct.

Dean said disc golf players follow a code that encourages players to "never throw into a blind area or when players, spectators, pedestrians, or other facility users are within range." The code also calls on players to observe posted park rules, and not to litter or disturb equipment or plant life.

He said there have been no major incidents or injuries reported at a disc golf course at Schumaker Pond Park in Salisbury, which has been active for almost two decades. Ocean Pines reached out to representatives from Berlin and

Ocean City, who said there were no reported incidents at similar disc golf courses in those communities.

Dean also said reports that discs would be flying at 50-70 miles per hour at Bainbridge are not accurate.

"That number is for long-distance shots made by professional disc golfers," he said, adding that at Bainbridge the average speed was "probably 20 to 30 miles an hour" and using specialized discs.

"A regular frisbee flies even slower," he said.

Viola said he was not aware of any changes made to the park during the installation, other than some brush being cleared. He does not believe any trees were cut down.

Viola said new playground equipment at Bainbridge Park is still a priority, and the disc golf course would not conflict with those plans.

Donahue said there was a delay in getting that equipment, because the playground was designed to be ADA compliant and inclusive to those with disabilities.

"In order to do that, it's going to take quite some time to be able to restructure that," she said. "A lot of pieces have to come together to make that an ADA compliant playground and make it inclusive for everyone to use."

Viola said Board approval was not initially sought, because the program was being done at no cost and on a trial basis.

"Obviously, [the town hall] is part of that process," he said.

Viola said he spoke with Board leadership during regular weekly meetings, when the project was compared to the recent Spec Tennis addition at Ocean Pines Racquet Sports.

"They said that we didn't need to go to the Board for approval," Viola said. "There was no cost. It was going to be a trial basis and they left it up to us."

"We thought it was a good opportunity to try it out. Nothing's in concrete," Viola continued. "It's a trial basis, which is all part of the process."

Donahue reiterated that the course is temporary for now and can be taken out.

"We have the opportunity to keep it if we so chose to, but if not, it can all be removed," she said.

"Debbie is trying to do the best ... we all are, in trying to put something out there," Viola said. "Let's see how this works out. I'm listening to everything."



Questions? Concerns?



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After hours, call Ocean Pines Police at 410.641.7747.



OCEAN PINES ADMINISTRATION

OPA and BJ's raise funds for Veterans Memorial

BJ's Wholesale Club, in partnership with the OPA, recently donated \$920 to the Worcester County Veterans Memorial at Ocean Pines as a part of its 2021 spring and fall membership offers.

BJ's donated \$5 of each Inner Circle membership fee and \$10 of each Perks Rewards membership fee to the Worcester County Veterans Memorial at Ocean Pines Foundation.

"The Veterans Memorial Foundation is grateful for the continuing support of our community and business partners. These donations from BJ's Wholesale Club directly support our Educational Outreach program," said Worcester County Veterans Memorial President Marie Gilmore.

The Educational Outreach program enables all Worcester County fifth-graders to visit the site and learn about the branches of service, flag history and etiquette, and stories about some of the veterans represented at the memorial.

"The Veterans Memorial Foundation 100% supports these trips, paying for school buses and a student activity guide for each student to take home to continue the discussion at home," Gilmore said. "We are so very grateful to this community for their support."

The next BJ's promotion in Ocean Pines will be available in October.



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Toppin, Ward get top honors from American Legion



Leo Ehrisman
Chief of Police

and Pco. Cindy Ward as Dispatcher of the Year.

Ocean Pines Police Chief Leo Ehrisman said the American Legion has long shown staunch support for local law enforcement.

"The American Legion is a big backer of emergency services," he said. "Any officer, fireman, or veteran, if you walk in and say, 'I need a meal, I've been working on 10 hours and I need a sandwich,' their doors are open."

Ehrisman said the Legion also hosts annual recognition ceremonies for local police, firefighters, EMS, and Coast Guard workers.

"The American Legion calls each organization for a nominee, and then the chief for each gets to make a nomination and they get to present the award with one of the American Legion personnel," he said.

Ehrisman said both Toppin and Ward are long-time members of the Ocean Pines Police Department who have demonstrated their strong work ethic and leadership skills.

Two Ocean Pines Police workers received top honors during a March 30 ceremony of the American Legion, Synepuxent Post 166.

For 2021, the Legion honored Lt. Shakhon Toppin as Police Officer of the Year

"I nominated Toppin because he recently moved up into the command staff, with his promotion to lieutenant after many years of experience being a road supervisor," Ehrisman said. "He's been on the command staff since I took office here, as police chief, two years ago."

"Cindy has many years of experience as a 911 dispatcher, and she's also our training coordinator for public communications," he continued. "It was also cool to see the dispatcher awards for the first time this year, because those dispatchers are always left out and they're an important part of our department."

Ehrisman said the awards serve as a significant morale boost.

"I think it leaves a big impression, because it's the American Legion of Ocean City, but they don't limit their support and their resources to Ocean City. They offer that support to all agencies in the county," he said.

Ehrisman said the Ocean Pines Police Department is currently hiring officers and dispatchers. Police academy candidates are also welcome to apply.

To download an application, visit <https://www.oceanpines.org/documents/10184/89280/>

Employment-Application-Form-Revised.pdf. Applications may be dropped off at the Ocean Pines Police Station on 239 Ocean Parkway, or emailed to lehrisman@oceanpines.org



Lt. Shakhon Toppin (left) receives the Police Officer of the Year award for 2021 presented by the American Legion Synepuxent Post #166 and Police Chief Leo Ehrisman.



Pco. Cindy Ward (left) receives the Dispatcher of the Year award for 2021 presented by the American Legion Synepuxent Post #166 and Police Chief Leo Ehrisman.

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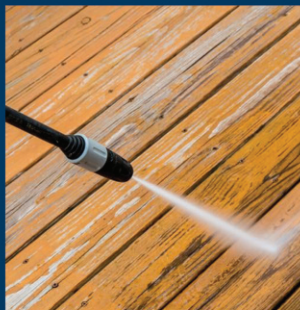
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**David
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**Steve
Grunewald**
OPVFD Chief

Moving forward on South Station Renovation

The Ocean Pines Volunteer Fire Department recently received a \$1.35 million grant from the State of Maryland to renovate and

In November, VanGasbeck said Ocean Pines GM John Viola recommended that fire department officials meet with local and state representatives. That eventually included Sen. Mary Beth Carozza, Del. Wayne Hartman, County Commissioners Chip Bertino and Jim Bunting, and a representative for U.S. Rep. Andy Harris, along with Larry Perrone and Doug Parks from the Ocean Pines Board and Bank of Ocean City President and CEO Reid Tingle.

"The chief and I have been working on this for over a year, getting our feasibility study ready," VanGasbeck said. "In November, we got to the point where John recommended to us ... that we should probably meet with our political leadership to start talking about funding.

"The whole idea was to show them [the state of the facility] ... and to talk in terms of how we could get funding," VanGasbeck added. "The product of that meeting was people going back and looking to see what they could do."

The current estimate for the entire project is roughly \$8 million if construction begins in the second quarter of fiscal year 2023.

VanGasbeck said Carozza and Hartman reached out in March to share the news that the fire department would receive \$1.35 million through Gov. Larry Hogan's supplemental budget. There is also a bond initiative through the Maryland State Legislature that added more state funding.

"Del. Hartman and Sen. Carozza worked extraordinarily hard to get this money, and they continue to work extraordinarily hard," VanGasbeck said. "This is not something that the chief or I could do ... that was their effort that did it."

Fire department officials hope to come close to matching that amount with in-house funds.

They said the rest of the funding could come from the Ocean Pines assessment, spread out over the course of a 30-year period.

"The process from here on in is, we're going to have a town hall, probably in the late June timeframe," VanGasbeck said. "We have a presentation ... that the chief and I are working on, as well as our vendor."

He said Carozza and Hartman also agreed to take part in the town hall.

"Subsequent to that, there will be a referendum because it's over \$1 million," VanGasbeck said. "It would be very difficult for me to think that the community would not support that level of funding, when the state government - our delegate and our senator - worked so hard to get that part of the funding."

"I think we've done a real good job planning for the future with this building," Grunewald said. "It should have been done a while ago, but Dave and I have spent hundreds and hundreds of hours planning strategically to make sure that this building, and the community, is set" for the future.

The Fire Department hosted a public town hall on June 30 to discuss the renovation plans and funding options.



expand the south fire station along with \$250,000 in bond funding.

Fire Department Chief Steve Grunewald and President David VanGasbeck said the renovation is necessary because the current building, constructed in 1981, is undersized and does not meet the needs of the department and the community. The antiquated building fails to comply with National Fire Protection Association and Americans with Disabilities Act Standards as well as current building codes.

Among the issues with the current space, VanGasbeck said the kitchen floods during heavy rains, there is mold throughout the building, and the living quarters are "totally inadequate." He compared the living area to a sardine can.

"Two years ago, we had gas lines that literally fell out of the ceiling," VanGasbeck said.

He said the project is part renovation and part new construction. The existing bays, where fire and EMS vehicles are housed, will remain intact.

"It is a renovation in the sense that we are retaining the existing three bays," he said. "We are adding a two-story building ... and we are going to add another bay and a work area."

Grunewald said the extra bay would house a third EMS vehicle, which currently stays at the north fire station. The two-story building would house the rest of the operation, which includes storage, office space, a decontamination area and living quarters.

Grunewald said the bottom line is that expanded quarters would last the fire department roughly 50 years and allow firefighters and EMS to keep their six-minute response time within the Ocean Pines community.

"That's very important when you're looking at any type of medical emergency and even any type of fire," he said. "Time is the essence and, in this business ... thirty seconds to a minute makes a huge difference.

"If you look at the fires that we've had [and] the quick response, if we didn't have a fire department here [in Ocean Pines], you're looking at 15-20 minutes," Grunewald continued. "Instead of burning one house down, you'd burn a block down."

He added, in case of a medical emergency like a cardiac arrest, a patient would have "no chance of survival" with a 15-20-minute response time.

"Time is important. We also need to have the appropriate living spaces to actually provide these jobs," Grunewald said, adding that competition from other agencies is fierce.

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Debbie Donahue

Director of
Recreation & Parks

Summer has arrived and we could not be happier to be getting back to our summertime fun!

Family Fun Night, Concerts in the Park, summer camps, July 4th 5k, carnival and fireworks, and miscellaneous special events are all underway.

The **Farmers & Artisans Market** is open on Saturdays and growing in vendors each week. Its summer hours

are 8 a.m. – 1 p.m., so please come out and enjoy the different vendors and keep up that healthy eating.

The **Pine'eer Artisan Gift Shop** is also open Saturdays and Sundays. Their beautiful store holds many handmade products and is the perfect place to find that certain something for that special someone or maybe that perfect something just for you. Stop by and enjoy the items and say "hi" to the lovely ladies who make the items in the store.

Take a look at the craft events the **Pine'eer Craft Club** will be hosting this summer as well, including the annual craft fair on Aug. 6. Multiple vendors will be inside the Community Center and outside in White Horse Park.

The **Yacht Club Marina** fuel dock is open and serving many customers this summer with boating needs such as fuel, oil, ice, bait, ice cream and drinks. Check out the merchandise they have for sale and sport your new Ocean Pines Marina sweatshirt, hat or t-shirt. The staff at the marina are fun and friendly and are happy to help you and share some fun (fish) conversations.

The **Racquet Center** at Manklin Meadows Park is hosting multiple clinics, classes and events this season. Stop by and learn to play tennis, pickleball, platform tennis and Spec Tennis. Also, don't forget to sign up for the Oktoberfest Pickleball Tournament.

On Saturday, Aug. 27 (10 a.m.–2 p.m.), celebrate heading back to school with a fun & festive field day at our BACK-TO-SCHOOL BASH! Join us for moon bounces, games,

Summer fun coming your way!

food, music & more! We'll be collecting donations of backpacks & other school supplies. Admission is \$10/person.

For all of your summer fun info, visit oceanpines.org, the Recreation and Park's Facebook page, or stop by the Community Center any time to pick up an activity guide and flyers, ask questions or just to say "hi." We are there Monday through Friday 8 a.m. – 8 p.m. and Saturdays 10 a.m.– 8 p.m.

I look forward to more sunshine and good times and seeing all my summer fun faces! See you soon!

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Director of Aquatics

National lifeguard shortage felt in Ocean Pines

Ocean Pines Pools have always been a hub of aquatic activity in the summer, as guests of all ages swim, sun and enjoy beautiful waterfront settings.

This year, however, Ocean Pines Aquatics has been challenged to strike a balance between dealing with a lifeguard shortage and making sure all five community pools can meet the demand of their guests while remaining safely staffed.

According to the American Red Cross, which is the gold standard for lifeguard training, a national shortage of trained lifeguards has led to the closing of facilities across the country, or reduced hours at those facilities able to remain open.

I have been responsible for training and hiring in lifeguards in Ocean Pines for the past nine years. Last year we saw a decrease in interested lifeguard applicants, but this year's pool of potential employees is smaller than I've ever seen.

To combat this shortage, Ocean Pines began taking several proactive measures before the start of the summer season, including increasing lifeguard pay, offering free American Red Cross lifeguard certification to those hired as Ocean Pines lifeguards, and increased advertising for lifeguard training and positions.

Despite these efforts, the number of unfilled lifeguard positions remained much higher this year than normal. Additionally, many of the lifeguards we were able to hire for the season weren't able to

start work until after schools were finished for the year, which was a few weeks after the Memorial Day weekend opening of the outdoor pools in Ocean Pines.

As a result, and to make sure that we have an adequate number of trained, American Red Cross-certified guards at every open Ocean Pines pool, we've had to rotate the opening of the pools in a way that we feel best meets the needs of our entire swimming population.

For example, we have opted to keep the Yacht Club Pool and Beach Club Pool open daily, as the closure of those facilities would also have a significant impact on food and beverage operations.

We have also shortened the hours of operation at the indoor Sports Core Pool. This has enabled us to continue all our popular aquatic fitness classes while freeing up lifeguard staff to supervise the outdoor pools.

Fortunately, the team we have in place in Ocean Pines is skilled, compassionate and motivated. I have the utmost confidence in them to provide a safe and enjoyable swimming experience for all our guests.

Regardless, we know that having to close any pool for any reason is a disruption in people's plans. We have worked hard to make those closures as minimal as possible and are continuing to explore ways we can lessen their impact.

We appreciate your patience as we weather this current challenge to our pool operations, and hope you have a safe and fun summer at the pools.

DOGGIE SWIM

Benefits Worcester County Humane Society!

Sat, SEPT. 10 (Rain Date: 9/17) • Mumford's Landing Pool
10am-10:30am: Dogs Under 20 lbs. 10:30am-2pm: All Dogs

Our popular annual doggie swim wraps up our summer season at Mumford's Landing Pool. Come take a swim with your furry best friend!

WHO: All dog handlers must be at least 18 years of age & youth under 17 must be accompanied by a registered adult.

FEE: \$8 per dog; **FREE for human companions!**



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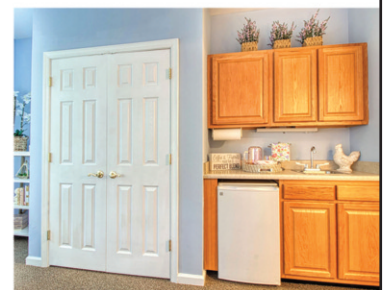


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OCEAN PINES RACQUET CENTER

New! SPEC TENNIS

Spec Tennis is played with a paddle and soft tennis ball on the screened platform courts. We'll show you how! Equipment is provided.

WHEN: EVERY THURSDAY, 3:00PM

WHERE: OP Racquet Center screened platform tennis courts

FEE: After free trial, a platform tennis membership or daily court fee is required (Platform Tennis Member, Free; OP Resident \$7; Non-Resident \$8).

FOR MORE INFO: Contact Araceli Popen at 302-270-8118 or email oppaddle2020@gmail.com



PLATFORM TENNIS DROP-IN

For up-to-date drop-in days and times,
email oppaddle2020@gmail.com
or visit

oceanpines.org/web/pages/platform-tennis.

New! ADULT BEGINNER TENNIS CLASS

We will be learning all of the basic strokes, court movement & footwork. Class time will focus on consistency in strokes, scoring, tennis etiquette & basic strategy in playing singles & doubles.

WHEN: MONDAY-THURSDAY, 9:00am-10:00am

Days	Dates	Time	# of Classes
Mon-Thu	JUL 11 - 14	9:00am-10:00am	4
Mon-Thu	JUL 25 - 28	9:00am-10:00am	4
Mon-Thu	AUG 8 - 11	9:00am-10:00am	4

INSTRUCTORS: Bill Gilroy, PTR Tennis Professional

FEE: \$120/session



Youth Summer Camp

NET GENERATION JR. TENNIS SCHOOL

Net Generation is a celebration of a game where no one sits on the sidelines. Tennis is easy to learn & tailored for all ages & abilities, giving kids a game that will help them build friendships & learn skills they'll use for life. **Level 1 - Futures (ages 5-10):** Designed to teach children the FUNDamentals of tennis while remembering that having a good time is the most important part of the game. Basic stroke techniques will be covered in the lessons with fun games. **Level 2 - Challengers (ages 11-17):** Our advanced junior tennis training consists of a more challenging mix of instruction & repetition. Repetition of strokes & playing patterns is necessary to help them improve. We will use games & small challenge obstacles to keep it fun & competitive.

AGES: 5-17 (Boys & Girls)

Level	Ages	Days	Dates	Times
1	5-10	Tu/Th	thru AUG 25	9:00am-10:00am
2	11-17	Tu/Th	thru AUG 25	10:00am-11:00am
1&2	5-17	Wed	thru AUG 24	6:30pm-7:30pm

INSTRUCTOR: Terry Underkoffler, Head PTR Tennis Professional

FEE: \$10/session

Construction starts on four new pickleball courts

Construction on four new pickleball courts started in June, and the courts should be ready for Ocean Pines players by the end of July.

The Ocean Pines Board of Directors approved the new courts in January 2021, but a lengthy permitting process because of the COVID-19 pandemic produced several delays. The courts will be part of the Ocean Pines Tennis Center on Manklin Creek Road.



Public Works did a subbase in June, and contractor ATC Corp did the base and a 4-inch paving pass, and installed footers for fences and nets.

ATC will next install a topcoat of surface asphalt and complete the fencing and footers. The courts will then be color coated, which takes four-to-seven days, weather permitting.

Ocean Pines General Manager John Viola said the new courts would supply more space for players and allow Ocean Pines to grow its slate of lessons and tournaments.

"There has been a lot of demand for more pickleball courts, and we're happy to announce that this project is moving forward," Viola said.

Special Events

LEVEL UP PICKLEBALL CAMP

Featuring instructors Wayne & Lisa Dollard, Publishers of *Pickleball Magazine* & US Open & USAPA Nationals mixed gold medalists.

For player levels 3.0 to 4.5. Certified teaching professionals. No more than 8:1 student-to-teacher ratio. Includes: 12 hours of camp over 2 days or 15 hours of camp over 3 days, lunch breaks daily, first-day & post-day camp video analysis, camp notes & drill sheets.

**WHEN: JUL 16-17, 9:00am-4:00pm
and SEP 9-11, 9:00am-3:00pm**

For more info & to register: leveluppickleballcamps.com

OCEAN PINES PINK RIBBON CLASSIC 2022 Fri, OCT 7

All players are invited! Pick up a registration form at the Racquet Center or download it from e-newsletter at oppickleball.shutterstock.com.

ENTRY FEE: \$35; includes lunch, snacks & prizes

OKTOBERFEST PICKLEBALL TOURNAMENT 2022

Including Money Brackets

Fri, OCT 14: Singles & 60+ Mixed Doubles

Sat, OCT 15: Men's & Women's Doubles Under 50

Sun, OCT 16: Mixed Doubles 50+

Registration deadline: Oct. 1

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Message from the General Manager of GOLF



John Malinowski
General Manager
of Golf

Several projects in full swing

As always, the summer season is a busy one at the golf course. Below are some highlights of the events, services, and projects we've been working on.

- Once again, all four of our **junior golf camps** sold out within a few weeks. By the end of the summer, we will have welcomed over 120 junior golfers to Ocean Pines. Many of our former campers have returned as helpers, which is a testament to the

longevity of the program. A strong junior golf program is important to the growth of the game and illustrates that the sport is alive and well in Ocean Pines.

- Our **ForeSight GCQuad launch monitor** continues to be utilized for golf instruction and club fittings. This state-of-the-art technology determines club path, face angle at impact, club head speed, distance and point of contact on the clubface to enhance the personalization of instruction. It is also used to personally fit clubs to an individual's swing by determining the correct loft, lie and shaft. The introduction of this equipment has led to an increase in golf club sales and is just one factor in the improvement of Ocean Pines Golf Club's bottom line.

- We held two successful and **sold-out club fitting days** with Mizuno and TaylorMade.

Representatives were on site in Ocean Pines to offer free, tour-level fittings to Ocean Pines golfers. These events also led to an increase in golf club sales.

- Our maintenance crew, led by Superintendent Justin Hartshorne, **expanded the fairways** on holes 11, 17 and 18. A change in agronomic practices, including how we water and mow, allowed us to widen these fairways, making them more playable and aesthetically pleasing. Additional fairway expansion of select holes will continue throughout the season.
- Maintenance has also continued **deep-tine aeration**, which not only delivers more oxygen to the soil, but also helps water from rain events move through the turf more quickly, allowing for better drainage and, ultimately, better playability.
- Additionally, the summer season always brings with it the need for **drainage and irrigation work**, which is necessary to maintain the excellent course conditions we've worked hard to achieve in Ocean Pines.

OCEAN PINES RESIDENT RATES*

\$59 Before 12pm	\$49 12pm - 4pm	\$39 After 4pm
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PUBLIC RATES

\$85 Before 12pm	\$70 12pm - 4pm	\$65 4pm - 6pm	\$45 After 6pm
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TEE TIMES: 410.641.6057 | OCEANPINESGOLF.ORG

OPMGA announce Presidents' Cup Championship winners

Don McMullen (low net) and Gerry Butler (low gross) took home top prizes during the 2022 Ocean Pines Men's Golf Association Presidents' Cup Championship on May 12.

OPMGA President John Ferinde directed a full complement of 40 golfers to their respective tees at 8 a.m. The weather was damp and chilly, but the course conditions were good, especially considering the recent rains.

The day was a good one for OPMGA presidents, as immediate past president McMullen tied for the low round of 80 and was awarded the prize for overall low net score with a 67. Current President John Ferinde was close behind, with a net score of 69 that earned him low net honors in Flight 3.

New member Gerry Butler bested McMullen for the low gross honors on a matching of cards. Low gross honors in Flights 1, 2 and 3 were earned by Jay Andrejko, Bob Long and Bill Thomson. Marcel Vales, Ron Seika and John Ferinde took home trophies for low net score in their respective flights.



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\$60 Full Set	\$50 Irons
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\$25 30min Ages 14 & under	\$50 30min Adult	\$80 60min Adult
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OP Golf Members' Council announces 2022 scholarships

The Ocean Pines Golf Members' Council recently awarded six scholarships totaling \$10,500 to local high school seniors.

The scholarship committee of the Golf Members' Council each year honors students who show an interest in the game of golf and have exemplary academic and extracurricular records.

Bob Long, scholarship committee chairperson, said awards are given on behalf of Ocean Pines Golf Club members who support the fund throughout the year.

He said members have raised more than \$45,800 for scholarships over the last seven years, including \$21,500 during the last two years.

This year, Riley Schoch from Worcester Preparatory School was named the Scotty Wheatley Scholarship winner. Long said Wheatley helped significantly boost donation amounts, which had been \$2,000-\$3,000 each year, prior to 2016.

"Scotty ran the OP-Taylor Bank Scramble for a couple of years and is largely responsible for the increase in awards," Long said. "Scotty died in February 2021, and his family asked that donations in his name be made to our scholarship fund. Over \$3,400 was received, and for the past two years we have attached Scotty's name to one of the scholarship awards."

The 2022 Scholarship recipients are:

Riley Schoch (Worcester Preparatory School) played on the WPS golf team for four years and was a team captain this year. He was also captain of the tennis team. Schoch has excellent academic credentials and was an Advanced Placement Scholar with Honor. Schoch is also a classically trained pianist with many citations and performances. He was heavily involved in community service and was an officer of his senior class. He is interested in biomedical engineering and plans to attend the University of Maryland. Schoch was recognized as the Scotty Wheatley Scholarship winner and will receive an award of \$3,000.

Evan Ritz (Stephen Decatur High School) played golf for SDHS for four years. He helped recruit other students for the team and received a team sportsmanship award. Academically, Ritz was in the top 10% of his class and took advanced placement courses in calculus and environmental science, along with other higher-level courses. He is interested in biology and pre-med studies and plans to attend Salisbury University. Ritz will receive an award of \$2,400.

Abby Wesche (Stephen Decatur High School) played golf at SDHS for four years and was team co-captain during her junior and senior years. Wesche is regularly one of the scoring golfers on the SDHS team and played in the first two rounds of the state championships. She plans to attend McDaniel College in Westminster, Maryland to study biology. Wesche will receive an award of \$2,400.

Bennett Tinkler (Worcester Preparatory School) played on the WPS golf team for three years. He enjoys golf and his

coaches noted his improvement each year. Tinkler was also the captain and goalie of the lacrosse team and played varsity basketball. Tinkler has a strong academic record, including five AP courses. Outside the classroom, he was involved in community service and is particularly interested in helping those with autism. His plans are to study business at the University of Maryland. Tinkler will receive an award of \$1,500.

Anna McDonald (Worcester Preparatory School) moved to the area during the start of her junior year, when the pandemic was in full force. That led to her involvement with the golf team. She also plays recreationally with family members. McDonald also played lacrosse and soccer. She has a strong academic record and was involved in community service both locally and in New York, where she previously lived. She plans to attend Syracuse University to study sports management. McDonald will receive an award of \$600.

Jack Quisgard (Stephen Decatur High School) is a wrestler and baseball player. Quisgard has played golf recreationally with family and friends for the last several years. He is in the top fifth of his class and has a strong academic record. Quisgard volunteered with Habitat for Humanity at the ReStore, along with other community service work. He plans to study mechanical engineering at Virginia Tech. Quisgard will receive an award of \$600.

Scholarship funds come from the Ocean Pines-Taylor Bank Scramble and other golf member initiatives.

This year's scramble is set for Wednesday, July 13 at the Ocean Pines Golf Club.

The public entry fee is \$120 per person, which includes greens fee, cart, team prizes, men's and ladies' closest-to-the-pin prizes, door prizes, continental breakfast, on-course refreshments and lunch at The Clubhouse Bar and Grille following the tournament.

The entry fee for Ocean Pines Golf members is \$75. The cart fee is extra for those without a cart package.

Players may sign up individually or as a foursome. Individuals or incomplete teams will be paired.

For more information, contact Steve Howse at 571-239-8469, or visit www.oceanpines.org.





Eddie Wells
Director



Nobie Violante
Manager

Steps to control mosquitos

If you've spent any time outside in Ocean Pines, you're well aware of the presence of mosquitos in our community. As annoying and potentially dangerous as these creatures are, there are measures that Worcester County takes, as well as steps that individual residents can take, to control their populations.

Worcester County, along with the Maryland State Department of Agriculture, has a cooperative mosquito control program. Program activities include mosquito-borne disease surveillance, mosquito surveillance, biological control, ground and aerial application of insecticides, source reduction and public education.

The mosquito control program's mission is to prevent mosquito-borne disease in humans and domestic animals and to reduce mosquito populations to an acceptable level. This program is responsible for administering and implementing mosquito control services throughout the county.

It is the policy of the County Commissioners that rural homeowners and businesses have access and apply to the program so the public is protected in the best applicable manner. Other areas, such as homeowner associations, like Ocean Pines, and towns are provided services solely by the Maryland State Department of Agriculture.

There are also measures Ocean Pines residents can take to control mosquitoes outside their homes. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends the following:

- Once a week, empty and scrub, turn over, cover, or throw out any items that hold water like tires, buckets, planters, toys, pools, birdbaths, flowerpot saucers, or trash containers. Mosquitoes lay eggs near water.
- Tightly cover water storage containers (buckets, cisterns, rain barrels) so that mosquitoes cannot get inside to lay eggs.
- For containers without lids, use wire mesh with holes smaller than an adult mosquito.
- Use larvicides to treat large containers of water that will not be used for drinking and cannot be covered or dumped out. **Ocean Pines Public Works sells mosquito dunks for \$10 (plus tax) for a package of six. Each dunk lasts 30 days and covers 100 square feet.**
- If you have a septic tank, repair cracks or gaps. Cover open vent or plumbing pipes. Use wire mesh with holes smaller than an adult mosquito.

A Reminder from Ocean Pines Public Works

Please place trash and recycling containers in driveways so that Public Works mowers can cut grass in the easements. Thank you!

Signs, mailboxes, drainage pipes and more



Linda Martin
*Senior Executive
Office Manager*

The Compliance, Permits, and Inspections (CPI) Department and the Architectural Review Committee (ARC) encourage everyone to review the sign regulations as found in Section 600 of the Architectural Review Guidelines (<https://www.oceanpines.org/documents/10184/104157/ARC+Guidelines+Final+Form+3-25-20+APPROVED+by+ARC+and+BOD.pdf>). Especially since it is now election time, it would be beneficial to review, as you are only allowed one sign per each candidate, and the signs cannot be displayed in the easement area or any common areas in Ocean Pines. As for other signs, construction signs are only allowed to be displayed on a property if the CPI Department has issued a construction permit, open house signs are only allowed with the words "open house" and the directional arrows, and yard sale signs are only allowed to be displayed on Saturday and Sunday during the hours of 6 a.m. and 4 p.m. only. All other signs are unauthorized and are not allowed in Ocean Pines unless approval has been given by the ARC prior to installing the sign.

Mailbox renovations are underway. Ocean Pines is having the mailboxes cleaned to remove the debris and rust from the mailboxes. All mailbox sites have been evaluated and high priority locations have been determined for replacement. Some of the concrete and stone repairs around the mailboxes will be completed in-house, while other locations will be contracted out.

Ocean Pines once again will be contracting with Pelican Underground to install the cured-in-place pipe (CIPP) liners in the drainage pipes. This process involves running a resin lining into a pre-existing pipe that, once the resin cures, will form a tight-fitting, jointless and corrosion-resistant lining to the pipe, which gives the pipe a 100-year life expectancy. With the success of last year's project, which included lining 12 drainage pipes, Public Works has selected an additional 11 locations for this year's project.

We would like to thank everyone who has utilized info@oceanpines.org for questions, concerns, complaints and general information. Please continue to use the email or if you prefer, you can call 410-641-7717 during business hours (410-641-7747 on nights and weekends). The info@oceanpines.org team is always ready to assist you!

FINANCE DEPARTMENT



Summary Financial Report

Year-to-Date 4/30/2022

OPERATING ACCOUNT SUMMARY

UNAUDITED

	ACTUAL	BUDGET	VARIANCE
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)			
REVENUES			
Assessments	\$9,348	\$9,348	\$0
Grants	559	485	74
Amenities (Net)	6,616	5,128	1,488
Recreation & Parks	272	376	(104)
Other fees and Income	1,747	967	780
Total Revenues	18,542	16,304	2,238
Less transfers to reserve accounts	(3,730)	(3,281)	(449)
Net Operating Revenues	14,812	13,023	1,789
OPERATING EXPENSES			
Administration & Management	2,072	2,207	135
Amenities	5,127	4,496	(631)
Recreation & Parks	723	912	189
Police	1,790	1,893	103
Fire / EMS	745	745	0
Public Works / CPI	1,772	2,034	262
General Maintenance	608	736	128
Total Operating Expenses	12,837	13,023	186
EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES	1,975	-	1,975
TRANSFERS	(41)	0	(41)
NET	\$1,934	\$0	\$1,934

In Memoriam

DAVE PALMER



Long-time Ocean Pines employee Dave Palmer passed away on June 14 at the age of 71. Dave started work in 2007 with the Public Works Department on the grounds crew and was later promoted to crew leader. During the off-season, Dave helped the department with leaf collection and landscaping. He mowed grass for Ocean Pines on his last day.

Director of Public Works Eddie Wells said Dave was dependable, had a strong work ethic and was liked by all who worked with him. He was also a dedicated Dallas Cowboys fan. He lost his wife, Donna, in 2018 after 38 years of marriage. He is survived by five children, 18 grandchildren and 14 great grandchildren. He will be greatly missed.

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OCEAN PINES MARINAS



Ron Fisher

Dockmaster

Open and underway for summer

All boat slips at both marinas are filled for the season.

Ocean Pines Marina

(1 Mumford's Landing Rd.)

(Latitude N 38 degrees 23'13"

and Longitude W 75 degrees 7'45"

• Open daily:

- May 1 to 27 - 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- May 28 to Sept. 5 - 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- Sept. 6 to 30 - 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- Oct. 1 to 31 - 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

• Marina closes for the season Nov. 1

• For more information, call 410-641-7447 or visit

<https://www.oceanpines.org/web/pages/ocean-pines-marina>.

Swim and Racquet Marina (10 Seabreeze Rd.)

• Open daily, May 1 to Oct. 31

• Marina closes for the season Nov. 1

• For more information, call 410-641-7052 or visit

<https://www.oceanpines.org/web/pages/swim-racquet-marina>.

Schedule a vessel safety check

The Ocean City Power Squadron vessel safety check (VSC) helps boaters achieve compliance with federal, state, and local laws, particularly regarding the requirements for onboard safety equipment. It also heightens the boater's awareness of safety issues through one-on-one contact by volunteer certified vessel examiners.

The vessel safety check includes:

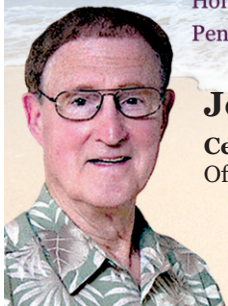
- Display of registration numbers
- Valid state registration
- Personal flotation devices (PFD), Coast Guard approved
- Visual distress signals (flares) with proper dates
- Fire extinguisher, preferably mounted
- Safe fuel system (includes proper ventilation of the fuel tank, I/O & inboard engines)
- Backfire flame control for all I/O or inboard engines
- Sound producing device (horn/bell)
- Navigation lights (anchor & running lights)
- Pollution placard (vessels 26 feet & longer)
- MARPOL trash placard (vessels 26 feet & longer)
- Marine sanitation MSD's (vessels w/installed heads)
- Navigation rules (all vessels 39.4 feet or longer)
- State and/or local requirements
- Overall vessel condition
- Safe electrical system (includes battery box & TML caps)

To schedule a vessel safety check, email Jerry Leuters at dorado1045@yahoo.com.



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OPA Board candidates provide statements

Candidates for the 2022 Ocean Pines Board election were asked to submit both a brief statement introducing themselves to voters, and answers to three questions created by the Ocean Pines Elections Committee.

Below is the information submitted by each candidate, presented in ballot order. Candidate submissions were not edited for grammar or punctuation.

For questions about the election, email the Election Committee at elections@oceanpines.org or call 410-208-3989.

For election information, news and key dates in the process, see the front cover. **VOTE August 10 by 4 p.m.**



Paula Gray

Email: pjgray180@gmail.com

Address: 88 Windjammer Road

Introductory statement

A broad brush resume of Paula Gray: Resident of Ocean Pines, wife, mother, grandmother! Retired Railroad Yardmaster (32

years) a position that required diligence, daily planning, and decision making along with a myriad of interactions with Federal agencies, corporate departments, State and Local governments, as well as customers large and small (Ex: UPS at Christmas and Mom/Pops waiting for basics). I enjoyed the interactions and common ground findings with every level people including personnel planning, training learning respect for diverse and conflicting opinions. Along way various volunteer positions: Treasurer and then President Friends of Downs Park (nonprofit-4 years/volunteer); women's Prisoner educational program; appointed by Governor Schaefer Foster Care Review Board (serving children in peril); Little league volunteer, 12 years; UMBC graduate, member American Assn University Women, OP Womens' Club; Mensa; current National Aquarium Sealco Steard volunteer; Stem volunteer Middle School girls - I have always worked within and for my community.

If elected, what would be your top two priorities?

First, would be to continue the positive path that began only a few years ago. Ocean Pines is now a very active and diverse place to live with amenities coming into their own and prospering; with committees working very hard to improve and enhance this community; and to increase the participation of more residents - both new and old. Change is always happening and hopefully I could successfully work with the Board to advance and extend this success! It will be important to use all of the ideas and abilities of all of us to keep this process effective and without controversy.

Secondly, I would work to improve the direct information flow from the Board and the Association to our residents. Over and over the remarks are made that no answers every come back from the Board. Now lots of information' is out

there, from long standing sights to the newer ones data, dates and direct responses from the Board can get Lost in the interpretations, perhaps well meaning, and unofficial postings on sights with their own agendas. It would be extremely beneficial to the Board's operations If a more direct and easily accessed sight/process could be found.

What do you think about Ocean Pines Association budgeting and finances? Do you have suggestions on improvements?

For many years the Pines financial picture was, if not bleak, perhaps unusual and appeared to be on path to almost insolvency. While that might sound melodramatic, little or no input had been made in our infrastructure, our amenities and our ability to create a profitable, functioning community. Since what I shall refer to as the Viola operation as GM, we have survived and recovered from a forensic audit, a structuring of departments that permitted better utilization of our funds, completed and necessary overhauls like the Yacht Club performance, the Golf Course utilization and even an improved Police Department building. The Covid crisis didn't demolish our financial functioning and for first time in many years we all benefitted from assessment reductions. Does this sound like I believe we should "leave well Enough alone" Also please refer to the Board meeting in May It was announced that Mr. Viola did not resign but that was a statement by a Board member. At that same Board meeting our budget which is now fully explained at meetings shows an excellent potential to continue improvements and a possible status quo on our assessments.' I feel we need to retain current GM and Treasurer for as long as they wish to remain.!

Describe what talents and skills you would bring as an OPA Director.

Professionally and personally the usual response: New Board member "different ways of looking at something" "fresh eyes on old problems" Cliched? No because depending on perspective all amazing simple or ridiculously hard!! My work history taught me how to work with disparate groups looking at important issues that did, occasionally, have to be settled without active confrontation. My past has taught me to work in the here and now but never to abandon future needs and concerns.

Get To Know THE CANDIDATES

I would bring the Innate and elemental ability to never take Board or Association concerns to a personal level. Finally and what I consider most importantly is that in all of my positions and jobs in life, I made every endeavor to NOT forget that I was there to represent others and never advance my own personal positions. If I am fortunate enough to be elected, I would hope to be my most important asset as a Board member is to remember I represent the residents of OP.



Amy Peck

Email: peck4pines@comcast.net

Address: 109 White Horse Drive

Introductory statement

We made a fantastic decision purchasing our Ocean Pines home in 2002. My husband, our two sons, and I have joyful memories of our twenty years here. I love this Community and I am asking for your vote so I can continue to serve. As a Director, I use the knowledge and perspective I've gained as a part-time now full-time owner, mom, past OP employee, new retiree, community volunteer and appointed Director.

I believe I am a highly effective, independent thinker on the current Board that works well with the entire OP team. I research, ask tough questions, and listen to the homeowners to find solutions. I brought hybrid meetings the clubhouse that increased transparency and participation. I've worked hard in my role as Liaison to four different committees including ENA, SPAC, Racquet and Recreation and Parks. I'm proud to be on the Board that lowered the assessment by a historic \$100.00 with an almost \$2-million surplus, but there is still work to be done.

Fiscally conservative, I understand smart investment and value your HOA dollars. I am a dedicated and enthusiastic volunteer focused on keeping Ocean Pines an attractive, affordable, safe, and enjoyable home for everyone.
#Peck4Pines

If elected, what would be your top two priorities?

First, we need to focus our attention on hiring/retaining the General Manager position. The stability of Ocean Pines rests on the GM. The Board makeup changes every year, so if you want continued success and to avoid past mistakes, we need to look at the General Manager's vision, and the Ocean Pines operations team embracing and implementing that vision, and the Board monitoring the implementation. OP needs a Board that works with the GM, not against and doesn't micromanage. I am proud of the relationship I have built with Mr. Viola and the senior leadership team.

Another priority is to ensure the investments we have made in our homes and our community continue to grow. That means we must maintain our infrastructure and keep Ocean Pines safe. There is much to plan for on the horizon. We need to accommodate the Fire Department's needs. Other upcoming projects include irrigation, racquet facility updates, safety initiatives, extending the life of the beach club, mailboxes and continuing our drainage work and beautification efforts. The Declarations of Restriction need revision and enforcement. I am working, feet on the ground, and ready to continue to work on these priorities.

What do you think about Ocean Pines Association budgeting and finances? Do you have suggestions on improvements?

Ocean Pines is in fantastic financial shape with an almost a \$2-million surplus! We are increasing our reserves, maximizing revenue, lowering expenses, and making smart investments in our amenities. This stewardship contributed to a historic lowering of our HOA assessment and another 2023 predicted surplus. There is smart financial leadership with a bottom-up approach involving key staff; however, there's always room for improvement. Let's continue financial transparency while educating homeowners where their HOA dollars are being spent. Let's maintain timely financial reporting but show profits/losses clearly to all homeowners. I want to work with the Ocean Pines Volunteer Fire Department as a team making sure they provide the Board and the Community with a complete financial picture as we address OPVFD's needs. The Board should involve the Community in the decision making by holding multiple Town Halls regarding a new or renovated Fire House. We need to plan for potential financial challenges, including rising labor and fuel costs, inflation, and possible Covid surges. I want to make sure we attract the best employees possible with competitive wages and benefits. I believe in fiscal conservative policies that value the homeowners' investment and safety while protecting the legacy of Ocean Pines.

Describe what talents and skills you would bring as an OPA Director.

I always give 110% to the job. Using my paralegal research skills and attention to detail, I study an issue from all sides. In my decision making, I always listen to the Community and focus on what will serve Ocean Pines best. I come prepared to board meetings and work sessions and actively serve all three of my assigned Committees. I follow up and understand my role as a Director. I am a lifelong volunteer and I make sure to attend all OPA sponsored functions and volunteer my services, such as unloading Christmas trees at White Horse Park, advocating for my committees, cleaning up the South Pond, volunteering at

Get To Know THE CANDIDATES

Bay Day and Community Bike Rides and helping my neighbors. I love Ocean Pines and I have a very positive attitude. This doesn't mean I'm unrealistic and blind to problems, but I seek solutions. I'm an independent thinker. As a Director, my first vote was me versus six, but my well-researched position regarding employee sick leave was clearly understood. I come to the job without ego or personal agenda. I have a clear understanding of what it takes to get the job done, and I am fully committed.



Stuart Lakernick

Email: bakfixer@aol.com

Address: 9 Widows Watch Court

Introductory statement

I LOVE Ocean Pines and that is why I've been a Board candidate twice, garnering 1,511 votes last year from folks who believed in me.

I possess the traits to be a successful Director: fair and cordial, with a business sense having operated a practice as a Doctor of Chiropractic since 1992. In the past two years I have attended (virtually or in-person) OP Board meetings, Town Halls and many committee meetings in order to understand the various aspects of our community. I strongly believe our Board can work together by listening to the viewpoints of the community and those of fellow Board members. I believe in transparency and will make decisions based not only my views, but with the reasoning of others. Civic Duty is important. I am a Rotarian and a Lion and have served on the board of my Rotary. In OP this past year, I helped to conduct a Toys for Tots drive, a food drive, and a coat drive with donations going to Diakonia. Also, I was a part of Operation Stand Down, an organization getting help for homeless and at-risk veterans. I look forward to serving the people of OP and appreciate your support.

If elected, what would be your top two priorities?

My top two priorities are to continue to work on the community's drainage issues and to support our police and fire departments. On drainage we should continue to look for grant money from the state and the county, just like what was done successfully for the Bainbridge pond project. This was a great start and an important step to improving the flooding issues facing of our community. My other priority is to focus on the supporting our police and fire departments. We have way too much turnover in the police department and we need to look at options that would be conducive for officers to stay. Our firehouse needs help. We cannot sacrifice safety in a town with an aging population. According to our fire chief, Steve Grunewald, we have a six

minute response time anywhere in Ocean Pines. Anything that impacts that is unacceptable. Whatever we need to do in order to maintain the highest quality we already have, must be done.

What do you think about Ocean Pines Association budgeting and finances? Do you have suggestions on improvements?

We association members are shareholders in our company. I know that we are an HOA, not a stock company, but our investment makes us pseudo shareholders. We all bought in when we moved here. A couple years ago under our previous GM we utilized an assessment driven top down model for our budgeting needs. That approach got us in some financial difficulty. We did not do the due diligence with our building and infrastructure maintenance which resulted in us having to spend more on replacement. Our current GM uses a bottom up approach utilizing our department heads to come up with the budget. This makes them accountable for their individual budgets. This present model has been successful. The only way that I see that we can improve this is to maintain this approach. We need to rein in our spending on our legal advice. Last year, according to our board president, we spent in addition to our retainer close to \$50,000 which included the failed law suit concerning last year's election. We need to listen to what community members feel are their priorities.

Describe what talents and skills you would bring as an OPA Director.

Proven leadership, problem solving talent, and excellent management skills. I have been in practice and have successfully managed my business for over 30 years. I have the largest practice in my county in Pennsylvania. An entrepreneur stays in business this long by knowing what to do well, how to manage risks and by recruiting and investing in the best employees. I know how to deal with different personalities, be fiscally responsible, how to balance a budget, how to communicate well, and search for the right talent. One of my great strengths is the ability to see the gifts other people possess and put them to their best use. I am a natural leader. My leadership style revolves around giving people autonomy to make decisions and holding them accountable when necessary.

For questions about
the election, email
elections@oceanpines.org
or call 410-208-3989



Get To Know THE CANDIDATES



Monica Rakowski

Email: m.rak34@mediacombb.net

Address: 34 Cannon Drive

Introductory statement

My name is Monica Rakowski.

I began my professional career at the Federal Reserve Bank of Baltimore. More recently my background in consulting and project management of more than 18 years makes me an ideal candidate for a position on the Ocean Pines board of directors. I am enthusiastic and give my all to every job that I have taken or been given.

I have been volunteering and fund raising since I was a teenager. I have received recognition and awards including the local Optimist Girl of the Year award. I served as President of the Mother's Club at my daughter's school, sat on the parish counsel and as an elected Elder served as the coordinator of the communication and membership committees. While my daughter was not interested in sports I coached baseball, softball, and indoor soccer teams.

I am open and approachable. I will stand for all the members in Ocean Pines.

I am hoping for a chance to work harmoniously with other board members and volunteers as well as the management team.

If you like me and believe in my goals, please vote for me in the next Ocean Pines HOA Board of Directors election! Thank you!

If elected, what would be your top two priorities?

If elected my top two priorities will be to protect the value of our properties and improve board transparency.

One of the largest and most important purchase one can make is that of a home. Our homes are investments that affect our future as well as the future of our families. Whether the housing market is up or down, a well-managed enforcement of the rules and standards regarding compliance are key to the objective. I would propose we educate new homeowners of our rules by hosting quarterly meetings specifically designed to educate new owners and communicate our governing rules.

Being on the board comes with a lot of responsibilities. Being responsible for transparency when communicating with the membership is my second priority. While it may be tempting to keep certain things under wraps, especially if there is dissention among the members or if an investment doesn't go as planned hidings these types of issues only create more ruckus when the membership finally hears about them. All rules must be applied regardless of who breaks them. I will be accountable and tell the truth even if it doesn't reflect well on myself or the board.

What do you think about Ocean Pines Association budgeting and finances? Do you have suggestions on improvements?

The preparation of the operating and capital budgets is the cornerstone of our membership. Responsible financial planning is an important fiduciary obligation of the board.

We have in place a committee enabling members to voice their opinions on how their money is spent. Having a committee in place spreads the workload and promotes greater understanding by members and acceptance of the fees and at times necessary increases.

Our recent results and performance compared to budget indicate our association in strong financial health. Is it time to say, "If it ain't broke don't fix it"? Our annual process currently includes a business plan, a review of past budgets, maintenance, and utility costs. As a result of an insurance review, this year the association saw a decrease of \$40,000 in worker's compensation insurance. All these things tell me the management team is doing all the right things.

While I am not new to building cash reserves, I must admit I am not up to date on our membership's contingency plan. I will be prepared to educate myself and make sure our plan includes emergency management planning, extraordinary events management, fire risk assessments, workplace health and safety, and construction safety for capital projects.

Describe what talents and skills you would bring as an OPA Director.

I believe I have what it takes to be an OPA Director. My education and professional backgrounds are elements of what it takes. However, I believe there are more important qualities needed.

I want to better our community. I am passionate about protecting property values and making improvements that will benefit members. I can recognize problems and offer reasonable solutions.

I am driven by giving back to others. I want to be part of helping the association run as effectively as possible. I have a desire to serve.

I can take problems in stride. I understand for as many suggestions the association receives there are more than likely far more complaints. I can offer solutions to resolve issues while maintaining compliance. I am open to differing points of view. There is often more than one "right" way to accomplish something.

I do not need the recognition. My awareness of the thanklessness of the job is keen. Based on past volunteer projects I know how much work goes on behind the scenes that many may not realize. I want to put the effort in because it is the right thing to do, not because I am looking for praise from others.

VOTE AUGUST 10 BY 4 P.M.



Josette Wheatley

Email: Josette4OP@gmail.com

Address: 36 Carriage Lane

Introductory statement

I'm originally from New Brunswick, Canada. My husband, Bob and I raised four children in Howard County, Maryland before moving to Ocean Pines in 2014 to be closer to my in-laws, residents since 1996.

My professional background includes 25 years in civil and structural engineering design. I now am self-employed and own AES Drafting Services.

In October 2021, I continued my volunteerism with Ocean Pines when I was appointed to the Board of Directors. For eight years I have been active in Ocean Pines, active with the Chamber of Commerce, proudly serving on the 50th Anniversary Committee, and the Communications Advisory Committee, as the committee secretary.

I was president for my homeowner's association in Howard County. During those years, I worked on creating a financial reserve for our aging infrastructure. I also served as a liaison of CERN, a community emergency response network.

My focus for this year is to continue to listen to the community and get their voices heard. This includes drainage, infrastructure, and environmental issues.

Promoting our community is also a top priority, we live in an amazing part of the world, where the beauty is impeccable and so are the people who live here.

If elected, what would be your top two priorities?

If elected my top two priorities would be to focus on infrastructure and quality of our water.

Infrastructure

Ocean Pines is now over 50 years old. We need to focus on planning for infrastructure needs. Projects should include replacing or relining pipes, upgrading our administration and fire department buildings, establishing standard operating procedures for maintaining existing structures, maintaining roadways and managing drainage. My extensive background in both structural and civil engineering design including storm water management will be helpful to the Board of Directors to better comprehend existing and new plans provided by Engineers.

Water Quality

My understanding of storm water management leads me to my next focus...water quality. Many of our neighbors experience flooding after storms; and we all are effected by Waste Water Plant overflow. My background in land development design makes me believe that we have over

time gotten away from the original designers' idea of storm water management within our community. We need to re-evaluate land usage and design going forward to ensure storm water management is properly addressed for generations to come. This could be as easy as utilizing pervious driveway & walkway applications.

What do you think about Ocean Pines Association budgeting and finances? Do you have suggestions on improvements?

As we close out our 2021 year, our budget surplus is almost at 2 million dollars.

Per General Manager John Violas' report, we have a POSITIVE YEAR-TO-DATE operating fund variance of \$1,933,335. Revenues are OVER budget by \$1,788,695 and total expenses are UNDER budget by \$186,040. New capital is OVER by (\$41,400).

Yacht Club \$212,000 operating profit

Golf \$288,000 operating profit

Beach Club \$159,000 operating profit

Beach Parking \$440,000 operating profit

Aquatics for first time in years turned a small operating profit

Of course I want to challenge all of our amenities to show operating profit. I want to continue with this positive trajectory. I am very proud to say I was on the Board of Directors that gave back \$100 in fees to our homeowners of Ocean Pines. This was the first reduction in dues since 2015 when the fee was reduced by only \$5.00.

And, I believe we should invest in our employees by providing additional training, benefits and income opportunities.

Describe what talents and skills you would bring as an OPA Director.

Because Ocean Pines is now over 50 years old, I believe my extensive background in Civil & Structural Engineering design, as well as my understanding of storm water management, will continue to be a great benefit to the Board. A well-rounded board should have experience in various disciplines. At the end of the day, we should work together to benefit all and to protect the legacy of Ocean Pines and those who were so passionate before us.

Our OPA committees are the pulse of our community, and the people who volunteer are passionate in the success of Ocean Pines. I intend to listen to the committees and get their voices heard. I have experience with Ocean Pines Communications, OPVFD & ARC Committees.

I have years of experience volunteering in both Ocean Pines Association and my previous community. If you have met me, you'll know that I am friendly, a positive promoter of our community, all-inclusive, and will continue to share my ability to come together as one, whether elected or not.

Get To Know THE CANDIDATES

Respect and love towards all people should never be taken lightly. We live in an amazing community and that should never be forgotten.



Steve Jacobs

Email: sjacobs830@gmail.com

Address: 1 Surfers Way

Introductory statement

My name is Steve Jacobs. I am asking for your support in this year's Board election. I have lived in Maryland for over 50 years. In the few years my wife Nicki and I have lived in Ocean Pines we have enjoyed all its offerings.

Nicki and I have been married for over 30 years, we have two grown sons, Brian and Drew. I serve on the Bylaws and Resolutions Committee and the Golf Advisory Committee. At our prior home, I was President for three years of our HOA and served as Chair of a board of county citizens making recommendations to the county council. I am a member of Temple Bat Yam here in Berlin.

I am a retired lawyer working in private practice and later litigating child support cases for the Attorney General of Maryland. I also served on the staff of several Members of the U. S. House of Representatives from both political parties. I also worked as Vice President for Government Affairs for two trade associations. I have a proven ability to bring points of views together to reach consensus.

I would like your vote however, more important is to vote in this election.

If elected, what would be your top two priorities?

Currently, Ocean Pines has an budget surplus even with a pandemic and uncertain economic trends. If elected, my priority is to continue improving our stability for the present and into the future. I will endeavor to keep members' assessments reasonable or lower if possible. My goal is to ensure that the services and amenities available in Ocean Pines are geared first and foremost to the residents of Ocean Pines.

The future promises us that new issues, questions and priorities will have to be addressed by all Ocean Pines residents. Our discussion and considerations of these matters need to be done in a thoughtful and civil manner. While we can disagree, we need to avoid being disagreeable. This is true of the Board's deliberations as well as discussions throughout our community.

What do you think about Ocean Pines Association budgeting and finances? Do you have suggestions on improvements?

Our current fiscal well being is a testament to several years of hard work by the General Manager and his staff, the Board and the Budget and Finance Committee. It would appear that our current processes are working quite well.

There are some issues looming. Maryland is in the process of promulgating regulations regarding reserve studies and appropriate balances. It is unclear whether these regulations will impact Ocean Pines. Our current reserve accounts are in line with recommendations by a nationally recognized firm and met with the approval of the Budget and Finance Committee.

Another matter is the OP Fire Department. The OPVFD is seeking to replace the South Fire Station. Exactly what the OPVFD is seeking from Ocean Pines is unclear. Clearly some repairs need to be made to the station. This year's budget included a \$40 increase per assessment to maintain current response capabilities. Looking further down the road, Ocean Pines may also need to provide additional revenue as the OPVFD moves to a full-time fire/ems department due a decrease in the number of volunteers.

Describe what talents and skills you would bring as an OPA Director.

I love Ocean Pines and serving as a Board member would allow me to work on matters of importance to all of us and to use my talents as a person who listens to all sides and seeks consensus while reaching appropriate outcomes. My work experience includes working on major energy, communications, copyright and consumer protection legislation that took years to pass. I settled neighborhood disagreements by bringing neighbors together. I always prepared fully for trial while looking to find common ground to reach an agreement. I am volunteering to use these capabilities to continue and improve our community.

**For questions about the election,
email the Election Committee at
elections@oceanpines.org
or call 410-208-3989**



Marlene Ott

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Community Profile: Meet the Founding Mothers and Fathers

More than 50 years later, some founding 'mothers' and 'fathers' still active in community

Earlier this year, Ocean Pines celebrated Mother's Day and Father's Day by looking back at some of the founding mothers and fathers of the community.

Below are a pair of articles exploring each.

'Founding mothers' of Ocean Pines

The "founding mothers" of Ocean Pines started many of the recreation and social programs that are still hallmarks of the community today.

The movement started in the late 1960s, when Boise Cascade employees, tasked with building and selling the new community, became some of its first settlers.

Marlene Ott, who is still an active volunteer more than 50 years later, was among those early residents.

"When we came here in 1969 most of the residents were older. The only families with children were Boise Cascade employees," she said.

Ott said it was "a small and tight-knit group that planned activities for children for the summer and year-round." She said Mary McMullen and Ginny Reister are prime examples.



McMullen helped launch the Ocean Pines Recreation Department and developed recreation programs for children. Reister started the Ocean Pines Nature Center and the first Ocean Pines Swim Team, and she later became the director of Aquatics.

Other early trailblazers included Beverly Steen, Barbara Groff, Bonnie Firth, Sumei Prete and Charlene Lococo.

"We had a good time, and we grew closer to each other and our children by getting involved," Ott said.

Back then, Ott was both a busy volunteer and a self-described "professional mom." She was the first president of the Ocean Pines Players and had a lead role in their first play, "The Silver Whistle." At least once she played the Easter Bunny, hopping around White Horse Park and hiding eggs.

"We organized the swim team, the Easter egg hunt, and the Christmas potluck dinner and play. We turned the kitchen in the community center into a haunted house, helped support the summer youth camp, helped start the 4-H Club at the stables in Ocean Pines and ran shows on a Saturday, and got the school buses to come in the community to pick up our children," she said. "There were definitely labor pains, but it was worth every minute."

Three other "founding mothers" were part of a recent History Panel event that was captured on video as part of the Ocean Pines Academy series.

Gloria Richards is known for her decades of community involvement, including the cofounding of the Pine'er Craft Club and working with groups including the Boy Scouts of America and Women's Club of Ocean Pines.

"I also was the first editor of the Ocean Pines News. That started out basically as a newsletter, and Boise Cascade sent it to people who



had purchased property," she said. "We would write little things about what was happening, about the roads, and about the history."

Richards said Alta Weiss later succeeded her in that role.

"Alta was into educational writing, and she was really a much better writer than I ever was, but I got it started," she said.

"But all of that was a community kind of thing. I think when you live here, part of the joy is having seen things grow," Richards added.

Weiss moved to Ocean Pines permanently in 1972. She may be best known locally as the editor of the

Ocean Pines newsletter, a position she held for 14 years.

"I also wrote a weekly column about Ocean Pines for the Eastern Shore Times," she said. "I was a member of most of the clubs that developed in the formative years of Ocean Pines. I would consider our early participation in the development of Ocean Pines as a community and the newsletter my biggest accomplishment in Ocean Pines."

Sharyn O'Hare moved to Ocean Pines in 1975 and is quite literally a "founding mother." She gave birth to the first native Ocean Piner, Dan, a year later.

O'Hare and Ott are both prolific volunteers who later became successful realtors. More recently, in 2005, O'Hare was among the cofounders of the Worcester County Veterans Memorial in Ocean Pines.

"When we had the dedication for the memorial [in 2005] it was really special, very emotional, and very moving," she said. Her father was a World War II veteran who turned 18 at the Battle of Midway.

Her other favorite memory, she said, was watching her children grow up in Ocean Pines.

"They grew up like Tom Sawyer and Huck Finn," she said. "We lived on Crow's Nest Lane, which backed up to White Horse Park. And they grew up building tree houses and canoeing and kayaking and just running through the woods. Ocean Pines was always a great place to live."

To view the 2021 History Panel, visit <https://www.youtube.com/oceanpinesassociation1>.

'Founding fathers' of Ocean Pines

The "founding fathers" of Ocean Pines built and sold houses and started programs that many of us still use today.

Some of them were here at the very start, before there were paved roads, pools, or a golf course. Others came just a few years later. A small handful are still highly active in the community.

John Talbott was among the earliest Ocean Pines settlers, coming in with Boise Cascade in the late 1960s to help sell a community still in its infancy.

"I arrived in the town on the seventh day of July 1968. Opening day was Friday, July 12," Talbott said. "Of the crew that we had, I'm the only one



that started back then that's still alive and still here."

Originally from Pennsylvania, Talbott served in the U.S. Army and worked as a schoolteacher and police officer before making the switch to real estate in 1963. He was working in Kentucky when a call came about a new opportunity in a place called Ocean Pines.

"When we first started selling, there were trees that had to be cut down to make roads, and they had a water truck that would go around and spray water on the roads to keep the dust down. We had to make sure we stayed on the main portion of the road, or we would get stuck in the mud and have to be towed out," he said.

Talbott said the first lots were "nothing but tree stumps sticking out of the ground."

"I would be showing them with a stake with a ribbon to show a future canal would be," he said. "Some people took the chance and became owners and others just couldn't comprehend what they were seeing.

"It was the same thing with the golf course - it was nothing but stumps sticking out of the ground and today it's a lovely course. And we have numerous miles of canals, and it all came true. Boise Cascade was just a very good developer," Talbott added.

Talbott is still active in real estate today. It has been a satisfying experience, he said, to have found so many people a home over the years.

"A lot of them have dreams and you help find that dream for them," he said. "From time to time, I run into people who I sold to years ago and they'll say hi. They always say, 'I'm sure glad you sold us that house many years ago. We love it here!'"

"I think it's a great community. I enjoy living in Ocean Pines, even after all these years," Talbott added.

Builder Marvin Steen was also here from the very beginning. In 1970, Steen Associates built some of the first homes in Ocean Pines,



during a time when "there were a lot of dirt roads, but no signs."

Originally from Dagsboro, Delaware, Steen said the reputation of developer Boise Cascade drew him to the community.

"When I came in, they were building some beautiful build-

ings, and I looked at the future and felt it was here," he said. "But the big thing that drew me was Boise Cascade. Boise Cascade developed Ocean Pines and I checked their background. They had plenty of money to deliver what they said - and everything they said they were going to do, they did. They built all the buildings and turned them over to Ocean Pines. They're a great company."

Over the years, Steen has built hundreds of homes in Ocean Pines. He also built a reputation as a sort of philanthropist, often donating his own money for community projects and amenities. He was among the largest donors to the Worcester County Veterans Memorial in Ocean Pines.

"I also helped with the first swimming pool. My kids were involved in swimming and everything else going on," he said. "I helped start the chamber of commerce and groups like that too."

"It's a great community and a great place to live. That's why I'm still working and selling, and bringing people in here," Steen added.

Today, Steen said, the best thing about Ocean Pines is the people who live here.

"They're just nice people - I love the people," he said. "I build houses and sell real estate, and they stop in and see me because I live on the Parkway. It means a lot to me."

Steen added he's not at all surprised to see how Ocean Pines turned out.

"Boise Cascade laid this development out and they delivered exactly what they had planned," he said. "They built the buildings and did the roads, and it turned out just like they said it would."

Steen Homes is still active and building in Ocean Pines. Steen said he expects to have 30 new lots ready this summer, and 30 more ready by next year.

"I still love working and I love this place. I really enjoy it," he said. "It's just a great place to live."

Tim McMullen, his wife, Mary, and his brother, Don, first came to Ocean Pines in the early 1970s. McMullen said his parents decided to buy a lot at the time, which became the first home on Cannon Drive.

Tim and Mary were both educators, and they helped found the Ocean Pines Recreation Department and its slate of summer programs.

"Mary and I got involved in our first summer youth program in 1974," McMullen said. "We used to average about 80-90 kids a day, and we would run weekly daytrips to the Beach Club once week, or to the Salisbury Zoo or the Chesapeake Maritime Museum in Cambridge."



He remembers Marlene Ott helping a production of "You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown," with Marlene's daughter and McMullen's little sister taking turns playing the character of Lucy.

"We also had Wednesday night movies in the old community center that cost 50 cents, and we had a lot of people at the campground waiting for homes to be built," McMullen said. "You could sense a community being built. And for Don and I, to see this community now so many years later is really reflective."

Several decades later, the McMullen family also became involved in the Worcester County Veterans Memorial at Ocean Pines.

"Both of our parents were World War II veterans and there's the saying, 'when much is given to a family much will be required,'" McMullen said. "Don has an active role in the Golf community and I'm active in the Racquet Sports community, but I think the most important thing we're involved in is the educational component at the veterans memorial."

Each year, the veterans memorial hosts a series of field trips for every fifth grader in Worcester County. Students are taught about the memorial and about what it means to be a veteran.

"I think that's a prime example of us recognizing a service to our military veterans, and what a service it is to our fifth graders in the county," McMullen said.

Both brothers are also involved in other charitable endeavors in the community.

McMullen founded the Mary Mac Foundation in honor of his wife, who passed away in 2012. The nonprofit each year supports the Ocean Pines Recreation Department and raises funds to send low-income children to summer camps in Maryland and Delaware. Don works with groups like the Ravens Roost #44, which recently announced \$15,000 in scholarships for six local high school students.

McMullen also continues coaching tennis with longtime friend Terry Underkoffler.

"For me, being around young people is a gift. God willing, I'll be able to do that for a long time," McMullen said.

Mary Mac Foundation seeks donations for summer programs

The Mary Mac Foundation recently announced plans to host its annual fundraising event in Ellicott City, but the organization is still hoping to raise funds in Ocean Pines.

The Mary Mac Foundation each year supports local and regional youth programs to honor Mary McMullen (1948-2012), a special education instructor at Severna Park High School and Ruth Eason School in Millersville, Maryland.

During the 1970s, she also helped establish the Ocean Pines Recreation and Parks Department.

“Although the Mary Mac event will not be held until the last Saturday in September in Ellicott City, we’re hoping that the Ocean Pines golf community and racquet community will give us donations for the summer as they have in the past,” foundation co-founder Tim McMullen said. “This will help us send low-income children to summer camps like Camp Barnes in Delaware, and St. Vincent de Paul in Baltimore.”

McMullen said the foundation recently received a \$1,000 grant from Choptank Electric Cooperative, which will be donated to the Ocean Pines Recreation and Parks Department.

“We’re going to take that \$1,000 grant and hand it over to [Recreation and Parks Director] Debbie Donahue and put it towards t-shirts for our summer youth programs. Mary McMullen was the founder of that program, way back in 1974,” McMullen said.

The foundation has always focused on helping children and bolstering area recreation programs, but McMullen said that scope has recently grown.

“During the pandemic, we have expanded our reach to support low-income and unhoused children and their families, as well as entities that offer educational opportunities to youth and adults. We have also expanded our focus to support military families through donations to the education and resiliency center at Ft. Meade, which focuses on physical, emotional, social, familial, and spiritual well-being,” he said.

“We thank you for your continued support and ask that, if it is within your means to make a donation, please consider doing so. No amount is too small,” McMullen added.

Tax-deductible donations may be made to the Mary Mac Foundation at www.paypal.me/marymacfoundation or by sending a check payable to the Mary Mac Foundation, 174 Nottingham Lane, Berlin, MD 21811.

The Mary Mac Foundation Family Jam at Manor Hill Brewery is scheduled Sept. 24 from noon to 3 p.m. in Ellicott City. Donations are welcome, but the event is free to attend.

The event will include a cash bar and a food truck vendor. Outside food is welcome. To RSVP, email tim.p.mcmullen@gmail.com or call 410-294-3625.

“In 2023, we’re hoping to return the Mary Mac golf tournament to Ocean Pines,” McMullen said.

For more information, visit www.marymac.org.



Register now for fall credit classes at Wor-Wic

Wor-Wic Community College is currently accepting registrations for credit classes that are being offered this fall. Fall classes begin Sept. 7, and early registration is encouraged for the best selection.

Admission, registration and financial aid services are available Monday through Thursday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Fridays from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Visit www.worwic.edu for more information. New students who need help should call 410-334-2895 or email admissions@worwic.edu and include their name and a phone number where they can be reached.



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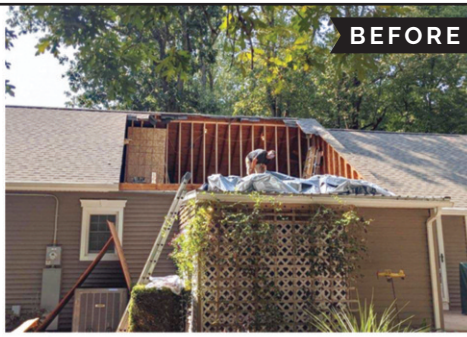
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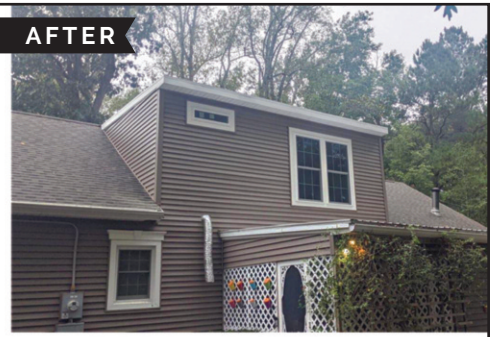
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COMMUNITY STORIES

Craft Club to host free children's workshops, summer festival

The Pine'er Craft Club of Ocean Pines will host several new and returning programs this summer, including children's craft workshops and the return of the Indoor/Outdoor Arts & Crafts Festival.

The Craft Club is hosting free children's craft workshops throughout the summer at the Artisan Gift Shop in White Horse Park.

The 44th annual Indoor/Outdoor Arts Craft & Artisan Festival is scheduled on Saturday, Aug. 6 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Ocean Pines Community Center. Admission is free and crafters will come locally and from neighboring states to display and sell handcrafted items including jewelry, decorated items, handprinted decor, stitchery and more.

For info on obtaining a booth and selling handmade items during the event, contact Jane Wolnik at j.wolnik63@gmail.com.

The Craft Club is always looking for new crafters. For information on selling items in the Artisan Gift Shop, contact Craft Club President Sharon Puser at opcraftclub@aol.com.

All new crafters must go through a juried process. When items sell, part of the proceeds go back to the community in the form of donations.

To date, the Craft Club has donated more than \$175,000 to the Police and Fire departments, Recreation and Parks Department, free Summer Concerts in the Park, Worcester County Veterans Memorial Foundation, and more.

The Artisan Gift Shop, in White Horse Park next to the Farmer's Market and across from the Administration Building on 239 Ocean Parkway, is open Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Sundays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

For more information on the shop or the Pine'er Craft Club, contact Puser at 410-208-3032 or opcraftclub@aol.com, or visit www.oceanpines.org/web/pages/artisan-gift-shop.

Women's Club of Ocean Pines awards scholarships

The Women's Club of Ocean Pines awarded four \$1,500 scholarships to deserving seniors from Stephen Decatur High School.

The President of the Women's Club, Karin Benton, presented the scholarships to awardees (left to right) Morgan Echols, Ethan Simpson Hansford, Kendahl Parsons and Hannah Short in recognition of their academic achievements, extracurricular involvement, and dedication to their community.



Ravens Roost announces 2022 scholarship recipients

Ravens Roost #44 of Ocean City in June announced the presentation of annual scholarship awards.

This year, scholarship awards totaling \$15,000 went to six students at three area high schools.

The 2022 scholar/athlete awardees are:

- Skylar Griffin, SDHS / Univ. of New Haven, West Haven, CT
- Ashten Snelshire, SDHS / Univ. of Richmond, VA
- Lily Baeurle, Worcester Prep. / Ursinus College, Collegeville, PA
- Ben Tinkler, Worcester Prep. / Univ. of Maryland
- Samantha Derickson, IRHS / East Stroudsburg Univ., PA
- Brynn McCabe, IRHS / Univ. of Maryland

Ravens Roost #44 has awarded more than \$228,900 in scholarships to local students during the last two decades.

Don McMullen, Scholarship Committee co-chair, said the Ravens Roost Scholarship Committee awards individual scholarships based on SAT/ACT scores, grade-point averages, participation in athletics, community service, work history, letters of recommendations, and an essay on how athletics are important in today's society.

Ravens Roost #44 held its 25th Annual Scholarship Golf Tournament at the Ocean Pines Golf Club on June 3.

The winning teams and players were:

- First-place team: Mike Mason, Darin Stuiber, Bill Cordwell and Mike Daley
- Closest to the Pin (Men's): Jack Heim
- Closest to the Pin (Women's): Teresa Burns
- Longest Drive (Men's): Chip Sheeki
- Longest drive (Women's): Poppy Granite

The Scholarship Committee wishes to thank signature sponsor American Legion Post 166 of Ocean City, and major sponsors the Original Greene Turtle, Atlantic General Hospital, Pit n Pub Restaurant, and Mike's Flooring & Design Center.

"In addition, we would like to thank our tee sponsors, prize sponsors, businesses, and golfers for their continued support," McMullen said. "A special thank you to John Malinowski, PGA general manager of Golf, and Justin Hartshorne, Golf superintendent, for having the course in excellent shape and for their help in making our annual tournament a success. We would also like to thank Judie and Rob from the Matt Ortt Companies for the excellent luncheon at The Clubhouse Bar and Grille."

McMullen said the Scholarship Committee is currently seeking donations for 2023 scholarships.

For more information, visit <https://ocravensroost44.com>.



Market celebrates 11th anniversary

It's 3:30 a.m. on Saturday morning, but White Horse Park is already abuzz.

Farmers market merchants are starting to arrive with their trucks filled with fruits and vegetables. Freshly harvested produce will soon be stacked onto market stands, ready for shoppers when the Ocean Pines Farmers & Artisans Market opens at 8 a.m.

By the headlights of her SUV, Debbie Synder of Synder's Produce and Pretty Things unloads several flats of strawberries that she's brought to the market for her customers. Among the carefully displayed containers are gardens of annual flowers that Synder potted up earlier in the week. The late-season berries become a garnish to the market stand's lush garden products.

"Our marketplace is such an interesting space to be in," Market Manager David Bean said. "When you go to a grocery store it's just a generic experience. You want to hurry up and get out of there."

Lenore Brady of Stag Run Farm, an urban farm in Georgetown, Delaware, recommends going to the farmers market and taking everything in.

"There is something new every week and there is fun to be had, as well as a lot of fresh foods," she said.

People from all over the Mid-Atlantic visit the market in Ocean Pines. It's an experience that has appealed to locals and visitors, as well as children, families, and grandparents.

"By late June, locally grown blueberries will be at their peak. Many people buy a few extra boxes and pop them in the freezer for pies, muffins, or smoothies," Bean said. "You can also freeze fresh herbs this summer to use in soups and stews next winter. Food harvested only hours before the market opens will stay fresh for longer, and its more nutritious and tastes better."

David Joseph Deacon is the co-owner of D.J. David, a marketplace greengrocer shop. Deacon enjoys sharing information about what his farmers are growing, as well as trading recipes with his customers.

"Eating with the seasons and eating what is most bountiful will definitely get you more bang for your buck," he said. "People enjoy talking with us, asking questions and learning about our fruits and vegetables."

Deacon said many customers buy big hauls of summer tomatoes, and then spend several days cooking them down to fill their pantries with jars of homemade sauce that will last until next summer.

"It's a yearly ritual that they look forward to," he said. "Also, if you're concerned about rising meat prices, stir fries and bigger salads using fresh produce allow you to use a smaller amount of meat without sacrificing taste and satisfaction. Incorporating more plant-based options in your diet can help offset the high cost of meat."

Janice Curtis, the coordinator of market events and happenings, including the Marketplace Kitchen and Kids Market Zone, said the experience of going to the market can help expand the palette of fussy eaters.

"For many busy mothers, it's easier to get their kids to eat vegetables when they have been to the farmers market and helped Mom pick out dinner," she said.

"Fresh-picked carrots taste sweeter. String beans straight off the vine crunch when you eat them raw," she continued. "There is no comparison between a salad bar cucumber and a crisp, fragrant cucumber fresh from the field."

Curtis and her husband are also the owners of JABBS Seasonings, a spice shop at the market.

"Farmers markets are so cool, because they offer a unique experience for children," she said. "A weekly trip to a farmers market can be a fun learning experience, showing them what potatoes and tomatoes look like before becoming French fries and ketchup."

In June, the Ocean Pines Farmers & Artisans Market celebrated 11 years of bringing merchants to the Ocean Pines community. The market boasts one of the most diverse collections of merchants on the Eastern Shore, with people coming from all over the Mid-Atlantic to take part.

The Ocean Pines market first opened in 2012 as a small seasonal farmers market. It was expanded and renamed in 2017 to also include artisans.

In 2022, more than 130 merchant businesses are enrolled in the market.

For more information, visit www.oceanpines.org/web/pages/farmers-artisans-market.



Special Market Days

JULY

23 Christmas in July Funday

AUGUST

6 National Farmers Market Week Celebration

SEPTEMBER

3 Labor Day Holiday Market

OCTOBER

1 Pumpkin Festival

29 Halloween at the Marketplace

NOVEMBER

5 Off-season Hours Begin (9 a.m.-noon)

19 Thanksgiving Holiday Market

22 Thanksgiving Holiday Market

26 Marketplace Small Business Saturday



FAQS about tree removal in Ocean Pines

Where can I find regulations regarding tree removal in Ocean Pines?

Section 400 of the Architectural Review Committee (ARC) Guidelines has specific information about landscaping, including tree removal.

Do I need a permit to remove trees on my property?

Yes, in many – but not all – cases. A permit is required to remove trees with a trunk diameter of 6 inches or more. Additionally, a permit is required to remove ANY native magnolia, holly, bayberry or laurel tree, regardless of trunk diameter, as they are protected plants.

What are permissible reasons to remove a tree from my property?

Trees with a trunk diameter of greater than 6 inches may be removed if they:

- Are dead, dying, diseased or rotting
- Have been damaged by a storm
- Present a danger
- Are located within 10 feet of your home's foundation
- Are located within 3 feet of your driveway
- Are causing damage to a bulkhead

I have a protected tree variety on my property, but it's diseased. Can I remove it?

Yes. Acceptable reasons for the removal of protected plants include diseased plants and those causing danger because they lean or impair the vision of drivers.

I am building a home on an empty lot. Are there limits to the trees I can remove on my property?

Yes. Separate guidelines apply to those who are clearing lots for home construction. Section 400.3 of the ARC Guidelines discusses this in more detail.

How do I obtain a permit to remove a tree on my property?

An application for tree removal can be found at <https://www.oceanpines.org/web/pages/cpi> under "Applications and

Documents." Applications also are available at the Ocean Pines Public Works/CPI Department at 1 Firehouse Lane.

I have completed the application for tree removal. What steps do I need to take next?

Once the tree removal application has been completed:

- Have it notarized if you will be mailing or emailing it to the CPI Department, a requirement that went into effect May 25, 2022.
- Have it signed in witness of a CPI employee if you will be dropping it off at the CPI Department in person, a requirement that went into effect May 25, 2022.
- Make sure the trees requested for removal are clearly marked for inspection.
- Verify the tree removal contractor's property damage and liability insurance.
- Ensure that all stumps are removed or flush cut and covered with mulch after the tree has been removed.

I submitted a permit to remove a tree, but approval was not given. Why am I not allowed to remove the tree?

Property owners may not be given approval to remove a tree if it is:

- Alive and healthy
- Outside the 10 feet foundation rule
- Outside the 3 feet driveway rule
- A protected species
- Better suited for professional pruning
- Within 100 feet of a waterway (requires approval from Worcester County for removal)

What happens if I remove a tree without a permit?

Any tree with a trunk diameter of 6 inches or more that is removed without CPI Department approval will receive a violation and must be replaced with a tree or trees as determined and approved by the CPI Department.



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FOOD & BEVERAGE



Ortt Companies set OPA sales record

The Matt Ortt Companies officially set a new high mark for Ocean Pines' food and beverage profits for a single fiscal year, topping \$400,000 for the first time in Association history. Fiscal year 2021/2022 combined facilities profits, based on the unaudited report, were \$403,554.

"With the Clubhouse Grille, Beach Club, and Yacht Club combining for over \$400,000 in bottom-line profits, not only did we set a record, but have now established a profit goal to break in 2023," Matt Ortt Companies cofounder Ralph DeAngelus said.

The good news continued in May, with the Matt Ortt Companies setting yet another record for combined bottom-line profits for that month. That includes all three food and beverage operations, plus weddings and banquets.

"Our banquet and event department are selling that beautiful Yacht Club ballroom at breakneck speed," DeAngelus said. "Additionally, this year's entertainment schedule is packed with unbelievable talent."

DeAngelus gave credit to his upper management team, including Lynda Huettner, Kearston Frey, Lia Isel, and Judie Scotti.

"Lynda at the Beach Club, Kearston at the Yacht Club, Lia in events, and Judie at the Clubhouse have exceeded my expectations," he said. "They have put their entire heart and soul into their jobs and it shows, not only in profits, but in customer satisfaction levels as well."

Ocean Pines General Manager John Viola said the continued success of the Matt Ortt Companies is a credit to their entire team.

Among his first acts as general manager in 2019 was to extend the Ortt Companies management contract.

"Since they started here in 2018, the Matt Ortt Companies have transformed our food and beverage operations," Viola said. "They've done an excellent job in terms of service, quality and financial stewardship, and the numbers speak for themselves. So do the crowds every weekend at the Yacht Club."

"We couldn't be happier with their performance over the last several years, and we're proud to announce their record-breaking performance this last fiscal year," Viola added.



Ocean Pines Yacht Club earns 2022 'Couples' Choice' award

WeddingWire, a leading wedding vendor marketplace, recently announced the Ocean Pines Yacht Club as a winner of its 2022 WeddingWire Couples' Choice Awards recognizing top vendors and venues.

The award is based on ratings of quality, service, responsiveness, and professionalism reviewed by couples on WeddingWire. The Yacht Club currently has a 4.7 out of 5 rating.

"To determine these distinguished wedding professionals, WeddingWire analyzed reviews within its Vendor Directory across more than 20 service categories – from venues and caterers to florists and photographers – to find the most- and highest-rated vendors of the year. The winners exhibit superior professionalism, responsiveness, service, and quality when interacting with the millions of couples who turn to WeddingWire to help with their wedding planning process each month," WeddingWire said in a release.

Officials from the Ocean Pines Yacht Club said they are honored to be named one of the top venues.

"We're so excited to be a Couple's Choice award winner. We sincerely appreciate all of our couples' reviews and truly enjoy being a part of their special day," Lia Isel, who oversees event bookings in Ocean Pines, said.

The Ocean Pines Yacht Club is a waterfront wedding venue in Ocean Pines, Maryland that features picturesque views of the Isle of Wight Bay and the Ocean City skyline, which couples can admire as they say their nuptials. The Yacht Club can accommodate up to 225 guests in the three different spaces.

Couples can also book weddings and other functions at the oceanfront Ocean Pines Beach Club in Ocean City, or the Golf Club in Ocean Pines, home to a picturesque 18-hole championship golf course.

For more information, visit www.venuesatoceanpines.com.

Beach Club features new menu, live music & more

Located on 49th Street and the beach in Ocean City, the Ocean Pines Beach Club restaurant and bar is open daily for indoor and outdoor dining from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. through Labor Day weekend.

Enjoy live music, with the best view in town overlooking the Atlantic Ocean, plus, family swimming pool, volleyball, spacious sundeck, lounge chairs, chair and umbrella rentals, beach wheel chairs, locker rooms for daily storage, and two parking lots.

Book your special events, weddings, rehearsal dinners, anniversary parties, banquets, reunions, luncheons and business functions at the Ocean Pines Beach Club.

For more information, call 410-524-2957.



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JUL 1 TRANZFUSION
JUL 2 ECLIPSE
JUL 3 GREAT TRAIN ROBBERY
JUL 4 BEACH BANDITS (4-8pm)
JUL 7 BRIAN AND THINGS
JUL 8 FULL CIRCLE
JUL 9 KITTYBACK
JUL 10 OVER TIME
JUL 14 BEACH BANDITS
JUL 15 KONO NATION
JUL 16 THE FUNSTERS
JUL 17 ROCKAHOLICS
JUL 21 NELLY'S ECHO
JUL 22 MIKE HINES & THE LOOK
JUL 23 JADE LOVE
JUL 24 SONS OF PIRATES
JUL 28 DOWNHILL UPRISE
JUL 29 JANGLEBACHS
JUL 30 WEIRD SCIENCE
JUL 31 HOMETOWN STRANGERS
AUG 4 ZANDER JETT
AUG 5 TRANZFUSION
AUG 6 KITTYBACK
AUG 7 OVER TIME

AUG 11 LAUREN GLICK (6-9pm)
AUG 12 GREAT TRAIN ROBBERY
AUG 13 ELTON JOHN/BILLY JOEL
TRIBUTE (8-10pm)
AUG 14 JOSH CHRISTINA
AUG 18 BRIAN AND THINGS
AUG 19 THE BIG HOUSE
BAND
AUG 20 FULL CIRCLE
AUG 21 ROCKAHOLICS
AUG 25 NELLY'S ECHO
AUG 26 LATE LAST NIGHT
AUG 27 JADE LOVE
AUG 28 SCORPION ROSE

Labor Day Weekend Lineup

SEP 2 THE FUNSTERS
SEP 3 TRANZFUSION
SEP 4 GREAT TRAIN
ROBBERY
SEP 9 OVER TIME
SEP 10 ECLIPSE
SEP 16 SONS OF PIRATES
SEP 17 FULL CIRCLE
SEP 23 JOSH CHRISTINA
SEP 24 KITTYBACK
OCT 1 JADE LOVE
OCT 8 BOOMBOX
80'S PARTY

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