



OCEAN PINES REPORT

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Officials, staff honor former Ocean Pines Police Chief Massey



Ocean Pines staff on Sept. 4 held a sendoff for former Police Chief David Massey, who officially retired on Aug. 1.

Massey was the Ocean Pines Police Chief for 17 years and previously served as chief of police in Ocean City. All told, his law enforcement career spanned nearly five decades.

Ocean Pines, local and state officials held a ceremony for Massey one week prior, and many of the same dignitaries were on hand again at a second ceremony, held outside at the White Horse Park pavilion. Several of the speakers made light of the extended exit.

County Commissioner Chip Bertino joked that Massey was “taking more good-byes than a vaudeville actor.”

“We are very fortunate to have the opportunity to appreciate what the chief has done for us here in Ocean Pines for 17 years, and before that in Ocean City,” Bertino said. “As a father of a son who is in law enforcement ... I can tell you that it’s very important to have people of the caliber of the chief in leadership positions, to ensure the safety, not just of the people they serve, but also the officers that are sworn to protect our community.”

Maryland Sen. Mary Beth Carozza called

for applause and celebration of Massey’s many achievements on behalf of the community.

“If it takes two celebrations [or] three celebrations, it truly is important to recognize a lifetime commitment to public safety,” she said. “We’re not only recognizing Chief Massey’s commitment to the community of Ocean Pines, but also his lifetime career commitment to law enforcement on the shore.”

Carozza noted that Ocean Pines is one of the safest communities in the state, and credited Massey for that designation.

“You only do that if you have a team and you have a community approach ... and [that’s] something that you have underscored in your leadership,” she said.

General Manager John Viola said

Massey “did it right,” both in his career and as a family man.

“That’s one of the best things I can say for him,” he said. “I’m proud of him. I’m glad I had the opportunity to work with him. I wish him and his family the best in retirement.”

Association President Larry Perrone, on behalf of the Board of Directors, thanked Massey for his 17 years of service.

(continued on pg. 2)



Officials, staff honor Massey

(continued from front cover) “We want to thank you for your professionalism [and] your service to the community, and we just want to wish you a great, happy retirement,” Perrone said.

Massey was presented a plaque on behalf of Ocean Pines, a commendation from the Worcester County Commissioners from Bertino, and citations from both the Maryland Senate and Gov. Larry Hogan, by Carozza.

Speaking last, Massey joked that his wife had asked him, a little annoyed, “is this the last retirement ceremony?”

“I said, “Yeah, this is going to do it,” he said with a laugh.

“When I moved to Worcester County, I really didn’t know that much about the county. But, having lived here for these many years, I can truly say it’s the best county in the state of Maryland,” Massey said. “It has the best elected leadership, it has the best people, has the best school system, [and] has the best law enforcement of any county in this state.”

Massey said he was also proud to have lived and worked in Ocean Pines.

“We have the greatest team ... we’ve become so close in the last couple years. They are the hardest working people. They give everything to this community,” he said.

Massey said he is also proud of his successor, Leo Ehrisman.

“He paid his dues to this community. I couldn’t be more proud ... of the job he’s done and will do, and the fact that he’s going to keep this community safe,” Massey said.

He also thanked Viola and the Board for the recently renovated and expanded police station, something Massey had fought for, for many years.

“This Board of Directors should be very proud of this



building and our general manager, who’s brought this [renovation] under budget,” he said. “It’s fantastic, the job they’ve done, and I’m so proud to have served under this Board and these great people, who have been here and are dedicated to this community.”

Massey said he gave 46 years of his life to public safety.

“And it’s been worth it,” he said. “Yeah, there’s been some heartache. There’s been some problems, there’s been some things you brought home with you at night, but to work in a community where you ride in your police car and people wave at you ... and they appreciate you” made it all worthwhile.

Massey said many police officers were “going through a tough time,” citing recent national news reports.

“We’re not a perfect profession – nobody is,” he said.

“There’s always going to be the heightened incidents that happen where somebody abuses their authority, and they should be fired, and they should be prosecuted ... we don’t need them in our profession.”

Massey closed by thanking those in attendance “for a wonderful career.”

“Part of my life will always be in Ocean Pines and Ocean City. You can’t spend over half your life in communities without taking something home with you,” he said. “God bless every one of you and God bless Ocean Pines, and God bless Leo Ehrisman!”





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Better customer service, more classes key to Racquet Sports growth

Despite some early setbacks because of the COVID-19 pandemic, Ocean Pines Racquet Sports operations appear more robust and inclusive than they have in years.

That's largely because of the new leadership of Racquet Sports Center Facilities Director Tim McMullen and Tennis Director Terry Underkoffler.

Both are former educators, and both have a personal interest in furthering operations because they are avid players and Ocean Pines homeowners.

The recently rebranded Ocean Pines Racquet Center, on 11443 Manklin Creek Road, is unique as the only facility on the Eastern Shore to offer tennis, platform tennis and pickleball in one complex.

That includes eight HAR-TRU (clay) tennis courts, eight permanent pickleball courts, six platform tennis courts, and two hard-surface tennis courts.

McMullen said the HAR-TRU courts, which mimic clay courts popularized in the 1950s and 1960s, are easier on players' knees and legs.

New leaders, new lessons

McMullen has been a tennis player in Ocean Pines since 1974 and became professionally involved in the sport in 2015, after being convinced to join an early morning tennis group. That group of a dozen players also included Underkoffler.

They developed a friendship and, starting in 2016, McMullen helped Underkoffler coach tennis at nearby Worcester Preparatory School.

Underkoffler had been involved in Ocean Pines Racquet Sports for several years, but his role was elevated after McMullen came on as facilities director last year. Together, they're leading efforts to reinvigorate all three sports and breathe new life into the center.

"Much of what we're doing [in Ocean Pines] is because of my relationship with Terry," McMullen said. "Terry is a United States Tennis Association [USTA]-licensed teacher and he's doing things here that have never been done before."

New tennis and pickleball lessons have made a significant impact, according to McMullen. On an average day, he said there can be two or three lessons running simultaneously.

Linda Horst offers pickleball instruction every morning and Bill Gilroy, who teaches at the U.S. Naval Academy, teaches beginners' tennis.

New to Ocean Pines is Greg Gunther, an instructor with a

master's degree in tennis who has helped lure elite players at the high school and college levels, and beyond.

"That is a real great feature for us," Underkoffler said. "And these are all programs that weren't around last year."

"Pickleball instruction, in particular, is just taking off and it's helping the sport tremendously," he continued. "It's attracting both experienced players that want to get better, and those who are new to the sport and that like the fact that it's fast and active, but they don't have to run as much."

Underkoffler offers individual and group tennis lessons, as well as "stroke of the day" clinics, which are free for Racquet Sports members.

Additionally, platform tennis members offer free intro lessons every Saturday at 9:30 a.m. They also offer a free 30-day trial membership.

McMullen said the pickleball courts are perhaps the biggest draw, with players regularly coming from Lewes, Rehoboth and Millsboro in Delaware, as well as Snow Hill and Pocomoke in Worcester County.

"We had a lady who recently drove from Easton to come here, which is an hour and 15 minutes, to play pickleball," McMullen said. "We had a guy from Annapolis two weeks ago introduce himself and say, 'you guys have a facility here that is unbelievable.'"

On average, McMullen said the racquet center draws about 125 players each day. Underkoffler said the "amount of courts and the quality of the courts" is what makes the facility such a draw.

McMullen said another key to the center's turnaround is the reassignment of Bob Grant, from Public Works, to specifically help with Racquet Sports.

"Bob brought in three tons of rock and three tons of mulch, and he relandscaped everything," McMullen said. "The fact that we have Bob here means, now, the place is being taken care of."

A friendly, welcoming atmosphere

Improved customer service has also helped encourage more racquet sports play.

McMullen said the center did not always have a reputation for friendliness and good customer service, but changing that perception was a priority. He said that started with hiring attendants like Brendan Miller, and sisters Mallorie and Julie Parsons, who each live and play racquet sports in Ocean Pines.

Another attendant, Victor Karviva, was part of the morning tennis group with McMullen and Underkoffler and has been a Racquet Sports member since the complex opened.



"These attendants learned the name of every member," McMullen said. "They greet them every morning, and you'll see them around doing all kinds of work to make the place look better. They have been phenomenal."

"What we're hearing from our players, is the place is cleaner and it's so much more friendly," Underkoffler said. "They feel that it's a welcoming environment now. They see the attendants and the attendants greet them by name."

Last year, he said, some pickleball players didn't feel welcome at the center.

"This year, they feel like we're embracing [the sport] and we want to see it grow – and we do," Underkoffler said. "My goodness, it's just simple and smart business – if people are flocking to a place, why would you want to turn them away?"

Regular players have noticed the difference

"The people that are running the racquet center are great. It's definitely better managed than it was," tennis player Carol Manly said. "The atmosphere and the professionalism is just so much better. Everybody gets greeted with a smile. It is amazing ... I would highly recommend it to everyone."

Deb Downey used to coach at Bennett High School in Salisbury, often facing off against Underkoffler at Worcester Prep. Today, she's a big fan both of the center and her former rival.

"[In the past], the atmosphere here was so negative and so down, and this year everyone is enjoying it," she said.

Challenges of a pandemic

McMullen said the center reopened in mid-May, after losing several weeks in April and May to the pandemic.

COVID-19 safety protocols, as of September, included a safe sign-in station that's set up for social distancing and is regularly cleaned and sanitized.

Attendants now wear masks and make sure there's plenty of hand sanitizer throughout the complex. Players must also wear masks when signing in, or whenever they're not actively playing.

Stations throughout the center are spaced-out to help promote social distancing, including the tables with umbrellas that supply shade during hot and humid days.

Mallorie Parsons said players were initially nervous upon returning to the facility, but they quickly became accustomed to the new protocols.

"Once they saw the procedures that we had set up, it put a lot of people at ease. We've been really busy, which is great, and people are excited to be outside and get some exercise ... and to socially interact with other people, all at a distance," she said.

"We have a great facility. We have so many courts that are utilized, which is awesome. And we've been keeping track of all of our [players'] numbers, so if a case does arise we can contact people and let them know that they might have been exposed," Parsons added.

A needed expansion

McMullen said he would like to see some improvements at the center, as business there continues to grow. The priority, he said, is building more pickleball courts to accommodate the increase in popularity.

"We've got to have more pickleball courts," McMullen said. "Platform tennis play has been steady, but tennis and pickleball are exploding."

Underkoffler agreed.

"The numbers at pickleball are just wonderful," he said. "We get so much outside interest in pickleball here so, obviously, the more people who come the more court space we need."

Underkoffler said the sport is especially popular in Ocean Pines, because its accessible to all ages and easier on the joints than other sports.

"Even though it's less taxing, there are so many athletic movements to it that makes it fun and competitive, so players of all ages are just exploding to this," he said. "We feel that, by helping the sport grow, it's going to help all of our sports [at the center]. And it's been a gold mine to have our

instructors."

Underkoffler said the instructional tennis program is also growing, including with children and students just starting out.

"We want to address that growth, but we only have a finite amount of space," he said, adding there are still some open, grassy areas in the complex that could be repurposed.

"Our strategic plan is looking at, can we add more youth tennis places to play, can we add more pickleball places to play? Can we add and grow all the sports that are growing here? That's the challenge," Underkoffler added.

McMullen said he would also like to see more bathrooms at the center. Currently, there are just two for, at times, upwards of 125 people.

"If we've upgraded our Yacht Club and we've upgraded our [Golf] Club-house, why not upgrade our racquet facility to have the best on the shore?" he said.

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ON THE COVER: (top photo) "Fiery Beauty: Saturday's sunrise at the Ocean Pines Marina is a stunning bayfront sight." Photography by Bob McKinley

(continued from pg. 5)

Going Forward

Underkoffler said as the effects of the pandemic eventually subside, Ocean Pines Racquet Sports will continue to grow and expand its offerings, both in terms of instruction and tournament play.

As of late August, the center had two upcoming USTA tournaments scheduled. Platform tennis had a benefit scheduled near the end of September, and pickleball will host a tournament to benefit breast cancer research in October.

McMullen said it's no coincidence that both he and Underkoffler are former educators, and that they each continue to promote lessons and regular and tournament play.

"This is about recreation and education – it's both," he said. "It's all about fitness for life. It's about community and it's about people interacting with each other."

And, for those who have yet to visit the center, Underkoffler said there's no time like the present.

"There's no better time to learn a lifetime sport like tennis, because of the current health situation. We have people playing here in their 80s and they're still competitive. You certainly can't play lacrosse in your 80s!"

For more information or to register for Ocean Pines Racquet Sports classes, call Underkoffler at 215-808-6457 or email optennistraining@gmail.com.

For general information on the Ocean Pines Racquet Center and racquet sports activities, visit www.oceanpines.org/web/pages/racquet-sports.



DID YOU KNOW?

Pickleball officially became part of the Racquet Sports amenity about a decade ago.

The sport was invented in Washington state in 1965 & uses the dimensions & layout of a badminton court. Four players hit a Wiffle ball with wooden paddles & rules are similar to tennis.

Frank Creamer & Julie Woulfe run the pickleball program in Ocean Pines. "[Pickleball] is just a growing sport," Creamer said. "We have an aging community & tennis is wonderful, but you can only play it for so long. I played tennis for 40 years, but eventually your body wears out. This is an easy transition for people who want to be active.

"If you're older & want to be active, you can play this game at any skill level," he added.

xfinity CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

Construction is still underway and thousands of homes now can subscribe to Xfinity TV, internet, home phone, home security and Xfinity Mobile services. Please refer to the Ocean Pines website for the most up-to-date maps of when Xfinity construction will take place on your street. If your home is scheduled for construction soon, we want you to be prepared when Xfinity services are ready. Call 1-844-201-7176 today to have your outside service line installed for free, or if you are interested in having Xfinity service and want to learn more.

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COM2137BELT

Ocean Pines offers update on drainage improvement projects

Ocean Pines officials on Sept. 9 supplied an update on proposed drainage improvements related to a recently received grant from the Maryland Department of Natural Resources.

The presentation occurred during a regular Board meeting in the community center. Along with Ocean Pines staff and Board members, those present included Worcester County Commissioner Chip Bertino, county Chief Administrative Officer Harold Higgins, county Director of Environmental Programs Bob Mitchell, and officials from Vista Engineering.

General Manager John Viola said the Ocean Pines team is “very excited about this project.” He said Director of Amenities and Operational Logistics Colby Phillips, Public Works Director Eddie Wells and Public Works Operations Manager Nobie Violante, in particular, put a lot of work into the proposal.

“This is a project that has been a long time coming,” Phillips said, adding that local and county officials had worked to improve flooding in the area of Bainbridge Pond for some two decades.

Phillips said the original project sent to the Department of Natural Resources in February would have cost \$2.2 million, with just over \$1.5 million sought in grant funding from the state. Ocean Pines and Worcester County would have supplied the remaining \$729,000.

“With this project, we were looking to put two more culverts under Beauchamp Road, as well as the addition to the standalone pond,” she said. “When we submitted the proposal ... everybody loved it. Obviously, with COVID, it was scaled back. However, we still did receive one of ... the largest state grants.”

Ocean Pines, aided by Worcester County and Vista Engineering, received \$549,000 in grant funding. In

response, a scaled back flooding reduction plan was developed, to include several phases or “sections” of work. These are not to be confused with the geographic sections of Ocean Pines.

Viola said the estimated total cost was now about \$805,000.

“The OPA expense for the fiscal year 2020/21 that we’re in, we’re estimating [to spend] somewhere around \$250,000-\$270,000. And we’re conservative with that,” he said, adding the money would come from the drainage reserve.



Viola said the scaled back project would tackle sections 1, 2, 3, 5 and 7 this year, with sections 4, 6 and 8 held off until the following year.

“There is a possibility of future grants,” Viola added. Phillips said that included working with Maryland Coastal Bays Program on a new grant application.

Phillips said sections 1 and 2 would address water quality improvements and flooding, by bringing Bainbridge Pond up to Maryland Department of the Environment standards and adding capacity through forebays, aquatic benches (or wetland plants), and outfall structures and improved dam embankments.

“This will help control water levels and can slow them down with the potential larger storms,” Phillips said. For residents, she added section 1 improvements could “help give some cushion to the water that flows in [residents’] backyards.”

“Twelve percent of this community is affected by this pond,” Phillips said.

She said work on sections 3, 5 and 7 would replace failing culverts and improve outfall channels, while sections 4, 6 and 8 would retrofit drainage swales, which help manage water runoff, filter pollutants and increase water infiltration.

All of the improvements would help reduce pollutants, including 1,535 pounds of nitrogen, 174 pounds of phosphorus and 90 tons of total suspended solids, each year.

“I just want to thank John for your support throughout this entire project. You’ve been unwavering in that,” Phillips said. She also credited Board members, Vista Engineering and county officials with helping to address flooding in the community.

“Everybody’s worked really hard on this and it’s been a really great team effort, and I’m really proud of what we’ve put together,” she added.

Viola added that Public Works would also continue regular maintenance of Ocean Pines drainage ditches, to

CURRENT FISCAL YEAR 2020/21

Sections 1-2 of the Project	\$486,300
Sections 3-5-7 (pipes)	<u>318,636</u>
Total	804,936
Grant	<u>549,000</u>
OPA Expense FY 2020/21	<u>\$255,936</u>

- The estimated \$255,936 is available in the drainage reserve.
- Sections 4-6-8 could be addressed in FY 2020/21. There is the possibility of future grants.

Current Project Scope

- Sections 1 & 2 are funded by the current Grant awarded. (\$486,300)
- Sections 3, 5 & 7 would be estimated costs for OPA to contribute. (\$255,936)
- Sections 4, 6 & 8 have potential for future grant funding. (\$175,180)
- Seeking future funding opportunities to continue work throughout OP and current project scope. Ex: MDCB REA Grant



help improve waterflow.

"It's a very well-planned-out project," he said.

As for next steps, Viola said sections of work would soon go out to bid, and that Ocean Pines would seek a formal acceptance of the grant funds by the County Commissioners.

Association President Larry Perrone said the purpose of the presentation was to bring the other Board members, and the community, up to speed.

He said proposed sections 9, 10 and 11 of the work, focused on property on the other side of Beauchamp Road, would have cost "a significant amount of money."

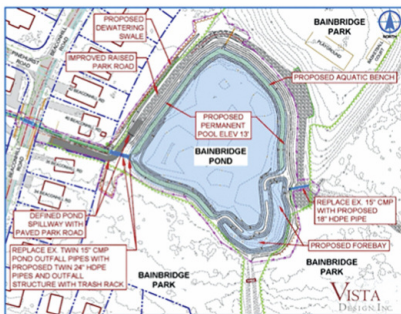
"That, at this point, has been eliminated," Perrone said. "The cost for section 1 and 2 is down to about \$800,000 overall. With the grant money we received ... we're probably looking at \$250,000, maybe \$300,000 ... and that money is currently in our reserves."

Perrone said the county was looking for a sign that the Board endorsed the scaled back project. He asked for a show of hands, and all seven Board members raised their hands in support.

"I think you've got unanimous support," Perrone said, adding to Bertino, "I hope you guys will carry that back" to the County Commissioners.

Project Section 1 – Retrofit to Bainbridge Pond

*Currently Grant Funded.



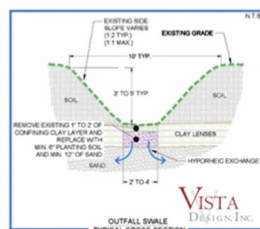
Project Section 2– Improve Pond Outfall Swale

Existing Outfall Swale Leaving Bainbridge Pond



*Currently Grant Funded.

Proposed Water Quality Improvement



LEAF COLLECTION

The Ocean Pines Association has announced leaf collection procedures for its residents this fall.

Public Works will collect leaves and other yard debris from Nov. 23 through Dec. 18, on opposite days from Republic Services collection days.

The department will only pick up leaves placed in paper bags that residents place curbside. Thirty-gallon paper bags are available at Public Works in bundles of five for \$10.

Republic Services will pick up paper and plastic bags on scheduled pick-up days, limit four bags of leaves per scheduled pick up. Republic Services will also accept branches tied in bundles no longer than four feet.

Additionally, Ocean Pines residents may bring leaves and yard debris in bulk or paper bags to the Public Works yard at 1 Firehouse Lane, near the south Fire Department. **The yard will be open Nov. 28 through Dec. 31, Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. until 3 p.m., and Saturdays from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.**

There will be no collection or drop off on Thursday, Nov. 26 or Friday, Nov. 27 because of the Thanksgiving holiday. The yard also will be closed for drop off on Thursday, Dec. 24, Friday, Dec. 25 and Saturday, Dec. 26 because of the Christmas holiday.

Public Works will also vacuum leaves. Residents should refrain from blowing leaves directly into the ditches, as this can lead to clogging of pipes as well as difficulty in water flow.

For more information, contact Public Works at 410.641.7425.

2020

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High winds, 'sting jet' cause havoc during Tropical Storm Isaias

It was a wild, windy day on Aug. 4 in Ocean Pines because of Tropical Storm Isaias, with dozens of trees falling all over the community and Police and Public Works crews working throughout the morning and afternoon to keep up.

Only about an inch of rain fell in the community and it seemed the worst had passed by around 10 a.m., when a "sting jet" manifested and caused havoc with high, damaging winds.

According to the Washington Post, when a sting jet occurs "very fast winds from the mid-levels of the atmosphere can descend to ground-level." The name comes from the shape, which resembles the stinging tail of a scorpion.

"We thought the worst of the storm had passed us early on, but the wind picked back up and that caused lots of downed trees," General Manager John Viola said. "The biggest thing is there were no injuries that we know of. Ocean Pines Police and Public Works did an excellent job."

Police Chief Leo Ehrisman said his crew worked steadily from about 5 a.m. until late in the afternoon. Police received more than 30 calls for service during the storm. Ehrisman compared the impact in Ocean Pines to that of a heavy snowstorm.

"All of our calls were trees that blew down," he said. "We had several trees down into houses and several across roads. I couldn't even guess how many."

Ehrisman said some of Ocean Pines' wooded park areas looked like a battleground. He said several trees fell in White Horse Park and Public Works even had to pull one off of the temporary police building, so police could get through the front door.

"It looks like somebody just came in and clipped the tops of all the trees," he said.

Elsewhere in the community, Ehrisman said one 22-24-foot boat came off a dock lift, went into the water, banged into the bulkhead and sunk. Another person went overboard trying to bail out their boat and had to be rescued. However, no injuries were reported to Ocean Pines Police.

Ehrisman said a tree on White Horse Drive came through the roof of one home and ruptured gas lines, and the Ocean Pines Volunteer Fire Department was called to assist. Another home, on Moonraker Road, had a tree crash through a skylight.

Public Works Director Eddie Wells said he's never seen anything like Isaias in his nearly two-decade career in Ocean Pines. He said Public Works received several hundred calls throughout the day.

"I've never seen it this bad, with the wind damage," he said. "We've had hurricanes go through and you might have 15-20 trees that go down, but this was just relentless for so long."

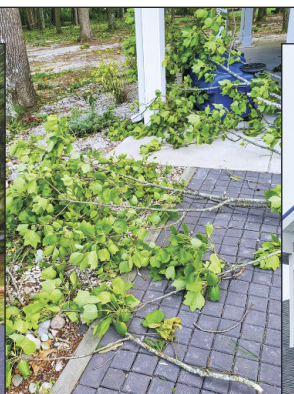
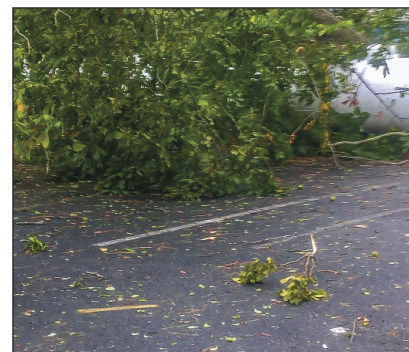
Wells said the sting jet caused the majority of the damage.

"That's what hurt. We were doing really well up until that point but, when that hit us, we really got some high winds out of that," he said. "That scorpion tail, that back wind that we had, it just lasted so long and it was real hectic for a while."

Viola said there was some minor damage to the east side of the Yacht Club roof, but no other damage to Ocean Pines property.

"We hope that everyone stayed safe and that flooding and other damage to homes was minimal," he said. "Hurricane season typically runs from June 1 to Nov. 30, so the chances for another storm are high. Ocean Pines advises homeowners to continue to watch trusted sources, like the National Weather Service and MEMA, for the latest news and information about this and future tropical storms and hurricanes. We will continue to share that information on oceanpines.org and on Ocean Pines social media."

For non-emergencies, call the Ocean Pines Police Department at 410-641-7747. In case of an emergency, call 911.



REMINDER: House numbers needed on all Ocean Pines homes

The Architectural Review Committee (ARC) would like to remind homeowners that house numbers are required on each home in Ocean Pines.

According to Section 500.1(A) of the ARC guidelines:

"The street address house number shall be posted to be visible from the street. It may be displayed on the front of the house or on a sign in the front yard (note: the house number is not the same as the lot and section number and can be obtained from the CPI Department office). House numbers shall not be less than four (4) inches or no greater than eight (8) inches in height, a contrasting color, and visible from the street."

Director Steve Tuttle, the liaison between the ARC and the Ocean Pines Board, said making sure each house has a visible number should help reduce the number of violations reported to the Compliance, Permit and Inspections (CPI) Department of Ocean Pines Public Works.

"It will allow CPI to focus on more serious violations," Tuttle said. "House numbers are also important to help police, fire and other emergency personnel respond to calls for help more quickly."

Street number plate signs are available from the Ocean Pines Volunteer Fire Department, for \$42 for a sign or \$50 for a sign and post. Purchase signs in person at the south station on 911 Ocean Parkway, or download an application at www.oceanpines.org/documents/10184/89280/RSP.jpg. All hardware is included, and installation is available. All proceeds go to the Ocean Pines Volunteer Fire Department.

Additionally, homeowners may buy house numbers at Home Depot or other retailers.

To view the current Architectural Review Committee Guidelines, visit www.oceanpines.org.

For questions, email CPI@oceanpines.org.

Marinas to close for season

Ocean Pines Marinas will close for the season at 5 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 31 to allow for winterization.

Ice eaters will be placed in strategic locations throughout the marina and water will be shut off early to mid-November depending on weather conditions.

Boaters are reminded that boats left in the Marinas after Oct. 31 will be charged at a rate of \$5 per day to cover electric, and administrative costs. **All boats must be removed before Dec. 1** or earlier in the case of a tropical storm or hurricane.

Any questions should be addressed to the Dock Master at rfisher@oceanpines.org.

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A Message from the ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT



Larry Perrone

A BIG THANK YOU TO OUR ENTIRE STAFF

Now that our summer season is over, a look back at our performance in providing a quality resort experience for our community, renters and guests is appropriate. Under very trying circumstances caused by the pandemic, our amenity and facility staffs performed beyond expectations. The Golf course team and Aquatics team provided great service with reduced staffing and increased regulations. The Recreation and Parks Department also ran a great limited enrollment summer camp program in compliance with the governor's and health department's COVID-19 regulations. The Racquet Center was also very busy and hosted some successful tournaments. Racquet Sports continues to be a growing area for our community.

Not only did our amenities provide a quality summer experience, our Public Works Department did an exceptional job while being short staffed. Public Works did a great job helping Ocean Pines clean up from the summer storm. All of our employees worked very hard and professionally under the leadership of our General Manager John Viola. A big "thank you" to our entire staff.

On a happy and sad note, we witnessed the retirement of Chief Massey after 17 years of leadership of the Ocean Pines Police Department. Chief Massey is the reason we are living in one of the safest communities in the state and country. We wish the chief a happy and healthy retirement and look forward to Chief Leo continuing the path forged by Chief Massey.

The Matt Ortt Companies also did everything they could do continue to provide quality service and food choices at our food and beverage facilities. The new Clubhouse Bar and Grille staff is receiving outstanding reviews on their service. What a great place for breakfast and lunch. Great food and drinks with fabulous views. If you haven't had a chance to experience the Clubhouse Grille, put it on your to-do list.

The four major construction projects (craft building, cart barn, country club and police and administrative building expansion) are now completed. The remaining major capital project is the installation of the Northstar computer system. Overall, the five main projects will be completed under budget. As with any new facilities, operational adjustments are being made at each location and with Northstar.

Now that we have completed our capital projects, it is the time to concentrate on smaller projects and strengthen our reserve accounts. Roads, bulkheads and drainage remain top ongoing priorities for the staff and the Board. Now that the crowds are subsiding, I hope everyone takes advantage of our new and existing facilities. Please stay safe while we move through this pandemic. Have a great fall season and I hope to see you out and about in the community.



(Photo: Robert Grimm)

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John Viola

FULLY ENGAGED

We have used the word “unprecedented” many times during the last seven months, and the team in Ocean Pines has faced a lot and has overcome a lot during the COVID-19 pandemic. The team has been fully engaged during this period.

There is no playbook for what we’ve experienced so far this year, with many closings and limited capacity mandates from the State of Maryland limiting amenities and other operations.

However, department heads and staff across the board have responded by cutting costs and finding creative ways to keep us moving forward.

That started with the finance team, led by Steve Phillips, helping us secure a federal grant to keep our workforce in place. Based on the most recent financial report, we’re well ahead of budget because of that assistance, despite facing many challenges.

Our amenity directors have also done good work in cutting costs and dealing with COVID restrictions that have affected their revenues. Credit to Debbie Donahue at Recreation and Parks and Kathleen Cook in Aquatics, as well as Ron Fisher at the Marinas and Tim McMullen at Racquet Sports. The entire team continued to provide services during this time.

COVID also impacted our Golf operations, and they lost some valuable time in the spring, when revenues are generally among the highest of the year. But John Malinowski and his team have helped the amenity bounce back and we’re seeing some great things at the course, not the least of which was the opening of our new Golf Clubhouse earlier this year, which finished on schedule and under budget.

Food and beverage, under the leadership of the Matt Ortt Companies, continued to provide quality food service while adhering to Gov. Hogan’s mandates and requirements of the CDC.

Meanwhile, Josh Davis and Julie Malinowski from Public Relations have kept the public informed on the latest COVID news that affects our area, including making a dedicated webpage with up-to-date information that’s easy for the public to digest at www.oceanpines.org/web/pages/covid-19-announcements-and-closings.

In August, we opened our renovated Police Station, under budget, and said goodbye to longtime Police Chief David Massey. New Chief Leo Ehrisman is a homegrown talent who will lead our police force for many years and continue to keep Ocean Pines as one of the safest communities in Maryland.

Eddie Wells and Public Works have also been through a lot, but the team there was a big part of finishing two major construction projects on time and under budget. Police and Public Works also worked together to help clear the roads and minimize the damage of a major storm, when Isaias hit us in August.

Nobie Violante has helped to restart our bulkhead program, and crews are getting ready to start a phase of work behind Terns Landing and Stacy Court, to address damage caused by Superstorm Sandy.

Eddie also worked closely with Colby Phillips to help us secure more than \$500,000 to improve drainage in Ocean Pines, and the team will continue to work on that effort over the next several years, as we work closely with county and state officials to help reduce flooding in the community. Colby presented the project to the Board on Sept. 8 with county officials and commissioners in attendance. The Board and I showed full support for the project.



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ASSOCIATION**

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.

.....

OPA administrative offices will be CLOSED in observance of the following holidays:

Veterans Day: Wed, Nov. 11

Thanksgiving: Thu, Nov. 26 & Fri, Nov. 27

Christmas: Thu, Dec. 24 & Fri, Dec. 25

New Year’s Day: Fri, Jan. 1

Martin Luther King Day: Mon, Jan. 18

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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New Pines Police Chief Ehrisman promoted from within

Longtime officer started in 1986 and moved through ranks

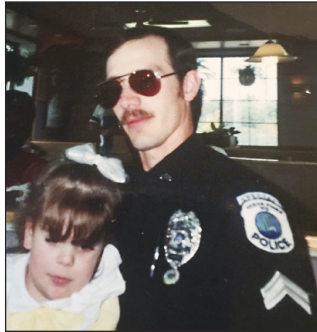
On Aug. 1, Ocean Pines Police Lt. Leo Ehrisman officially become Chief Ehrisman.

The veteran officer succeeded retiring Police Chief David Massey, to become the first homegrown officer to climb the ranks all the way to the top.

Just prior to taking over, Ehrisman agreed to an extensive interview on his career so far, and what he's looking forward to during the next chapter.

Ehrisman was born in the Pittsville area in neighboring Wicomico County. He began his policing career as a patrol officer in 1986 but, first, he was a professional musician who toured all over the U.S.

"I was actually on the road when my daughter was born," he said. "When she was born, we knew something was wrong, but we didn't know what. And it turned out to be cerebral palsy. So, my traveling days were done. I got on a plane and came home, left everything I owned on a bus, and I had to find a job."



Starting out small, and moving up

Ehrisman got a job with Ocean Pines Police and started as a part-time dispatcher, filling in while another worker was on maternity leave. He never left.

"I was hired here by Chief [Rod] Murray in 1986," he said. "Through the years, I was promoted from patrolman to PFC [private first class], to corporal to sergeant to lieutenant, to running the criminal investigation side" of the Ocean Pines Police Department.

Ehrisman said the transition from drummer to police officer wasn't too awkward, largely because of his prior experience as a firefighter.

"All my family were fire and EMS," he said. "I've been in fire service since I was a cadet at 13 and went in to be a medic, and then went directly into the department at 18."

He put in 30 years as a volunteer in Pittsville, before moving to Ocean Pines about nine years ago. He now volunteers for the Ocean Pines Volunteer Fire Department.

"Nowadays, there's a lot of cross training. A lot of cops are firefighters and there are a lot of firefighters that leave and go into law enforcement," Ehrisman said.

Police work in Ocean Pines, according to Ehrisman, often includes residential crimes against people and property.

"It's very unique being in Ocean Pines, because it's 99% residential – we don't have businesses, we don't have bars, we don't have hotels. So, most of our crimes are against residential properties or the common domestic disturbance," he said.

Because of the resort nature of the community, police also deal with a healthy population of tourists.

"Criminals like to go on vacation too," Ehrisman said. "It's nothing for us to pull someone over on a traffic stop because they have a headlight out, to find they're wanted in Montgomery County or Pennsylvania or New Jersey. We get a lot of that," he said.

Cooperation and collaboration

Also during his time as an Ocean Pines Police lieutenant, Ehrisman served as a coordinator with multi-jurisdictional task forces from county, state and even federal law enforcement agencies. Those partnerships benefit Ocean Pines by helping to fill in gaps missing from the Association police force.

"The county has a drug task force, for example, that is made up of detectives from all over the county," he said. "Ocean Pines doesn't have the type of resources to have its own SWAT team, or to have a strictly narcotics division or a robbery division or computer crimes division, so it's easier for us to join that multi-jurisdictional task force."

"To be able to have a relationship with outside agencies is really beneficial," he continued. "We have a great relationship with the state police, with the sheriff's office, with Ocean City – with all the neighboring agencies. We're very much a part of that multi-jurisdictional partnership."

Ehrisman said the frequent "safest city" honors given to Ocean Pines – although technically not a city – are both because of favorable demographics and because of the vigilance of Ocean Pines Police. It's no accident, he said, that people pulling into the south gate often notice a police presence.

"If you see that car when you come into the south gate, you're not going to hang a left and go 60 miles an hour," he said.

As a leader, Ehrisman said he stresses the importance of community policing.

"I don't let my guys go out there and be G.I. Joe – I don't want them out there with combat gear and Kevlar and night vision goggles. When Mr. Jones calls and he wants a police officer, he expects to see a uniformed police officer come and assist him – he doesn't want a soldier coming to his front door," he said. "I think that means a lot."

To new officers, Ehrisman offers, "Don't come in here and tell me how many tickets you've written – don't come in here and tell me what you've done, unless you can tell me you



Ehrisman is interviewed by 47 ABC News Anchor Julian Sadur in 2017, for a story titled "Ocean Pines Police Dept. giving away free bike helmets to kids." Photo used by permission.

helped Mrs. Smith when she was locked out of her car."

Helping someone with a ride, or moving their trash can when they're not able, is what community policing is all about, Ehrisman said.

"That's what the residents remember and that's what is so important here," he said.

Big swings for community service

Along with policing and service with the fire department, Ehrisman also has been involved with the community in other ways, including through Little League Baseball. He is currently both the District 8 Administrator and the Maryland State Director for Little League International Baseball/Softball in the Eastern Region.

"This is what happens when you don't go to a meeting that your wife goes to," he said with a laugh. "I got volunteered!"

His involvement has been especially rewarding during the last several years, Ehrisman said, as Berlin Little League all-star teams have often advanced to regional tournaments, and even the Little League World Series finals in 2014.

Two years ago, it literally took a perfect game from a 12-year-old Staten Island pitcher to prevent a return to the Little League World Series by a Berlin squad.

Still, the small town fielded two state championship teams, both in baseball and softball. Many local people watched those games play out on national television, but Ehrisman has been there in person for nearly all of the games. In fact, he's there for most Maryland state championship teams.

"It's really hard to sit home and watch them because, nine times out of ten, I'm there with them," he said. "Last year, at one time, I had 11/12-year-olds in Bristol, I had 9/10-year-olds in Cranston, Rhode Island, and I had 13/14-year-olds in Freehold, New Jersey. I spent a week going from a 9 a.m. game in Bristol to a 4 p.m. in Rhode Island to a 10 o'clock game the next morning in New Jersey.

"I know a lot of those kids - I've seen them since they were 9. And now they've graduated high school and gone to college, and some of them are still playing ball. That is so rewarding," he added.

Becoming the Chief

Ehrisman said he and Massey first spoke about the possibility of a further promotion about four years ago, when Massey asked what his intentions were.

"I've got over 30 years here and ... I really wasn't ready to work for another new chief and to spend two or three years teaching another person about the area," he said. "When Massey came here, I was not prepared to be a chief, but he has made it his mission to prepare me for his chair before he left."

Because of decades of preparation, studying, coursework, fieldwork and collaboration - Ehrisman will soon get the rare distinction of being a brand-new chief with a brand-new building. It's been a long time coming.

"I told my wife when I went home, 'I've got good news and bad news: The good is, I got the job ... and the bad news is, I got the job!'" he said with a laugh.

Ehrisman said Massey made his mark as a teacher and educator. Where he hopes to make his mark is by further modernizing the Ocean Pines Police Department.

In the old days, he said, police would obtain a search warrant for a suspect's house. Today, if they are pursuing a suspected child predator, police would need separate search warrants for the home, the computer, various emails, online and cellphone accounts, and more.

"That all has to be applied for through judges," Ehrisman said. "I think to be able to carry that out will be important, and I was here when our systems were installed and I know how to teach the new guys, and I've been preparing for this."

Ehrisman also plans to promote a potential successor right away, naming Sgt. Shakan Toppin to lieutenant in his old slot.

"My dad always told me to prepare for the next job above me, but to also prepare somebody to do my job so, when I move out of it, I don't wind up doing two jobs," he said. "It does you no good to move up if you don't have somebody to come up to fill your shoes.

"My game plan is for Sgt. Toppin to be promoted to lieutenant and become part of my staff. And my goal for him is to do exactly what I've done," Ehrisman continued. "I think it's an advantage for the whole department and for the future of what's to come, in bringing these new guys up."

Ehrisman said the balance of training, promotion, and staying up to date on technology is what ultimately will lead Ocean Pines Police into a successful future.





Leo Ehrisman

Ocean Pines Police Updates

COVID Conditions: Some of our most vulnerable victims during this time of struggles can be the citizens in stages of managed care. Our first responsibility is to the safety of our community as well the safety of our police department employees. Every call for service is handled with the health and safety of all parties involved considered.

New Elder Abuse Program (LEAD TEAM):

The LEAD TEAM is an active participant in the recently created Vulnerable Adult Task Force. This multi-agency task force, headed by our State's Attorney, coordinates the investigation of elder abuse exploitation.

I am happy to report that our police department, in cooperation with the task force, recently convicted a health care worker who victimized an elderly patient by stealing the victim's credit card and using it for theft.

Our department has become a starting force specifically commended by State's Attorney Heiser as a great way to protect our citizens.

Burglary Arrests: Vacant homes can sometimes be the target of juveniles seeking property or a hangout for drugs or alcohol. In these types of cases, the juveniles are typically released to their parents, and the matter is handled from there by the Juvenile Justice Department.

If you are leaving your residence vacant for at least 30 days in a row, the police department can do periodic security house checks. Call 410-641-7747 for information.

Thefts from Vehicles: Unlocked vehicles are the No. 1 target of thieves in Ocean Pines. Many would-be thieves just pull door handles on vehicles, entering the ones that are unlocked and stealing property. Upon receiving several reported break-ins and multiple thefts from vehicles, items such as cash, credit cards, electronics and even a firearm have been removed from these unlocked cars. This leads to the illegal and misuse of stolen credit cards. None of the vehicles they entered were locked.

Please lock your car doors – it is just good crime prevention.

Domestic Violence Arrests: Since our last report, police made several arrests for domestic violence. If you overhear loud arguments in your neighborhood and suspect a domestic dispute could escalate, please call us at 410-641-7747 to check it out. Often, police can calm a domestic situation down by intervening, without having to make an arrest.

Drunk Driving Arrests: Police made 12 driving while intoxicated arrests since our last report. When the summer season comes to an end, we notice an uptick in the number of drunk driving arrests we make. With Uber and local cabs readily available, there really is no excuse for drunk driving today.

Death Investigations: Every death that occurs in Ocean Pines requires a police investigation. While the majority of these deaths are for natural health causes, other deaths require extensive investigation. Since our last report, we conducted several death investigations. These investigations range from natural causes to accidental overdoses. Each of these investigations must be investigated as a crime until proven not a crime.

Drug Overdoses: Ocean Pines is not immune from the opioid epidemic, as we are the largest year-round residential community in Worcester County. Since our last report, our officers responded to several drug overdoses. Due to officer and EMS quick response times, many of these overdoses need not become a fatal solution.

Emergency Mental Health Evaluations: Not every mental health incident requires an emergency psychiatric evaluation by a physician. In those cases where the subject expresses suicidal thoughts, however, police take the subject into custody and transport them to a hospital for an in-depth psychiatric evaluation by a physician, which is not a criminal action. Please don't be afraid to call for help.

In Closing: The Ocean Pines police would like to thank everyone for the strong show of support from this community during these stressful times. If you see an officer in your neighborhood, remember that they are there to help you and protect you. We have remained here during this pandemic and during the periods of unrest around the law enforcement communities. Not only do we pledge to continue this service, we appreciate your support.

GM Viola announces completion of police renovation

Project finishes one month early and \$100,000 under budget

After more than a decade of talking about renovating the cramped and outdated Ocean Pines Police headquarters, officers in August finally moved into a newly expanded and modernized space.

The revamped Police quarters, next to the Ocean Pines Administration Building on Ocean Parkway, cost about \$1.162 million, or close to \$100,000 below budget. It also finished a month ahead of the original completion date.

The Whayland Company of Laurel, Delaware oversaw construction, but many helped in moving the project from the planning stages to the final product, including the Ocean Pines Public Works

and IT departments, local builders Marvin Steen and Bill Stamp, and designer Tobie Jacobs.



Fittingly, Leo Ehrisman officially took over as the new Ocean Pines Police Chief on Aug. 1, just in time to make the move into the new offices. Ehrisman said the renovated space totals about 5,300 square feet, while the old quarters was much smaller, at just 1,700 square feet.

He said the old space was built for six people. The Ocean Pines Police Department currently has a staff that's four times larger.

"The original building ... was a construction building – it



A Message from the CHIEF OF POLICE

wasn't a public safety building," he said. "The new one has been designed and built as an actual public safety building. It meets the state requirements as far as holding facilities, as well as all the other safety regulations and federal ADA regulations."

One of the main benefits for Police, according to Ehrisman, is separating "good guys from bad guys."

"In the old building, if we locked somebody up, they were basically in the same work area as civilians and dispatchers. In this building, that's completely independent," he said. "It has a processing area and a holding area that is separate from the officers' workspace and the civilians' workspace - as a public safety building should be."

Public Works Director Eddie Wells agreed that safety was the biggest concern.

"It's a lot safer building now," Wells said. "Before, if you brought a prisoner in, they would walk right back and sit at a table where an officer was doing work. Now, it's all separated. The safety and security is just so much better."

Wells said the renovation also helped update the heating and air conditioning systems of the old offices, built around the late 1970s or early 1980s, as well as supply a much-needed technology upgrade.

For example, Ehrisman said new phone and computer systems can now tie into the Worcester County dispatch through a universal 911 hookup. That means, in case of an emergency, Ocean Pines Police could work from the county offices in Snow Hill, or vice versa.

Steen, who toured the building, said he couldn't be happier with the results.

"It turned out great!" he said. "They've been working on it so long - at least 10 years - and during that time they thought about this and that and they looked at other places, and they

were able to include all of those things they needed. And that really helped, big time."

Steen consulted on the renovation and helped to connect Ocean Pines with the Whayland Company.

That partnership has now resulted in two successful construction projects. The new Ocean Pines Golf Clubhouse, also built by Whayland, wrapped construction earlier this year and at a similar cost savings.

"I grew up in Dagsboro and I knew who they were, and it's just a great company," Steen said. "They did a great job ... [and] everybody in Ocean Pines worked really well with them."

Jacobs' involvement began as a designer, but she also became an important consultant on the project. After an early meeting, she said it was clear that the layout still needed some work.

Among the changes credited to Jacobs are moving the evidence room to the front of the temporary detention area, building a storage area for uniforms and supplies near the armory, reconfiguring locker rooms for male and female officers, creating more efficient work stations for each officer, and using local and commercial vendors to help cut costs.

All told, she estimates those changes saved more than \$54,000.

"This project was especially rewarding to me because I was able to blend my knowledge of security, investigations and interior design to create a functional, safe and beautiful space," she said.

General Manager John Viola, who oversaw the renovation, said he is most

proud of the value Ocean Pines got for its money.

"One of the best things I ever did was reach out to Marvin Steen and Bill Stamp, and also to Tobie Jacobs, who is much more than a designer," he said. "It's a compliment to the team and everybody contributed, including all the work done by Ocean Pines IT and Public Works. And, of course, it's a credit to Whayland. They built us two really good buildings and they were great to work with."

In an interview two years ago, former Ocean Pines Police Chief David Massey called the old police station cramped and unsafe, and an architectural afterthought.

"I've been trying to get them to upgrade what we have since 2006," he said at the time. "It's frustrating ... Just about every police facility in this county has been upgraded."

In an interview earlier this year, Massey again underscored the importance of building a safe and modern home for Ocean Pines Police, and he expressed his gratitude to those who helped make that dream a reality.

"The facility that we're getting ready to open - thanks to the Board of Directors and our General Manager - is state of the art, it's going to be high security, and it's going to provide for our citizens for many, many years with a safe environment for police officers and a safe environment for them," Massey said. "I'm very grateful, for all of that."

Ehrisman said it's a rarity for a new chief to be able to move into a new headquarters, and it's also a fitting end to Massey's nearly two-decade legacy in Ocean Pines.

"As far as timing, it's just perfect," he said.





Debbie Donahue

Summer was certainly not what we would have wanted, but we all made the best of it and enjoyed a beautiful summer.

We are excited to move into our fall programs and hopefully will be able to bring back the majority of our programs soon. We are now hosting some of our community orga-

nizations such as Shape Ups exercise group on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 7:30 a.m. and 8:30 a.m. as well as the line dancing group at 9:30 a.m. Recreation fall classes are posted in this edition of the newsletter.

We will hold a **Trunk or Treat night on Oct. 30** from 5-8 p.m. in White Horse Park, which we are very excited to offer to the community for the first time. Bring out the little trick or treaters for a little Halloween fun. We are also offering some virtual fun, including decorate your own scarecrow and a pumpkin painting contest.

The holidays may be a little different, but **we are still planning the Hometown Christmas tree lighting.** If you would like to purchase a tree to decorate in White Horse Park, call Katie Goetzinger at 410-641-7052 for information and an application.

We are **working diligently with the local health department** and management to bring back as many of our organizations, leagues and classes as we possibly can do safely. Keep an eye on our Facebook page and the website for more upcoming events and the opening of other programs as we start the process of getting back to some sort of normal business.

The **Pine'er Artisan Gift Shop** is open on Saturdays and Sundays throughout the winter. Their beautiful new store will hold many handmade items, from fall products to holiday items. What do you get the person who has everything? Something handmade from the Ocean Pines Pine'er Artisan Gift Shop! Their hours are:

WELCOME TO FALL IN OCEAN PINES

OCT: Saturdays 8 a.m.-3 p.m., Sundays 10 a.m.-3 p.m., during "Trunk or Treat" Oct. 30 - 5-8 p.m.

NOV: Saturdays 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Sundays 10 a.m.-3 p.m., during "A Hometown Christmas" Nov. 28 - 5:30-8:30 p.m.

DEC: Saturdays 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Sundays 10 a.m.-3 p.m., evenings of Dec. 4, Dec. 11, Dec. 18 - 4:30-7:30 p.m.

Stop in for that something special and meet the talented ladies who make all of products in the store. Masks are required to enter and masks are also sold for \$8 in the shop.

The **Farmers Market will continue to bring great products** to White Horse Park every Saturday through the fall and winter. Starting Nov. 7, the hours will change to 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and will continue throughout winter. Through the winter some vendors may change, but Market Manager David Bean and his awesome vendors will be there offering fresh produce, breads, pies, cakes, etc., and his artisan vendors will continue to bring the community all of their great products. Please continue supporting a healthy, clean lifestyle by purchasing from the Ocean Pines Farmers Market.

The **Marina at the Yacht Club will continue offering fuel and some of your boating needs** such as ice, bait, and even a sweatshirt for those chilly days on the water. Please note that the marina hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. through October; it will close for the season on Nov. 1.

Anyone interested in renting a slip at the marina at the Yacht Club or at the Swim and Racquet Club for the 2021 season should contact Jessica Conaway at the Recreation and Parks Department at 410-641-7052. Although we carry a waiting list, it is best to get in an application so we have your contact information.

From the Recreation and Parks Department to you and your family, we would like to wish you a happy, healthy and wonderful holiday season. Stay safe, wear your mask, and *we look forward to seeing you back in the Recreation Department very soon.*



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HALLOWEEN EVENTS SPONSORED BY

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New! VIRTUAL PUMPKIN CARVING CONTEST

Photos must be emailed to bjarman@oceanpines.org by Sun, OCT. 25

Get your tools & your creativity! Everyone is invited to carve a pumpkin & snap a picture for this fun virtual contest. Submitted photos should include carver's name & age. Photos will be posted in an album on the Ocean Pines Recreation & Parks Facebook page, where **voting will take place from Oct. 26-30 at noon.** Winner will be announced in the evening on Oct. 30 & can stop by the Trunk or Treat event to pick up their goodie bag!

New! VIRTUAL COSTUME CONTEST

Photos must be emailed to kgoetzing@oceanpines.org by Sun, OCT. 25

We want to see your Halloween costumes! Take a photo of yourself in your Halloween get-up & enter your photos now through Oct. 25. Please send photos with age & contact information to kgoetzing@oceanpines.org. Photo submissions will be posted to the Ocean Pines Recreation & Parks Facebook page **Oct. 26-30 for voting.** Winners will be announced on Oct. 30!

New! TRUNK OR TREAT

Fri, OCT. 30 • 5:30pm-8pm • White Horse Park

Join us for Ocean Pines Recreation & Parks' first ever Trunk or Treat, sponsored by Xfinity! This spooky, fun event is free & open to the public for trick or treating! If you or your business are interested in participating, please reach out to Britany at bjarman@oceanpines.org to reserve your spot for decorating. Participation in decorating your trunk is free, but spaces are limited. Set up time will be available all day on Oct. 30. We will be following all COVID-19 regulations & guidelines. Participating vehicles are asked to provide their own candy to pass out to trick-or-treaters, but individually-wrapped candy donations will be accepted at the Ocean Pines Community Center through Oct. 30!

New! BUILD-YOUR-OWN SCARECROW CONTEST

Sat, OCT. 31 • 10am-12pm • White Horse Park

Grab your family & join us! We will provide the straw - you bring the outfit & accessories for your scarecrow. Winner of the contest will be announced at the end of the workshop & will receive a bag full of fall goodies! \$8 per family. Please pre-register by Oct. 28 by calling 410.641.7052 or stop by the Community Center.

TODDLER TIME

Come socialize with others through indoor playtime, small crafts, music & movement. This is a time to explore, discover, create & play together, while sharing the joys & challenges of raising happy children with other parents. Your child will have an opportunity to play with balls, hula-hoops, tunnels, a giant parachute, games & slides. **Note: A parent/guardian is required to stay with each child & must wear a mask.**

AGES: Ages 18 months - 3 years

WHEN: Thursdays, OCT. 1-NOV. 19, DEC. 3-FEB. 4

TIME: 10am-11am

WHERE: Community Center Gym

PROGRAM SUPERVISOR: Katie Goetzing

OF CLASSES: 6 weeks

FEE: OP Resident \$20; Non-Resident \$25; Drop In-\$4

CREATE-YOUR-OWN LAZY SUSAN WORKSHOP

Bring your creativity & join us for a fun & EASY fall craft. Participants will learn how to make a beautiful fall-inspired Lazy Susan. Complete any Thanksgiving table scape with your beautiful & functional creation! All materials & instruction provided.

WHO: ADULTS 18+

WHEN: Sun, NOV. 8, 10am-1pm

WHERE: Community Center

PROGRAM SUPERVISOR:

Katie Goetzing

FEE: \$25



KIDS CRAFT TIME

Come join Miss Katie the Craft Lady and join us for a fun holiday story and craft with your child! All materials and instruction will be provided. Space is limited and pre-registration is required. **Note: Children must be accompanied by an adult.**

WHO: Boys & Girls, Ages 4 - 10

Date **Time**

Sun, NOV. 8 2pm-3pm

Project / Activity

Thanksgiving Handprint
Napkin Holders
Christmas Ornaments

Sun, DEC. 6 10am-12pm

WHERE: Community Center

INSTRUCTOR: Katie Goetzing

FEE: OP Resident \$8; Non-Resident \$10

OP Health Fair canceled, eyes 2021 return

The Ocean Pines Association announced in August that it will not host the annual Ocean Pines Health Fair, because of concerns related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Health Fair is traditionally held each October in the Ocean Pines Community Center, with free health education and screenings from Atlantic General Hospital and Peninsula Regional Medical Center.

Indoor event restrictions and social distancing concerns were a factor in the cancellation.

"After much thought and discussion on how we can make this possible, it just doesn't seem as though we will be able to facilitate the Health Fair this year," Ocean Pines Recreation and Parks Director Debbie Donahue said. "We just would not be able to offer the same type of event that people are used to, and I would hate to cut back on things and it not be the same as we have always produced.

"I look forward to having this event in 2021," Donahue added.

Longtime soccer coach given Sam Wilkinson Award for volunteerism

Eric Benson this year was given the Sam Wilkinson Award in recognition of his volunteer efforts for Ocean Pines Recreation and Parks programs.

Recreation and Parks Director Debbie Donahue said the annual presentation of the award began in 2003 to honor 8-year-old Sam Wilkinson, who died in a tragic water accident in Ocean City.

Wilkinson played soccer in Ocean Pines and his father, Bob, was a volunteer coach for Ocean Pines Recreation programs.

"As a way to honor the memory of Sam and the Wilkinson Family for their dedication to the Ocean Pines Recreation and Parks Department, this award was established to recognize other outstanding individuals who dedicate their time and talents to help others," Donahue said.

This year, the award was given to Benson, who Donahue said has spent countless hours over the last five years volunteering for soccer programs in Ocean Pines.

Donahue said, "He's stated, 'My coaching approach has always

been to show enthusiasm, honesty and humor. Players pick up on the passion that I give. It's the things that give me the most enjoyment, when a player responds and just enjoys the game. We provide a nurturing, fun and positive environment to our

Ocean Pines players. Both Coach Joe [Monteverde] and Recreational Supervisor Katie Goetzinger are great, and we bond well together."

Benson thanked Donahue for the award, and also thanked Goetzinger and Monteverde, who is a prior Wilkinson Award winner.

"Combined, we run a nice program. It's very good for our kids, here in Ocean Pines,"

Benson said. "Whatever I provide for coaching, I get more than that back with the kids. It's fun to see them improve [and] to enjoy the game, and that's been my one aim in life."

Benson also thanked his wife, "for these countless thousands of hours she's allowed me to play soccer [and] to coach."

"Our theory is, I could be doing worse things," he said with a laugh. "Thank you for this award. It's an honor."



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Programs at the Sports Core Pool

AQUA YOGA

WHEN: WED / FRI, 8:00am-8:45am

OCT. 28 - DEC. 4 No Class 11/23 & 11/27 **DEC. 21 - FEB. 3** No Class 12/25

OF CLASSES: 12 (6 weeks)

FEE: Swim Member \$60; OP Resident \$70; Non-Resident \$86;

Drop-in: Swim Member \$5; OP Resident \$6; Non-Resident \$7

SHAPE UPS

WHEN: TUE / THU, 8:00am-8:50am

OCT. 27 - DEC. 8 No Class 11/26 **DEC. 15 - JAN. 21** No Class 12/24

OF CLASSES: 12 (6 weeks)

FEE: Swim Member \$45; OP Resident \$50; Non-Resident \$65;

Drop-in: Swim Member \$5; OP Resident \$6; Non-Resident \$7

WET WORKS I & II

WHEN: (I - Deep Water) MON / WED / FRI, 9:30am-10:20am

OCT. 26 - DEC. 4 **DEC. 14 - JAN. 22** No Class 12/25

OF CLASSES: 18 (6 weeks)

FEE: Swim Member \$55; OP Resident \$65; Non-Resident \$81;

Drop-in: Swim Member \$5; OP Resident \$6; Non-Resident \$7

WHEN: (II - Shallow Water) TUE / THU, 9:30am-10:20am

OCT. 27 - DEC. 8 No Class 11/26 **DEC. 15 - JAN. 21**

OF CLASSES: 12 (6 weeks)

FEE: Swim Member \$40; OP Resident \$50; Non-Resident \$57;

Drop-in: Swim Member \$5; OP Resident \$6; Non-Resident \$7

CREAKY JOINTS I & II

WHEN: (I) MON / WED / FRI, 11:00am-11:50am

OCT. 26 - DEC. 4 **DEC. 14 - JAN. 22** No Class 12/25

OF CLASSES: 18 (6 weeks)

FEE: Swim Member \$55; OP Resident \$65; Non-Resident \$81;

Drop-in: Swim Member \$5; OP Resident \$6; Non-Resident \$7

WHEN: (II) TUE / THU, 11:00am-11:50am

OCT. 27 - DEC. 8 No Class 11/26 **DEC. 15 - JAN. 26** No Class 12/24

OF CLASSES: 12 (6 weeks)

FEE: Swim Member \$40; OP Resident \$45; Non-Resident \$57;

Drop-in: Swim Member \$5; OP Resident \$6; Non-Resident \$7

New! TOTAL BODY FITNESS I & II WITH JEN KAUFFMAN

A mix of cardio, kickboxing, dance & Tabata working all muscle groups for a total-body workout.

WHEN: (I) MON / WED / FRI, 10:00am-10:35am

OCT. 26 - DEC. 9 No Class 11/25 & 11/27 **DEC. 11 - JAN. 22** No Class 12/25

OF CLASSES: 18 (6 weeks)

FEE: Swim Member \$70; OP Resident \$82; Non-Resident \$102;

Drop-in: Swim Member \$5; OP Resident \$6; Non-Resident \$7

WHEN: (II) TUE / THU, 9:00am-9:35am

OCT. 27 - DEC. 3 No Class 11/26 **DEC. 15 - JAN. 26** No Class 12/24

OF CLASSES: 12 (6 weeks)

FEE: Swim Member \$47; OP Resident \$54; Non-Resident \$68;

Drop-in: Swim Member \$5; OP Resident \$6; Non-Resident \$7

BIKES WITH JULIE

WHEN: MON / WED, 9:00am-9:40am

NOV. 2 - DEC. 9 **JAN. 4 - FEB. 10**

OF CLASSES: 12 (6 weeks)

FEE: Swim Member \$90; OP Resident \$95; Non-Resident \$100;

Drop-in: Swim Member \$8; OP Resident \$10; Non-Resident \$12

BIKES WITH MICHELLE

WHEN: TUE / THU, 9:00am-9:45am

OCT. 27 - DEC. 8 No Class 11/26 **DEC. 15 - JAN. 26** No Class 12/24

OF CLASSES: 12 (6 weeks)

FEE: Swim Member \$90; OP Resident \$95; Non-Resident \$100;

Drop-in: Swim Member \$8; OP Resident \$10; Non-Resident \$12

BIKES WITH JEN

WHEN: TUE / THU, 10:00am-10:35am

OCT. 27 - DEC. 8 No Class 11/26 **DEC. 15 - JAN. 26** No Class 12/24

OF CLASSES: 12 (6 weeks)

FEE: Swim Member \$90; OP Resident \$95; Non-Resident \$100;

Drop-in: Swim Member \$8; OP Resident \$10; Non-Resident \$12

CROSS TRAINING WITH JULIE


WHEN: TUE / THU, 7:00am-7:40am

NOV. 3 - DEC. 15 No Class 11/26 **JAN. 5 - FEB. 11**

OF CLASSES: 12 (6 weeks)

FEE: Swim Member \$90; OP Resident \$95; Non-Resident \$100;

Drop-in: Swim Member \$8; OP Resident \$10; Non-Resident \$12



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**John
Malinowski**

AUTUMN CAN BE A PERFECT TIME TO PLAY

Although the golf season is starting to wind down, fall is a great time to play golf at Ocean Pines. It is also a time that we use to work on and improve our course.

Summertime heat causes stress on the turf at the course and we are continually working to combat the changing characteristics caused by the growth of the community surrounding the course over the past fifty years. As the trees get taller and thicker each year, sunlight and airflow are negatively affected. Likewise, as homes have been built bordering the course, stormwater runoff and drainage have been affected. These changes through the years provide constant agronomic challenges that we work to overcome.

The golf maintenance crew will be busy with several projects throughout the fall and winter season:

- Over the next several weeks, we will be removing tree stumps and adding topsoil and seed over several areas of the course to improve playability on the holes. Once completed, these areas will be roped off to

prevent foot and cart traffic. We appreciate your cooperation as we work to improve these areas of the course.

- We are currently in the process of seeding fairways, rough and tees to fill in weak areas of the course.
- Several tree removal and drainage projects are planned throughout the winter to help improve sunlight, airflow and water removal.
- Through the first week of December, we will be aerating and topdressing greens using Ninja Tines, which should help remove the layer of organic material two inches below the surface. This will allow roots to go deeper and stay healthier under the stress of the season. It will also help with drainage. The holes created by the Ninja Tines are so small that they will not affect playability of the greens.

The cooler temperatures that fall brings with it provide a great opportunity to play golf, and the rates for Ocean Pines residents drop to \$35 for 18 holes and \$20 for 9 holes.

I hope to see a lot of you out on the course this season!



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OPLGA hosts Member-Member Tournament

The Ocean Pines Ladies Golf Association held its Member-Member Tournament on Aug. 25.

Ten teams competed in the Pinehurst (Chapman) format and enjoyed brunch at The Clubhouse Bar and Grille after.

1st Place Team: Chung Cho & Martha Arthur

2nd Place Team: Carolyn Neal & Debbie Schwertner

Closet to the Pin (5th hole): Geri Fasulo

Closet to the Pin (7th hole): Dot Waters

The Ocean Pines Ladies Golf Association is an active golf league that encourages women to come out and play golf at Ocean Pines every Tuesday morning. New members are always welcome. For further information about the OPLGA, please contact the Golf Shop at 410-641-6057.

OPMGA holds Member-Member Tournament

Forty-eight Ocean Pines Men's Golf Association members participated in the 2020 Member-Member Championship on Saturday, July 18 at the Ocean Pines Golf Club.

The team of Al Fasulo and Joe Pantone bested the field with a first-place score of 67 for 18 holes. The event featured scramble, better ball and alternate shot formats.

Tournament winners included:

1st Place Team: Al Fasulo & Joe Pantone (67)

2nd Place Team: Craig Binetti & John Jensen (68)

3rd Place Team: Cliff Robbins & Paul Wineke (68)

4th Place Team: Joe Lynch & Bud Humphries (70)

5th Place Team: Al Wolski & Neil White (70)

Closest to the Pin award winners included Art Henshaw and Mike Mason (5 feet) on the 5th hole and Kevin Mealia and Don McMullen (1 foot, 11 inches) on the 7th hole. Scramble winners were Fritz Lahner and Mark Watts. Better ball winners were Nelson Fenwick and Bill Bavis. Alternate shot winners were Bud Humphries and Joe Lynch. Winners of the 50-50 raffle were Ron Olszewski (top prize) and Bud Humphries (runner-up).



Bud Humphries

Pete Gomsak

Craig Binetti

Roger Gardner

OPMGA holds Senior and Super Senior Championship

The Ocean Pines Men's Golf Association held its Senior and Super Senior Championship on Saturday, Aug. 15 at the Ocean Pines Golf Club.

The Super Senior champions were **Bud Humphries**, low gross champion, and **Pete Gomsak**, low net champion. Senior champions were **Craig Binetti**, low gross champion, and **Roger Gardner**, low net champion.

The Top 5 Super Seniors (ages 77 and up) gross winners were **Bub Humphries**, **Joe Lynch**, **Bob Reifsnnyder**, **Bill Stafford** and **Scotty Wheatley**.

Flight A (ages 74-74) winners were **Art Henshaw**, low gross, and **Bill Thomson**, low net. The top 5 gross Flight A were **Art Henshaw**, **Bob Long**, **Walt Lischak**, **Ron Rider** and **Bill Thomson**.

Flight B (ages 69-73) winners were **Marcel Vales**, low gross, and **Mike Mason**, low net. The top 5 gross Flight B were **Marcel Vales**, **Mike Daley**, **Roger Gardner**, **Mike Mason** and **Al Wolski**.

Flight C (ages 50-68) winners were **Paul Wineke**, low gross, and **Fritz Lahner**, low net. The top 5 Flight C were **Craig Binetti**, **Paul Wineke**, **Fritz Lahner**, **Cliff Robbins** and **Steve Howse**.

Marlene Ott

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Steve Phillips
Director of Finance
& Operational Logistics

Favorable Financial Outlook

OPA once again produced favorable operating results in August, primarily due to the PPP recognized income and labor savings in various departments and amenity operations. If we examine amenity revenues to date without consideration of the PPP income, net revenues fall short of budget by just over (\$1M) dollars. However, these unfavorable revenue results were more than offset by total expenses to date being under budget by \$879K and the recognition of approximately \$1.1M in PPP funding revenue.

The largest favorable variances to date for fiscal 2020/2021 can be found in Public Works (\$154,826), General Maintenance (\$77,143), and the Yacht Club (\$119,108). As anticipated, COVID-19 had the most negative effect on Aquatics (\$223,937), Beach Parking (\$186,345) and Recreation and Parks (\$62,593). Finance will continue to track and account for the negative impact the pandemic-related closures/limitations will have on the operating budget, capital expenditures and cash flows for the remainder of the fiscal year.

As the year-end audit is now behind us and the summer season concluded, Finance will continue to focus on finalizing Northstar implementation for the remaining department/amenities. Attention will also switch over to early budget preparation with the assistance of the department heads and guidance provided by the Budget & Finance Committee.

How, where & when to vote in the 2020 General Election

Maryland voters should have plenty of options when it comes to the 2020 U.S. Presidential Election.

Gov. Larry Hogan, in a statement in August, said Marylanders would have the opportunity to vote by mail, take part in early voting, or cast their ballot in person on Election Day.

"This is consistent with CDC guidelines, which recommend giving voters a variety of choices during the COVID-19 pandemic," Hogan said in the statement.

Those registered to vote in the state should have received mail-in voting applications in September.

The Maryland Board of Elections in August also set **early voting dates for the 2020 Presidential election, from Monday, Oct. 26 to Monday, Nov. 2, from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. each day.** About 80 voting centers will be open for early voting.

Election Day is Tuesday, Nov. 3, and roughly 350 voting centers will be open statewide, from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

According to the Maryland Board of Elections, voters may cast their vote at any vote center in their county of residence. The Board also plans to make at least 127 ballot drop-boxes available statewide.

"While we encourage Marylanders to cast

mail-in ballots, providing nine days of in-person voting gives Marylanders the opportunity to vote in-person if they wish to do so," Board of Elections Administer Linda Lamone said.

- **For information about candidates** in the 2020 Presidential Election, visit elections.maryland.gov/elections/2020/general_candidates/index.html.
- **To find a local polling place**, visit voterservices.elections.maryland.gov/PollingPlaceSearch.
- **To register to vote online**, update voter registration, or to request a mail-in ballot, visit voterservices.elections.maryland.gov/OnlineVoterRegistration/InstructionsStep1.
- **To verify voter status**, visit voterservices.elections.maryland.gov/votersearch.

According to the Worcester County Board of Elections, "Voter registration is permanent as long as you continue to live in Maryland and keep your name and address current with your local board of elections. You do not have to re-register when you move within the State, but you must keep your address current."

For more information, contact the Worcester County Board of Elections at Worcester.Elections@maryland.gov, or call 410-632-1320.

Ocean Pines Association, Inc.

239 Ocean Parkway, Ocean Pines, MD 21811

410.641.7717 • Fax: 410.641.5581

Email: info@oceanpines.org OceanPines.org

— DEPARTMENTS —

Administration Office.....	410.641.7717
Assessments.....	Ext. 3031
CPI (Compliance, Permits, Inspections).....	410.641.7425
Finance.....	Ext. 3012
Food & Beverage.....	410.641.7501
General Manager.....	Ext. 3001
Amenity Memberships.....	410.641.7717
Public Relations & Marketing.....	Ext. 3006
Police (Non-Emergency).....	410.641.7747
Fire Dept. (Non-Emergency).....	410.641.8272
Recreation & Parks.....	410.641.7052
Tree Removal.....	410.641.7425
Public Works.....	410.641.7425

— GOLF —

Golf Pro Shop & Tee Times.....	410.641.6057
Golf Maintenance.....	410.641.5694
Clubhouse Bar and Grille.....	410.641.7222

— POOLS —

Beach Club Pool.....	410.936.0348
Mumford's Landing Pool.....	410.208.6005
Sports Core Pool (OP Aquatics HQ).....	410.641.5255
Swim & Racquet Club Pool.....	410.641.7227
Yacht Club Pool.....	410.936.0583

— MARINAS —

Marina at Mumford's Landing.....	410.641.7447
Swim & Racquet Marina.....	410.641.7447

— MORE AMENITIES —

Beach Club.....	410.524.2957
Community Center.....	410.641.7052
Dog Park.....	410.641.7052
Farmers & Artisans Market.....	Ext. 3006
Pine'eer Artisans & Gift Shop.....	Ext. 3006
Racquet Sports Complex.....	410.641.7228
Skate Park.....	410.641.7052
Swim & Racquet Club.....	410.641.7227
Ocean Pines Yacht Club.....	410.641.7501
The Venues at Ocean Pines.....	410.641.7501

— UTILITIES —

Choptank Electric.....	877.892.0001
(Outages Only).....	800.410.4790
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Mediacom Cable TV.....	800.445.5562
Republic Services.....	410.749.1551
Sandpiper Energy.....	800.427.0015
Verizon.....	800.VERIZON
Water & Wastewater.....	410.641.5251

— MORE HELPFUL NUMBERS —

Ocean Pines Chamber.....	410.641.5306
Ocean Pines Library.....	410.208.4014
Ocean Pines Post Office.....	410.208.3959
Animal Control.....	410.632.1340
Board of Education.....	410.632.5000
County Assessments.....	410.632.1196
County Treasurer.....	410.632.0686
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Summary Financial Report

Year-to-Date
8/31/2020



Steve Phillips

Director of Finance
& Operational Logistics



OPERATING ACCOUNT SUMMARY (UNAUDITED)

	ACTUAL	BUDGET	VARIANCE
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)			
REVENUES			
Assessments	\$9,127	\$9,126	\$1
Grants	485	487	(2)
Amenities (Net)	2,864	3,674	(810)
Recreation & Parks	85	276	(191)
Other fees and Income	1,502	369	1,133
Total Revenues	14,063	13,932	131
Less transfers to reserve accounts	(3,215)	(3,197)	(18)
Net Operating Revenues	10,848	10,735	113

OPERATING EXPENSES

Administration & Management	766	742	24
Amenities	1,755	2,271	(516)
Recreation & Parks	216	341	(125)
Police	573	582	(9)
Fire / EMS	233	233	0
Public Works / CPI	437	613	(176)
General Maintenance	182	259	(77)
Total Operating Expenses	4,162	5,041	(879)

EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES **6,686** **5,694** **992**

TRANSFERS (New Capital, etc.) **0** **0** **0**

NET **\$6,686** **\$5,694** **\$992**

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Colby Phillips

OPERATIONAL & AMENITY UPDATES

Happy Fall everyone! The Aquatics & Racquet Sports team had a very productive and successful summer season despite the many challenges we faced with COVID-19. Thank you to everyone who came out to visit one of our pools or Racquet Sports. The team worked hard to bring the community a safe and enjoyable summer. We have several aquatic exercise classes this fall as well as the addition of Kids' Boot

Camp and Children's PE/Gym time. Swim lessons are being offered on a private and semi-private basis at this time. Please call us at 410-641-5255 for any more info on any of our classes or to sign up.

The drainage team was very excited to recently receive one of two of the largest Maryland state grants this summer for our stormwater and water quality efforts. Work will begin on the project starting this fall/early winter. This project has been a long time coming and hopefully is only the beginning of more future improvements to our community on these important issues.

The project consists of water quality improvements and improved flood protection resiliency through retrofitting of existing Bainbridge Pond as well as replacement of failing and old culverts. We will be retrofitting Bainbridge Pond to bring it up to current MDE wet pond regulations through introduction of forebays, construction of wetland/aquatic benches, a proper outfall structure and improved dam embankment (weir). (Controls water levels and can slow them down with potential larger storms). Improvements to the existing gravel park road, construction of a new drainage swale downslope of the park road and along the rear of private properties along the pond will help improve some of the flooding issues. If you have any questions on this project or drainage questions you can reach out to me directly at cphillips@oceanpines.org.

Thank you to our General Manager John Viola for his continued support on our efforts with this project, the Board members, particularly Doug Parks, Steve Tuttle and Tom Janasek who have all been working closely with the ongoing efforts, County Commissioners Jim Bunting and Chip Bertino, Public Works' Eddie Wells and Nobie Violante, Worcester County officials Bob Mitchell and Bobby Shockley, and Vista Design, Inc. This was a true team effort and everyone's support helped make it happen.

STAY IN TOUCH

WITH OCEAN PINES

EMAIL: THIS WEEK IN THE PINES

Be the first to know about Ocean Pines Association happenings with our weekly email, "This Week in the Pines." Sign up at OceanPines.org!

WEB: OCEANPINES.ORG

News, amenity info, applications, contact numbers & more are available on OPA's newly redesigned website!

CALL 410.641.7717 OR EMAIL INFO@OCEANPINES.ORG TO LEARN MORE.

VOLUNTEER Opportunities in the Pines

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See the Advisory Committees page at oceanpines.org.

RECREATION & PARKS DEPT.

Call 410.641.7052

or email rec@oceanpines.org.

OCEAN PINES FARMERS & ARTISANS MARKET

Email Market Manager David Bean at flavordrizzles@gmail.com.

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**Saturday, October 31, 2020
10 AM-2 PM**

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Parks, Horn Win Re-election

Two incumbent OP Board members each earned re-election this August.

Vote totals were first announced by the Ocean Pines Election Committee on Friday, Aug. 7, and then confirmed during a special Board meeting on Aug. 12.

Doug Parks (2,206 votes) and Colette Horn (1,801 votes) each won an additional three-year term on the Board, which is the governing body of Ocean Pines. The only challenger, Stuart Lakernick, finished third with 1,149 votes and was not elected.

Parks first joined the Board in 2016 as an appointed director, replacing former Director Pat Renaud who resigned that August, citing personal reasons.

Both Parks and Horn were then elected to three-year terms, in 2017. Parks had served as the Association President since 2017, and Horn served as Association Secretary from 2017 until April of this year, when she resigned from the position to seek reelection.

Each supplied a statement on their respective re-elections:

Doug Parks: “I wanted to take a moment to share a word of appreciation to the Election Committee for the work they did in handling the election process. I also want to thank those members of the Ocean Pines community that voted for me, as it showed a level of confidence in my contributions as a member of the Board and the Association’s President for the last four years.

“As I begin a second term on the Board, my focus is moving forward with strategic planning to address a number of issues, including the upcoming fiscal budget and the required follow-up on the drainage project. These two particular issues are of paramount importance and will be a priority for me both now and throughout the rest of the fiscal year.

“Another goal is to continue to promote the team aspect of our approach to managing the issues we face. The open dialog, different perspectives and viewpoints, as well as the ability to share information and take a professional approach in discussing those perspectives and viewpoints, are all important aspects we need to continue.

“I am glad to have been elected again and am ready to continue my work for the next three years in service to the Ocean Pines community.”

Colette Horn: “I want to thank the Elections Committee for the work they did to make the election go well for all of us. I thank the Association members who showed their commitment to playing their part in good governance in OP by casting their votes. I very much appreciate the confidence placed in me by those who voted for me, and for the many calls and emails I received wishing me well in my second term.

“It’s nice to know that in the year of the 100th anniversary of women’s suffrage in the U.S. being a woman candidate is no longer considered a liability. This year, 65% of ballots cast had a mark next to my name. That says something about voters’ ability to look at candidates’ value, not just their gender.

“As for my second term, I look forward to the opportunity to continue the good work this board has been doing over the past three years. At this point, the things I want us to focus on are advancing our strategic planning process; keeping a close eye on the impact of the pandemic on our finances; and overseeing operations to ensure they continue to efficiently and effectively meet performance goals. We must also keep our focus on the initiatives our GM- and board-sponsored work groups have been working on, such as the short term rental issue and the proposed drainage project around Bainbridge Park.”

Also, on Aug. 12, Board members held an organizational meeting to select



Ocean Pines Association 2020 BOARD OF DIRECTORS



PRESIDENT
(TERM 2019-2022)

Larry Perrone

443.513.1407

lperrone@oceanpines.org



VICE PRESIDENT
(TERM 2020-2023)

Dr. Colette Horn

443.791.7724

chorn@oceanpines.org



SECRETARY
(TERM 2019-2022)

Camilla Rogers

410.409.9168

crogers@oceanpines.org



TREASURER
(TERM 2020-2023)

Doug Parks

443.397.3077

dparks@oceanpines.org



DIRECTOR
(TERM 2018-2021)

Frank Daly

410.790.2677

fdaly@oceanpines.org



DIRECTOR
(TERM 2019-2022)

Tom Janasek

301-335-5007

tjanasek@oceanpines.org



DIRECTOR
(TERM 2018-2021)

Steve Tuttle

610.368.9919

stuttle@oceanpines.org

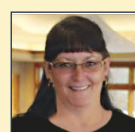
EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT



GENERAL MANAGER
John Viola

410.641.7717 Ext. 3001

jviola@oceanpines.org



SENIOR EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT
Michelle Bennett

410.641.7717 Ext. 3002

mbennett@oceanpines.org

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

officers for the coming Board term.

Larry Perrone was elected as the new Association president and Horn was chosen as vice president. Camilla Rogers will continue as secretary, and Parks will be treasurer.

Directors also set the regular Board meeting schedule for the next year, with each meeting scheduled in the Assateague Room of the Ocean Pines Community Center on 235 Ocean Parkway.

To view the upcoming meeting schedule, visit www.oceanpines.org/web/pages/board-administration.

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— Gloria L.
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Despite the increased risk associated with serving during a global pandemic, their department has continually stepped up and is on pace to meet and/or exceed our calls from service from last year!

Each year they set a plan for their fundraising efforts and, as you know, 2020 has not gone as planned for anyone. Due to the pandemic, their efforts to raise funds were slowed so they could put our sole focus on providing the level of service and safety this community needed and continues to need.

While they have traditionally asked the community for much-needed financial help to supplement the financial assistance they receive from the OPA and Worcester County, **this year the additional support is needed more than ever.**

Please donate to support the department's efforts and commitments to provide the best service to you. Your donations go directly to the OPVFD and are critical to our ability to serve you.

Please help us maintain their effectiveness in protecting you and your property by contributing to our Annual Fund Drive. The OPVFD is a 501(c)(3) organization and your donations to them are 100% tax deductible.

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Special Market Days

- 10/31 **Halloween Market** – *Vote for best costume-dressed merchant & you could win a prize for casting your ballot!*
- 11/21 **Thanksgiving Turkey Tuesday Market** – *Pick up your special-order fresh turkey & baked goods*
- 12/5 **Hanukkah Market**
- 12/12 **Peddlers Holiday Market**
- 12/19 **Christmas Market**
- 12/23 **Extra Christmas Market**

Market Hours and Closures

The Ocean Pines Market will begin its off-season hours on Saturday, Nov. 7. The market for late fall and winter will again this year open one hour later at 9 a.m., and continue to close at 1 p.m. The Market will return to its normal hours of operation of 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday, April 3, 2021.

An additional Christmas Market has also been scheduled for Wednesday, Dec. 23 from 9 a.m.-noon for last-minute Christmas shopping.

The Ocean Pines Farmers & Artisans Market will be closed on Saturday, Dec. 26 so merchants can enjoy the holidays with family and friends.

In the event of inclement winter weather, any delay or cancellation of the market day will be shared on all market social media accounts and on the Ocean Pines website.

Autumn Treats at Marketplace

It's autumn at the Ocean Pines Market and a chill in the air doesn't mean that the bustling Saturday morning activities have ended. The offerings of fall produce, seasonal flowers, pumpkins, and fall decor are letting shoppers know the market is still open for business.

On Oct. 17, children will be able to take home a free pumpkin from the Kids Market Zone. Each pumpkin will include a small package of items for the child to decorate their pumpkin at home. Pumpkins will be available while supplies last.

Kids and grownups alike can enjoy "Halloween at the Marketplace" on Saturday, Oct. 31. Merchants will dress up in fun costumes, decorate their market shops and hand out treats to shoppers of every age who visit participating market businesses.

Grab a friend and enjoy all the autumn activities and what the merchants have to offer at the Ocean Pines Marketplace this fall.

Thanksgiving Market

Whether you're looking for apples to make a sweet treat or sweet potatoes for that new recipe you want to try, you'll find what you need at the Ocean Pines Farmers & Artisans Market Thanksgiving Market.

Merchants will be offering a cornucopia of fresh fruits and vegetables, ranging from green beans and Brussels sprouts to cranberries and pumpkin. And it's not just produce that will be on the market stands. Bakeries will offer a variety breads, pies and pastries. Other products will include seafood, meats, wine and spirits, eggs, honey and fresh-cut flowers.

Select merchants will be offering the option to place special orders for pick up closer to the holiday. Shoppers should begin placing their orders early.

The holiday market will take place on Saturday, Nov. 21. On Tuesday, Nov. 24, select merchants will be at the Marketplace from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. for customers to pick up special orders and grab last-minute holiday items.





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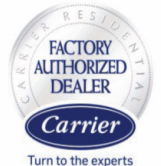
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Boggs' decades of public service helped break down barriers

It was a full-circle moment for Judy Boggs, earlier this year, when the Worcester County Commission for Women named her as the organization's "Woman of the Year."

Boggs, a former Worcester County Commissioner and Ocean Pines Association President, helped found the commission several decades earlier, citing a need to help elevate women's interests in areas of society often dominated by men.

Throughout her career, Boggs carved her own path. She is known for having unique and innovative ideas, and for her ability to get to the heart of a matter by asking tough, searching questions.

Born in 1939, Boggs grew up in a small community near Dundalk, Maryland called Water's Edge. Her late husband, William, grew up "right across the street." He passed away earlier this year, but the story of their first meeting is one she still enjoys telling.

"He was 11 years older than I was," she said. "He went into the service and, when he came back, I was grown up. But, I still lived across the street from him."

They later bumped into each other at a wedding of mutual friends. She was invited by the bride and he was invited by the groom.

"At the reception, he kept looking at me and looking at me, and he asked me to dance," she said. "He finally said, 'What's your name?' And I said Judy O'Hara, which is my maiden name. And he stopped and he said real loud for everybody to hear, 'THE LITTLE KID FROM ACROSS THE STREET?!'"

"He was gone for three years, and I grew up," Boggs added with a laugh.

First, a reporter

William "Bill" Boggs was drafted after graduating from high school and served in the U.S. Army. He would later become a supervisor at Bethlehem Steel and was active in the community as a volunteer.

Judy Boggs, meanwhile, attended the University of Baltimore, but never graduated. Instead, she picked classes that appealed to her interests and then moved on.

Boggs stayed home while their three children were very young. When they were a little older, she decided it was time to go to work. William, she said, was always supportive.

"Anything I wanted to do, any cockamamie idea, he always said, 'Well, if it makes you happy,'" Boggs said.

First, she decided she wanted to be a newspaper reporter.

"Dundalk had one big, very popular paper. So, I went there," she said. "This was really a man's world, at that time. All the writers were men – all the everything were men!"

Boggs told the owner of the paper, the Dundalk Eagle, that she was looking for a job as a reporter. She told him she could write and knew shorthand, a skill she picked up in college.

"He said, 'OK, let me give you a test.' And I said, 'No, I'm not looking to be a secretary, I'm going to be a writer,'" she said. "And I started walking out and he said, 'Well, wait a minute.' He looked at me funny and then said, 'The Fourth of July parade is going to be next week. If you want to cover that, cover that and we'll see how it goes from there.'"

The try-out went well, and Boggs worked at the paper for the next eight years – as a writer. "I became very popular because I did my own thing, and I did things nobody ever did," she said. "For example, I decided that I was going to interview all the churches in the area for their history. They loved it! The people who went to church loved it the churches loved it. It was a really big hit."

Boggs also became popular for writing about local politics, but it was her coverage of a major new development that would eventually lead to a second career.

Boggs' memory, she said, is a little fuzzy on the exact timeline, but Church Home and Hospital and Baltimore City Hospital were competing to build new facilities in the Dundalk area. She interviewed representatives from each company and wrote an article about their plans, with instructions for readers to mail in which group they preferred.

"The paper said, 'Don't be disappointed if nobody responds,'" she said, but her editor later called back and demanded, "'You've got to change this! I have a desk full of responses!'"

Happy to oblige, Boggs redirected all the mail to her own home.

"It was boatloads of [letters] from all kinds of people," she said. "And I was getting calls [asking] who's winning? I wouldn't tell anybody, but we had bags and bags of letters. The mailman had to come into the house and empty it onto the kitchen table."

Next, a hospital administrator

Church Home and Hospital would eventually win the bid, and Boggs would go on to become the health care administrator for the Church Home and Hospital Health



Centers in Baltimore.

"They asked me to work with them, so I could familiarize the whole area with what they were going to build and what they were going to offer," she said.

Boggs took the position with the understanding that she would not work during the summer, so she could spend time with her children between school terms.

"They really liked what I had done, and they were getting a lot of response from the community – the whole area, really. After that summer I said to Bill, 'You know, I really like this job. Maybe I better not take off the next summer!'"

"I stayed with them for some years and did a lot of unusual things, for a writer," she continued. "I was pretty creative."

As an administrator, Boggs worked to make operations run more smoothly. That included a new program she created for those injured at work, sending patients in for immediate care rather than making them wait.

"They were used to City Hospital, which was very slow. I had people coming in and bringing their meals because they'd sat down at a table and waited. And I said, 'Oh no, we're not going to do this,'" she said. "I would go to all of the businesses around and say, 'When anyone is injured, you can have them sent to Church Home and Hospital. We will see them immediately and then either send them back to work or put them off.'"

The program ended up with more than 200 companies signing on.

"They were happy with my work – but they also tolerated me," Boggs said of her time at Church Home and Hospital. "I was just full of ideas."

Ocean Pines and elected office

Boggs retired in 1992, and she and William moved to Ocean Pines into a home they designed themselves.

"We always had our vacations in and around this area, and we loved Ocean Pines," she said.

At first, she said they didn't know anyone in the area, but figured, "the easiest way to get to know people is to volunteer for something."

William became involved in the Ocean Pines Players, building sets, while Boggs got involved in local politics, starting with the Ocean Pines Board of Directors.

Around the same time, in 1995, Boggs helped establish and served as the first president of the Worcester County

Commission for Women. She was previously a member of a similar commission in Baltimore.

However, she said the idea was at first mocked by her male colleagues on the Board.

"When the Board of Directors found out that on the agenda that month was Judy Boggs, who wanted to have a Commission for Women ... they started laughing and they started [saying], 'Oh, we need a Commission for Men!'"

"It was a circus," she continued. "The men didn't like me. They fought me and I fought back ... I was elected president for a year, and, after that year I thought, 'this is enough of that!'"

Then, in 2002, Boggs moved on to a higher office, becoming the first person elected to represent the newly created Ocean Pines district on the Worcester County Commissioners, the governing body for the entire county.

"I got to know people and then I was encouraged to run," Boggs said. "They wanted me to stay for another term with Ocean Pines [on the Board of Directors], but I'm not a believer in staying and staying and staying."

As a Commissioner, Boggs was known for asking tough and intelligent questions. It was a trait from her days as a reporter, she said.

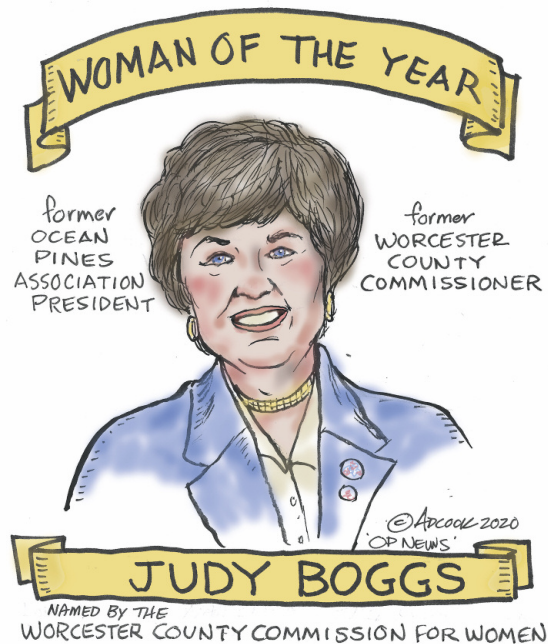
"There was one time that I asked a question and there was silence,

and then everybody started closing their books ... and they ended the meeting," she said with a laugh.

"But the staff loved it. I was very popular and friendly with the staff. I was asking good questions and sometimes [the other Commissioners] even learned something," Boggs continued. "I read all the minutes and I had the questions, so the men thought, 'Well, we don't need to read the minutes, because Judy does it and Judy corrects them.' And that's how it was."

In 2005, the Maryland Daily Record named Boggs one of the 100 most powerful and influential women in the state. Along with her seat as a County Commissioner, she also served on the Tri-County Council for the Lower Eastern Shore of Maryland, Worcester County Board of Health, Worcester County Health Planning Advisory Council, Worcester County Social Services Board, legislative committee for the Maryland Association of Counties, board of the Worcester County Developmental Center, and the Kiwanis Club of Greater Ocean Pines/Ocean City.

Boggs said she started volunteering (*continued on pg. 38*)



(continued from pg. 37) when her children were little, first as president of the local PTA, and she just never stopped.

"I was involved with my children and I just liked doing things," she said. "It was just part of me, I guess."

In 2014, Boggs decided not to seek another term as a Commissioner. Again, she said she didn't want to overstay her welcome.

"I did the same thing with the Commission for Women," she said. "I was the president for the first term and then I announced that I wasn't going to be president ... I said, 'There's a lot of people here in this room that are capable of [serving].'"

Also, in 2014, Chip Bertino was elected to succeed Boggs on the Worcester County Commissioners. A fellow newspaper veteran, he also became known for asking the tough questions during meetings.

"Chip has done a good job," Boggs said. "I just backed away from it."

Bertino introduced Boggs during an Aug. 18 County Commissioners meeting, as the panel she once sat on formally recognized her "Woman of the Year" honor.

Proudly introducing himself as Boggs' successor, Bertino said she "meant a lot to this community." He said that Boggs "advocated for numerous community infrastructure initiatives, including the extension of natural gas to the county, and conducted more than three dozen town hall meetings to connect constituents to local government."

Boggs stood up and thanked the Commissioners.

"This was totally unthought of by me, because I never thought ahead. I just did what needed to be done for my job, which I enjoyed tremendously," she said. "I really did enjoy being a County Commissioner. And I'm proud of the progress that the county has made, and I feel very privileged to live in this county - and the more I watch TV news, the prouder I become!"

Boggs said she's visited many places in Maryland and "nothing comes close to Worcester County and its people."

"I live in Ocean Pines, and it's very safe [and] very comfortable," she said. "The people who live there are wonderful and giving."

Woman of the Year

Among Boggs' closest friends in Ocean Pines was the late Anna Foults, who would often call for advice.

Boggs recalled one time, when Foults called her in tears.

"She said, 'I'm in trouble I'm in big trouble! I need your help.' She always counted on me for a lot of things, but she really underestimated herself," Boggs said. "She didn't realize how strong she was."

Foults explained that she received a letter announcing that a national group had named her their "Businesswoman of the Year" and wanted to fly her to California to receive the award.

"I said, 'Anna, that's wonderful!' And she said, 'No, I'm not a businesswoman! I just do things for people,'" Boggs said.

Determined to help, Boggs got out a large pad of paper. "I wrote down, 'What does a businesswoman do?'" Boggs said. "And [Foults] said, 'They have an office.' And I said, 'You have an office, it's in your house.' And she said, 'Yeah, but they make money and they have people working for them.' I said, 'You have people working.' She said, 'They're not my workers, they're just my helpers' ... and we went through the whole thing."

"It took two different sessions for her to realize that, maybe, she was a businesswoman," Boggs continued. "She finally went to receive the award... [but] she still couldn't believe that it happened. She was a great gal."

On her own "Woman of the Year" recognition by the Worcester County Commission for Women - a group she founded and served with - Boggs said, "It's very satisfying."

"I've met the people who are taking it to another level," she said. "They have a variety of women with various skills, and they're doing a wonderful job and they're creating their own programs."

As for the young women who are entering new jobs or serving on new boards and commissions, Boggs' advice is simple.

"Be yourself. And don't be afraid to be yourself," she said. "Don't let people make you into something that you're not. You have to have confidence in yourself."

"And, if you want something, work for it. Don't let anybody say, 'Oh, you shouldn't do that,'" Boggs added.



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What does a chamber do for a community? Chambers provide networking, partnership, and advertising opportunities to their members. Successful locally owned companies and nonprofits ensures a community will be more stable, entice new home buyers, increase your property value, and instill pride and cohesiveness among neighbors.

How can area residents utilize a chamber? Chambers are trusted resources for local services and products. Need a plumber? We can help with that! Need a home health care agency? We can help with that as well! Your Ocean Pines Chamber has an online business directory listing our 300 partners by category and we publish a free hard copy business directory annually.

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Every Tuesday morning, we send out an eblast which provides the community and our partners with upcoming events, fundraisers, legislative updates and so much more. If you would like to receive this communication, just send us an email, and let us know! Please email info@oceanpineschamber.org.

Our free online business directory can be found at business.oceanpineschamber.org/members.

Should you ever need our services, do not hesitate to call us at 410-641-5306. ***We are here for you!***

Chamber of Commerce hosts HALLOWEEN PARADE

The Ocean Pines Chamber of Commerce is excited to announce a **Halloween-themed parade through Ocean Pines to take place on Saturday, Oct. 31.**

Beginning at noon from the grass lot on Cathell Road, classic cars, Jeep clubs, fire engines, and other local spooky vehicles will head north, ending up at White Horse Park. Vehicles are encouraged to go all-out with Halloween decorations! There is a \$15 entrance fee per vehicle.

For more information and to register, call the Ocean Pines Chamber at 410-641-5306 or email info@oceanpineschamber.org.



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BJ's Wholesale Club membership offer returns to Ocean Pines

BJ's Wholesale Club is once again partnering with the Ocean Pines Association to bring a special membership offer, effective Oct. 16-30, to benefit the Worcester County Veterans Memorial at Ocean Pines Foundation.

In addition to offering special membership benefits, BJ's will donate \$5 of each membership fee to the foundation.

With this offer, new members receive a 12-month BJ's Inner Circle Membership for \$25 or a BJ's Perks Rewards Membership, which earns 2% cash back on most BJ's purchases, for \$50 with BJ's Easy Renewal.

Renewing members can purchase a 12-month Inner Circle Membership for \$40 or a BJ's Perks Rewards Membership for \$80 with BJ's Easy Renewal. Renewing members will also receive one bonus month with the offer.

This special promotion is only offered through Ocean Pines two times a year. The next promotion will be in April 2021. Current BJ's members whose memberships will expire before then are encouraged to renew during the fall offer.

BJ's operates over 200 clubs in 15 states from Maine to Florida, including a location in Millsboro, Delaware. The wholesale club offers a large assortment of products for home and business, savings of 25% off supermarket prices and acceptance of all manufacturers' coupons and BJ's store coupons.

BJ's membership applications are available at the Ocean Pines Association Administration Building at 239 Ocean Parkway and online at OceanPines.org. Applications must be returned with payment by Oct. 30. Check and credit card payments will be accepted.

Applications may be placed in the drop box in the administration building outer lobby or mailed to Ocean Pines Association, Attn: Marketing Department, 239 Ocean Parkway, Ocean Pines, MD 21811.

For more information, call 410-641-7717.

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WCVMF to offer 'virtual' Veterans Day ceremony

Volunteers with the Worcester County Veterans Memorial at Ocean Pines are planning a virtual ceremony for this Veterans Day, Nov. 11.

In a normal year, the annual Veterans Day program in Ocean Pines draws thousands of people from across the region. However, circumstances related to the COVID-19 pandemic made planning for the event impossible.

"This year, we're going to do something a little different, but we also want to make the Veterans Day ceremony as special as it always has been," Marie Gilmore, Veterans Memorial Foundation president, said. "We're going to videotape in advance various segments of the ceremony, and give the people of Ocean Pines and adjoining communities the opportunity to use various platforms to go online at their leisure and watch the ceremony."

Gilmore said the Veterans Memorial Foundation hopes to capture as much of the normal ceremony as possible. Segments will be recorded both remotely and at the Worcester County Veterans Memorial in Ocean Pines.

"I believe it's going to be everything that everybody would expect it to be," she said. "We hope to provide everything that we have in the past."

Video of the Veterans Day ceremony will be made available on the Ocean Pines and Veterans Memorial websites and social media sites.

Women's Club of Ocean Pines announces community donations

The Women's Club of Ocean Pines in July announced the award of \$1,100 in community donations for 2020. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the awards ceremony normally held in May was canceled. The following organizations will be receiving their letters and donation checks in the mail: **Ocean Pines Recreation and Parks, Ocean Pines Volunteer Fire Department "EMT", Coastal Hospice, Mid-Atlantic Symphony Student Outreach Program, Shore Elite, Stories Love Music, Town Cats, Women Supporting Women, and Worcester County Veterans Memorial "Flags for Heroes"**

Throughout the year, monies are raised by the women through fundraisers. The use of these donations is limited to organizations that promote the welfare and interests of Pines' residents.

Happy Anniversary!

Congratulations to Joe and Lorrie Latchford,

both 84 years old, who celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on Thursday, Sept. 17. The couple have lived in Ocean Pines for 23 years.





Volunteers to honor Foulz

Holiday drive for soldiers to continue

Former Star Charities volunteers and other local groups are working to continue the annual holiday charity drive started by the late Anna Foulz.

Foulz, a longtime Ocean Pines resident, passed away last year. One of her most visible and successful volunteer efforts was the Star Charities collection she dubbed, "Holiday Gifts for Our Soldiers," which focused on sending donated items to U.S. Military men and women deployed overseas.

Former Star Charities volunteer and Foulz friend Barb Peletier said that's a tradition that hopefully continues.

"Every year, Anna Foulz couldn't wait to start collecting gifts for our military. This year, AARP and Kiwanis have stepped up to carry on her tradition. We are asking our generous neighbors to help make this drive as successful as last year's," Peletier said.

This year, volunteers will collect donations on four Wednesdays in October.

From 9 a.m. to noon, on Oct. 7, 14, 21 and 28, volunteers will take donations in the parking lot of the Ocean Pines Community Center, on 235 Ocean Parkway.

"To donate just drive up, stay in your car, pop the trunk, and we will pick up your donations. Volunteers will be wearing masks and gloves, for your safety and theirs," Peletier said.

Items needed include: **baby wipes, bodywash and shampoo (men's and women's), dental hygiene products, razors, deodorant (non-aerosol), gum, granola bars, small bags of peanuts, packs of hot chocolate, instant oatmeal, 5-ounce Chef Boyardee pasta, powdered drinks, trail mix, beef jerky, ramen noodles bricks, sunflower seeds, lip balm, Kleenex, pens, cards, puzzle books.**

Donations will be picked up in November by Operation We Care in Salisbury. The nonprofit will then package and mail the items to soldiers serving overseas. Peletier said any financial contributions would help cover postage, and checks may be made out to Operation We Care. For more information or questions, call Peletier at 443-896-4914 or email barbpeletier@gmail.com.

Kiwanis selling lottery raffle tix

Every year, the Kiwanis Club of Greater Ocean Pines-Ocean City holds several fundraisers like three annual pancake breakfasts and a wine tasting/auction, but the COVID-19 pandemic has prevented them from happening. However, the club still needs to raise money to support their programs benefiting local youth and other community service organizations like Worcester GOLD. Therefore, the local club is running their "Kiwanis Lottery Raffle," selling the tickets NOW for the year-long 2021 drawings. All sales must be completed by Dec. 31 to be eligible. All Kiwanis members have tickets to sell and the club will also have a sales table at the Ocean Pines Farmer's Market most Saturdays from 8 a.m. until 1 p.m., starting Aug. 22.

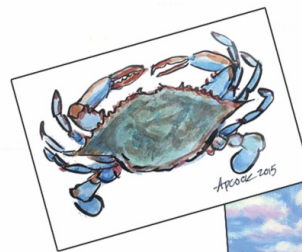


How it works: Tickets are numbered 000 through 999 which allows them to tie-into the daily MARYLAND EVENING "PICK 3" drawing. For only \$20 a ticket, the purchaser gets 365 drawings, for their ticket number. Payouts are \$20 per evening except for 17 special dates when the winnings are higher, namely, \$50 to \$250. All proceeds benefits support local scholarships and youth programs.

See www.kiwanisofopoc.org or Facebook at Kiwanis Club of Ocean Pines/Ocean City for more details.



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Mary Mac Foundation raises thousands

The inaugural "Mary Mac Foundation Pickleball Beach Fest," held Aug. 8 in Ocean Pines, raised \$6,000 for programs benefiting local children and other charitable causes.

Organizers Daryl and Cathy Noble, and Frank Kramer, came up with the idea to help the Mary Mac Foundation after the nonprofit's largest fundraiser, an annual golf tournament, was canceled because of concerns related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Foundation each year raises money for 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.

Programs supported by the foundation include Camp Barnes, a residential camp in Frankford, Delaware for low-income children, and Camp St. Vincent de Paul in Baltimore, an organization offering eight-week summer camps for homeless children. The foundation also supports summer youth recreation programs in Ocean Pines.

Tim McMullen, who cofounded the Mary Mac Foundation



to honor his late wife, said the tournament was a big success.

"It far exceeded my expectations," he said. "It's ... [a] statement about our community. This place is unique and the support we got from pickleball and platform tennis was just unbelievable, and especially from Daryl, Cathy, and Frank Creamer."

He said funds raised this year would again support Camp Barnes and summer youth recreation programs in Ocean Pines. Additional funds will go to Diakonia in West Ocean City, a nonprofit that provides emergency housing, emergency food assistance, homelessness prevention, housing assistance, veteran services, and case management for local people in need.

Donations to the Mary Mac Foundation may be made online by visiting www.marymac.org. Checks may be made payable to: Mary Mac Foundation, 174 Nottingham Lane, Berlin, Maryland 21811.



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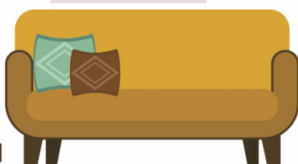
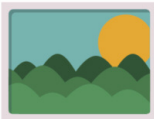
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Ocean Pines offers three unique locations for weddings, parties and other events

Most Ocean Pines homeowners and residents are familiar with what the Yacht Club and Beach Club have to offer in terms of events, as each features a unique setting and picturesque waterfront views.

With the recent opening of the new Golf Clubhouse, there's now a third choice for weddings, banquets, private parties and more.

The Matt Ortt Companies, which oversees food and beverage operations and special events at the Yacht Club and Beach Club, has brought its management expertise to the Association's newest venue, located in the heart of the community at the Ocean Pines Golf Club.

Opened this spring, the Clubhouse offers attractive views of both nearby waterways, and of the Eastern Shore's only Robert Trent Jones-designed golf course.

Lia Isel, events manager for the Matt Ortt Companies, said the facility's modest size is ideal for smaller parties and was the inspiration for a new all-inclusive "tiny weddings" package available exclusively at the Clubhouse.

"The Clubhouse is a great space to have your rehearsal dinner, or even your birthday party," Isel said. "I think a majority of people are familiar with the Yacht Club, but what we're also very excited about are all the additional types of events we can now offer at the Clubhouse."

As Ocean Pines' flagship venue, the Yacht Club continues to be a favorite location for weddings and other special events. Perhaps best known for its one-of-a-kind view of the Isle of Wight Bay, Matt Ortt Companies cofounder Ralph DeAngelus said the Yacht Club is further enhanced at night by the twinkling skyline of nearby Ocean City.

"It's a million-dollar view. When people walk into the second-story banquet hall and look out over the balcony, it just sells itself," added Lewis Sherman, who serves as the Matt Ortt Companies' director of operations.

Events at the Yacht Club can range from big, bold galas in the upstairs banquet room, to rehearsal dinners in the downstairs restaurant, and even small, cozy events in the downstairs lounge bar.

"We have done anything and everything at the Yacht Club, from a baby shower and a celebration of life, to a 250-person wedding on the big patio overlooking the water," Isel said.

"We can also host several events at once. We've had a wedding upstairs with 200 people, a dinner party or a rehearsal dinner downstairs, and another 30-40 people for a smaller event at our cozy lounge bar."

For those looking for a more casual - but equally beautiful - location, DeAngelus recommends the Beach Club, which is perfect for a barefoot wedding in the sand with the iconic backdrop of the Atlantic Ocean. The venue is open from Memorial Day through Labor Day.

Although being able to offer three distinct venues, each with a unique

setting, is appealing to clients, an even bigger advantage is the added flexibility the Ortt Companies now has in booking events.

"I think the exciting thing for the Clubhouse is that it's a second outlet for us. So many times, we've had to say 'no' to people because that date is booked already. Now, we can say, 'Let me take you two minutes from here and show you what we've got,'" DeAngelus said. "It's a great second option and another great view. It's really pretty over there."

Isel said it's always best to book in advance, with the calendar filling up quickly all the way into 2022.

However, having the new Clubhouse also means the Ortt Companies can now handle many last-minute requests.

"The sooner the better, but even if it's the last minute, call us! That's the beauty of having three really unique places to host everything from large weddings, to small and intimate parties," Isel said. "Whether you need to book a year in advance or for something that just popped up next week, we can accommodate you."

For information on bookings, visit www.opyachtclub.com/banquets or email Isel at lia@mattorttcompanies.com.



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FAQS ABOUT WATER AND WASTEWATER IN OCEAN PINES

Who handles water and wastewater in Ocean Pines?

Water and sanitary sewer services in Ocean Pines are provided by Worcester County. Those services are NOT managed by Ocean Pines Public Works.

What should I do if I experience a water outage at my house?

To report an outage during regular business hours, contact Worcester County Water and Wastewater at 410-641-5251 and select option #4. After regular business hours, call 410-641-5251 and listen to the entire message – the county has an emergency phone system in place for weekends, holidays and inclement weather.

Will Ocean Pines inform residents if a water outage occurs?

Ocean Pines is on the contact list for Worcester County in case an outage or another problem occurs. If Ocean Pines is notified of such a problem, information will be shared with residents as soon as possible via the Ocean Pines website (oceanpines.org) and Facebook page (@OceanPinesAssociation). Email alerts may also be sent. You can sign up for emails using the link on the homepage at oceanpines.org.

Water is bubbling up next to the road. What should I do?

Call Worcester County Water and Wastewater at 410-641-5251 – select option #4 if you're calling during regular business hours. After regular business hours, call 410-641-5251 and listen to the entire message.

The "mushroom" tank in my yard is making a strange noise. What should I do?

Call Worcester County Water and Wastewater at 410-641-

5251 – select option #4 if you're calling during regular business hours. After regular business hours, call 410-641-5251 and listen to the entire message.

Wastewater is coming up in my bathtub. Should I contact Worcester County?

Yes. Call Worcester County Water and Wastewater at 410-641-5251 – select option #4 if you're calling during regular business hours. After regular business hours, call 410-641-5251 and listen to the entire message.

I already paid a plumber to check out my wastewater problem, but it turns out it's a county issue. Can I get reimbursed for the money I spent?

According to the county, if you contract a plumber to resolve a sewer-related backup issue without contacting Worcester County Water and Wastewater, there are no provisions to reimburse you if the backup is a county issue.

How do I know the water in Ocean Pines is safe to drink?

Worcester County publishes an annual drinking water quality report for all service areas, including Ocean Pines. The reports may be viewed online at www.co.worcester.md.us/departments/publicworks/water/quality.

How can I learn more about water and wastewater services in Ocean Pines?

Information about water and wastewater services specific to Ocean Pines can be found at <https://www.co.worcester.md.us/sites/default/files/OCP-Brochure.pdf>. General information about water and wastewater services in Worcester County can be found online at www.co.worcester.md.us/departments/publicworks/water.

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menu

SOUP

CREAM OF CRAB // 10
CLIP // 7 BOWL // 10

SOUP DU JOUR // 10
CUP // 6 BOWL // 9

SALADS

WEDGE // 10
Iceberg lettuce, dried cranberries,
bacon, pecans, blue cheese crumbles,
cherry tomatoes, fried onions,
blue cheese dressing

BAKED BRIE // 15
Fresh berries, cashews, mixed greens,
champagne vinaigrette

GRILLED APPLE & PEAR // 12
Candied pecans, red onions, grapes, Gorgonzola cheese,
raspberry vinaigrette

ROASTED SHRIMP // 17
Artichoke hearts, grilled vegetables over mixed greens,
spicy tomato vinaigrette, topped with a mozzarella
crostini

CAESAR // 10
Romaine lettuce, croutons,
parmesan cheese

HOUSE // 7
Mixed greens, tomatoes, cucumbers,
red onions, croutons

ADD TO ANY SALAD
Crab Cake // 14 Grilled Chicken // 6
Grilled Shrimp // 10 Grilled Mahi // 11

STARTERS

WINGS // 10
BONELESS BITES // 10
Buffalo, Honey Old Bay, Maple
Jerk, OMG, Lemon Pepper

JUMBO SOFT PRETZEL // 9
Fresh baked, served with house made
German mustard
Add Crab Dip // 9

CRISPY BRUSSEL SPROUTS // 10
Flash fried, ginger soy glaze,
mandarin oranges, toasted almonds

BAKED CRAB DIP // 17
Cheesy crab dip served in a sourdough
bread bowl, crispy tortilla chips

STEAMED BUNS // 12
Pork belly, pickled cucumber and carrots,
hoisin sauce

DUCK WINGS // 12
Tossed in Adobo sauce with Sriracha ranch

BRIE BAKED OYSTERS // 13
Baked with house made buffalo sauce, crispy bacon,
balsamic glaze

PEEL AND EAT SHRIMP // 12
1/2 LB // 12 1LB // 19
Hot out of the steamer and dusted with Old Bay

OYSTERS ON THE HALF SHELL // 19
1/2 DOZEN // 10 FULL DOZEN // 19
Served with cocktail sauce and lemon

FLATBREADS

BLACK AND BLUE // 12
Blackened chicken breast,
blue cheese crumbles,
caramelized onions,
black cherry balsamic glaze

STEAK & CHEESE // 14
Shaved ribeye, caramelized onions, portobello
mushrooms, boursin and Gorgonzola cheese
with baby arugula

SEAFOOD SUPREME // 16
Grilled shrimp, fresh crabmeat,
Old Bay brine cheese, mozzarella cheese,
crispy bacon bits

MARGHERITA // 11
Oven roasted tomatoes, fresh basil,
mozzarella cheese

ENTREES

CRAB CAKE // 24
Jumbo lump crab cake, broiled on a
classic bun, lettuce, tomato, chipotle tartar
mashed potatoes, roasted vegetables,
red pepper coulis

NOT YOUR MAMA'S MEATLOAF // 16
Chef's blend of meats and seasonings, mashed potatoes,
gravy, green beans

FISH AND CHIPS // 17
Beer battered Alaskan pollock, fries, coleslaw, grilled lemon,
classic tartar sauce

PERI PERI CHICKEN // 22
Marinated and smoked 1/2 chicken, sweet potato and
honey roasted vegetable hash

CAJUN SEAFOOD PASTA // 26
Shrimp, crab, and scallops sautéed with peppers, onions
and asparagus in a Cajun cream sauce over penne

NY STRIP // 34
Cipollini onions, crimini mushrooms over broccolini and
fingerling potatoes, sun dried tomato Bordelaise sauce

BUFFALO RIBEYE // 32
Glazed with house made buffalo sauce, served with scratch
made blue cheese Mac & Cheese, green beans

MAHI MAHI // 28
Grilled or Cajun seared with a shrimp creole sauce over
creamy cheddar grits and asparagus

CRISPY TOFU // 21
Coconut curry broth, Thai mint cucumber, vegetables,
soba noodles

SANDWICHES

CRAB CAKE // 16
Jumbo lump crab cake, broiled on a
classic bun, lettuce, tomato, chipotle tartar

YACHT CLUB CLUB // 13
Smoked turkey breast, baked ham, provolone,
bacon, lettuce, tomato, basil mayo.
Classic bread or wheat bread

MAHI MAHI SANDWICH // 12
Grilled or Cajun, seared with pisco de gallo,
honey sriracha aioli

CHICKEN CHEESESTEAK // 13
Chopped chicken, mushrooms, onions,
peppers, provolone cheese

HOT ITALIAN GRINDER // 12
Capicola, hard salami, Genoa salami,
baked ham, provolone, parmesan cheese,
shredded lettuce, tomato,
oil & vinegar

BOURBON DIP // 14
Shaved prime rib, horseradish aioli,
caramelized onions, provolone cheese on
a baguette with bourbon au jus sauce

RACHEL // 12
Smoked Turkey, coleslaw, Swiss cheese,
1000 Island, wheatberry bread

SONORAN DOG // 10
Wrapped in bacon, cheddar and Jack cheese,
mayo, pico de gallo, pickled jalapenos

GROUPER TACOS // 14
Fried with Asian slaw, kimchi, pickled
carrots and cucumber,
avocado and sriracha aioli

BURGERS

Bus Beef Patty, Turkey, Chicken Breast, or Beyond Burger
All burgers served on a classic bun, with lettuce and tomato, served
with chips

THE BREAKFAST // 13
American cheese, bacon, fried egg

THE CAJUN // 13
Blackened burger, caramelized onions and
blue cheese crumbles

THE COWBOY // 12
BBQ, onions, cheddar cheese, chipotle mayo

YACHT CLUB BURGER // 12
1000 Island dressing, lettuce, tomato,
red onion, American cheese

THE PLAIN JANE // 10
Your traditional hamburger
(build your own)

SUBSTITUTE CHIPS FOR FRIES, TOTS, OR SWEET POTATO FRIES FOR // 2