



OCEAN PINES REPORT

Your Connection

IN THIS ISSUE:



**Meet Ocean Pines Police
Ofc. Jon Marton-Rollins**
pages 32-33



**Meet the Marine Activities
Advisory Committee**
pages 38-39



**Bauer Receives Carnegie
Hero Fund Award**
page 44

TO THE OCEAN PINES, MARYLAND COMMUNITY

Board approves record assessment decrease with FY22/23 budget

The Ocean Pines Board on Feb. 23 unanimously approved the fiscal year 2022/2023 budget, setting the basic annual assessment at \$896, a \$100 decrease from the prior year.

Association President Colette Horn said the decrease was just the second in Association history. It is also the largest.

"Today is going to go down in history as a day that our Board is, for the second time ... voting on a budget that will result in a reduction in our assessment," she said.

Horn said the last time the assessment was reduced from the prior year was in 2014, when it dropped \$5.

"I just want to thank [General Manager] John [Viola] and ... his team for the work that has allowed us to make this adjustment. And I want to thank this Board and the preceding Board for providing the leadership and support that made those changes, those improvements possible," she said.

"And I want to thank the membership, because the organic growth in revenue has to do with membership utilization of our amenities," Horn continued. "So, the improvements that took place as a result of the administrative team and the Board approvals accounts for perhaps some of the

increased usage, but the members' dollars, certainly, have helped this as well."

Viola said factors contributing to the lower assessment included a one-time assessment reduction from the current fiscal year surplus (\$77) and total increased revenues from Ocean Pines amenities (\$66). Other positive factors were a general replacement contribution decrease based

on the DMA reserve study (\$14), a bad debt expense decrease (\$12), a total food and beverage change in operating income (\$9) and a decrease in legal fees (\$1).

Factors offsetting those reductions included a \$38 increase in Fire Department funding, \$32 for wages and salaries, \$7 for property/liability insurance increases, and \$2 to cover a potential referendum.

"That line item ... that one-time assessment reduction from current surplus, I've recommended that we continue this line each year," Viola said. "And that's something that we'd look at [during] each budget process, based upon the prior year or where we are with our retained earnings. And that could be a plus or minus."

Viola went on to say positive revenue figures were helped by "the management of expenses, organic growth, and the maintenance and capital (cont. on pg. 2)



Photo courtesy of Joe Reynolds / OceanPinesForum.com

(cont. from pg. 1) investments that this Association has made to them, specifically Golf and Racquet Sports. It's certainly showing the benefit there."

Association Treasurer Larry Perrone introduced the formal motion to approve the budget, setting total revenues of \$13,951,508, operating expenses of \$13,951,508, bulkhead, drainage and replacement expenses of \$1,169,921, and Capital Expenditures of \$1,302,255.

The motion also set assessment rates as follows:

- **Non-water: \$896**
- **Non-water estate: \$1,344**
- **Water: \$1,511**
- **Water estate: \$2,267**
- **Water non-bulkhead: \$986**
- **Water non-bulkhead estate: \$1,479**

The bulkhead differential was set at \$650, which is unchanged from the prior year.

"The budget has gone through a thorough review by the GM and his team, by the Budget and Finance committee and by the Board of Directors," Perrone said. "The budget was posted on the OPA website for review by the membership. A public meeting was held on Feb. 1, 2022 to present the budget to the membership and have an open discussion with the membership to address any questions or concerns."

To view the approved budget, visit www.oceanpines.org/web/pages/finance.

'Bay Day' event returns, May 15

The Maryland Coastal Bays Program and Ocean Pines Association will host the third annual Bay Day on Sunday, May 15 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at White Horse Park.

After a two-year hiatus because of the pandemic, the event promises to bring more fun, excitement and hands-on environmental experiences to Ocean Pines.

Bay Day is a free, family-friendly event aimed to capture the interest of all age groups through interactive exhibits, environmentally focused crafts, live music, food trucks, free boat rides on the St. Martin, and more. This fun-filled educational day is made possible thanks to the dozens of dedicated environmental organizations in the region that contribute their time to this event.

Bay Day is a collaborative effort between Maryland Coastal Bays Program and Ocean Pines Association to offer the community a free opportunity to learn about the environmental efforts happening in the area and inspire individuals to care for the watershed right from their backyards. Bay Day is designed to be as immersive as possible, so the community can learn about the diverse programs, practices and campaigns that exist to improve the health of the Coastal Bays watershed, and specifically the St. Martin River.

For more info, contact Liz Wist at lwist@mdcoastalbays.org or 410-213-2297 ext. 110, or visit mdcoastalbays.org.

Also see pages 37-39



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Ocean Pines family shares 'Only Positive Stories'



Sharing good news has become a family affair for Ocean Pines residents Sharon and Rick Simons and their two teenage sons, Dylan and Hunter.

Last year, the Simons family started a website, www.onlypositivestories.com, along with a campaign to spread good news and raise money for local causes during the trying times of the COVID age.

The website highlights acts of kindness both locally and globally, and supplies links to several fundraisers for area youth and homeless.

Originally from New Jersey, Sharon and her husband, Rick, moved to Points Reach in Ocean Pines 16 years ago. The couple adopted Dylan, 16, and Hunter, 15, shortly after.

"We're very open with our story," Sharon said. "We adopted them from Siberia, Russia, when they were just 23 months and 16 months old. They've attended Worcester Prep since preschool and have thrived there."

Both are now in tenth grade. Hunter plays soccer, basketball and lacrosse, and Dylan is a gymnast, tennis player and cross-country runner.

"We're very thankful and we're very appreciative to be a family. And we always try to give back in different ways, so that's when we came up with the idea to create Only Positive Stories," Sharon said.

"We wanted to help other people look at the bright side of things," Dylan added. "We were watching the news, and there were just a lot of negative stories happening during quarantine. Our mom always asked us to look for one positive thing every day, so we decided to attempt to spread positivity to other people."

Dylan and Hunter built the website themselves, along with Facebook, Twitter and Instagram pages.

"We find the positive stories from online and social media sources. We also post positive quotes on our social media," Dylan said.

The website includes links to several fundraisers started by the family.

"One of the things we just completed was donating a game room, with the Scopp and Lennox families, to Worcester Youth and Family Counseling Services," Hunter said. "Our current fundraiser is aimed at helping the homeless population in Worcester County."

The families raised more than \$3,000 – on a \$1,000 goal – to furnish the game room for local at-risk children. The room now includes an Xbox, smart TV and a popcorn machine, along with other kid-friendly games and activities.

The homeless initiative, done in conjunction with the Worcester Goes Purple nonprofit, will support 15 children from 11 local families. Dylan and Hunter teamed with fellow Worcester Prep students Ava and Gavin Conaway, Jaden and Dillon Scopp, Ryan Lennox, Aleskey Klimins, Claire Windrow, Moorea Phillips, Izzy Huber, Vanesska Hall, Connor Ferguson, Sara Freih, and Cole Meyers to supply a washer and dryer in two locations "to help the homeless have an opportunity to have clean clothes."

They're also soliciting donations for food, clothing and gift cards.

"This campaign will be ongoing," said Debbie Smullen, president of Worcester Goes Purple. "The homeless population sees a big increase in Ocean City in the summer, so donations are always needed. Worcester Youth and Family will act as a permanent drop-off site."

Also on the website is a merchandising line based on the "Find Your Strong in You" motto, with proceeds benefiting several charitable endeavors. As part of that, the organization held an essay contest to give away \$250, as well as "Find Your Strong in You" t-shirts, where the "O" in "Your" becomes an object of inspiration.

Hunter said all the efforts of Only Positive Stories have focused on helping the less fortunate in the Worcester County community.

"We feel like we're making an impact on the community around us," he said. "It's really nice to see the impact we're creating, even early on. Instead of being passive, we can be active and make a difference."

The Simons family will take part in Worcester Youth's annual Pirate Party in May, which raises tens of thousands of dollars for programs and services benefiting local children.

They also have plans to grant the wishes of local children, including arranging for free guitar lessons and donating art supplies.

"We hope this all just becomes contagious," Sharon said. "We've already had other families asking, 'How did you get your kids involved in that? Can I do something next?' We want more kids to join us. The more, the better!"

Sharon said Only Positive Stories recently became a nonprofit, which she hopes will open doors to more funding opportunities and "help us do even better things."

"What we want to do is give back to local youth," Sharon said. "Anything to make them happy or succeed is what we're trying to do."

In the future, Sharon said they will continue to host contests and promote the "Find Your Strong" campaign, as well as continue to work with Worcester Youth and other local nonprofits.

"We're just getting started. The hardest part was coming up with the name and building the website," she said. "There's a lot of people here who want to give back and help others – they just don't know where to start. There are so many other kids at Worcester Prep that have the ability and the funds to help other kids, but they just don't know how. So, if it's our two that start something that grows, that's what matters."

"I also think having the kids do it is better than having the parents do it. And hopefully, this will continue to grow with the children when they go to college, and it will be something that could one day spread to other states," she added.

Dylan said the brothers will continue the campaign, with the hope that it spreads positivity during tough times.

"We have a lot more people helping out now. It feels good to know we're helping out those who are less fortunate," he said.

Visit www.onlypositivestories.com for more details, or to get involved or donate.





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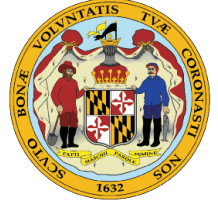


Guest column:

Annapolis session: Coming out of the pandemic

By Mary Beth Carozza

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



As we approach the end of the 2022 Maryland General Assembly Session, I have been focused on supporting anti-crime legislation, meaningful tax relief, long-term pandemic recovery and local bills and budget priorities that have been requested by local jurisdictions, including Ocean Pines. At the same time, we in the Senate are encouraged that the mask mandate on the Senate Floor was lifted on March 7!

With Ocean Pines consistently being named one of the safest areas in all of Maryland, I continue to work with

local and state law enforcement on their budget and legislative priorities. I strongly support Gov. Hogan's "Re-Fund the Police Initiative" for \$500 million of increased assistance for law enforcement, crime control and victim protection programs in Maryland.

I also have cosponsored the governor's Violent Firearms Defender Act to prosecute those who illegally possess guns as well as those who supply guns to violent criminals, and his Judicial Transparency Act to track and publish the sentences handed down by judges on violent crimes. With the push to take action against violent crime in Maryland, I expect to see some version of these bills make it through to final passage.

With Maryland's budget surplus growing to \$7.5 billion, I have renewed my calls and support for meaningful tax relief to assist Marylanders now facing record inflation and escalating cost-of-living increases, from food to gas to basic necessities. While I immediately joined with the governor and legislative leaders to support a 30-day pause in Maryland's gas tax, I also cosponsored legislation to **end the automatic and never-ending gas tax increase** that was passed in 2013. The repeal of the automatic gas tax increase tied to the Consumer Price Index would save Marylanders \$37.5 million in FY 23 and \$117 million in FY 27.

Another tax that should be repealed is the Netflix Tax, which was passed at the onset of the pandemic in 2020 and applies the 6% state sales tax on digitally downloaded content. This \$100 million tax increase is not only a Netflix tax, but it's a Zoom tax, Disney+ tax, QuickBooks tax, Hulu tax, Microsoft tax, Spotify tax, Audible tax, Google Workspace tax, and the list goes on.

Gov. Hogan rightfully vetoed the Netflix tax, but was overridden by the Democrat supermajority in the General Assembly, and the new tax went into effect in March 14,

2021. Maryland's families and small businesses are now paying taxes on the products and services that helped them stay connected during the pandemic. It's time to repeal the Netflix tax!

Since my earliest days in elected public service, I consistently hear the calls for retirement tax relief across Worcester, Wicomico and Somerset. Gov. Hogan has continued to make his **retirement relief** proposal a top priority, and I again have cosponsored his Retirement Tax Reduction Act. This would eliminate 100% of state retirement taxes in Maryland, providing

\$4 billion in cumulative relief to deserving retirees.

Tax relief is phased in over time using an income exclusion, and begins in tax year 2022. While the governor has been successful in enacting tax relief for military, law enforcement and first responders in the past, it is time for meaningful tax relief for all retirees.

During the 2002 session, I also have introduced legislation specifically impacting local agritourism, the Ocean City Life-Saving Museum, a new shrimp fishery and funding for the Ocean Pines Volunteer Fire Department South Station.

Senate Bill 32 adds Worcester County to the list of jurisdictions in which farm structures used for **agritourism** activities are exempt from certain building requirements, and Senate Bill 538 adds special events and occasions to the statewide definition of agritourism. Both of these bills give our farm families more options to diversify and expand rather than selling their valuable farm land for development.

I introduced SB 64 to give the Town of Ocean City a mechanism to repair, replace and expand, with limitations, existing facilities as long as the project does not result in significant permanent environmental damage in the beach erosion control district. The immediate need for passage of this bill is to bring the **Ocean City Life-Saving Museum**, built in 1891, into compliance with the federal Americans for Disabilities Act.

Along these same lines, SB 537 simply clarifies that the Maryland Department of Natural Resources has the authority to adopt regulations for this **new shrimp fishery**. Previously, commercial shrimp fishery harvesting had always been thought to be feasible only in southern waters. However, recent findings have concluded that shrimp are



in our Atlantic Coastal waters, and the harvesting of them will create a new economic boost to local and state revenues. Watermen are taking a risk when they invest in a new fishery, and they deserve our support making this pilot program a workable, flexible alternative.

I have been working with the leadership of the **Ocean Pines Volunteer Fire Department**, the Ocean Pines Board, and Del. Wayne Hartman to secure funding for the new South Station. We both have written to Gov. Hogan and introduced bond initiatives in the General Assembly requesting funding for the \$7.2 million project. Ocean Pines has the largest concentration of population in our districts, and it is a priority local safety project.

In closing, I want to share how much I enjoyed introducing Pastor Dale Brown of **The Community Church at Ocean Pines** to my colleagues in the Senate Chamber on March 7. Pastor Brown made history leading us in prayer without masks since March 18, 2020. His uplifting and sincere prayer came on the heels of the governor's State House Prayer Service to **stand with the people of Ukraine**, and we in the Senate are grateful for the time to take to reflect and pray as we work on behalf of the people of Maryland.

Constituent service remains my top priority. If you would like to receive my updates or share your views with me, please contact me at Marybeth.carozza@senate.state.md.us.

Looking forward to seeing you back home soon!



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TABLE OF CONTENTS

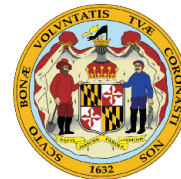
Ocean Pines News.....	1-2, 4, 6-11
<i>Guest column:</i>	
Mary Beth Carozza.....	6-7
<i>Guest column: Wayne Hartman.....</i>	
8	
<i>Guest column:</i>	
Worcester County Health Dept.....	9
<i>Guest column: Chip Bertino.....</i>	
10-11	
Advertiser Index.....	10
<i>From Association President.....</i>	<i>12-13</i>
Green Street.....	13
Board of Directors.....	12-14
<i>From General Manager.....</i>	<i>16</i>
Administration.....	17
<i>From Director of Rec. & Parks.....</i>	<i>18</i>
Recreation & Parks.....	18-19
<i>From Director of Aquatics.....</i>	<i>20</i>
Aquatics.....	20
Racquet Center.....	21
<i>From General Manager of Golf.....</i>	<i>22</i>
Golf Club.....	22-23
<i>From Public Works / CPI Dept....</i>	<i>24, 26</i>
Public Roadside Drainage Systems In Worcester County.....	26
<i>From Director of Finance/Controller.</i>	<i>28</i>
Summary Financial Report.....	28
<i>From the Chief of Police.....</i>	<i>30</i>
Meet The Team: Police Dept.....	32-33
<i>From the Fire Dept.....</i>	<i>34-35</i>
Committees.....	36, 38-39
<i>From Ocean Pines Marinas.....</i>	<i>37</i>
Meet The Committee:	
Marine Advisory Committee..	38-39
Farmers & Artisans Market.....	40
Community Stories.....	42, 44
OPA Frequently Asked Questions..	46
Yacht Club.....	48



Guest column: Greetings neighbors!

By Wayne Hartman

*Maryland State Delegate for District 38C,
Wicomico & Worcester Counties*



Greetings from Annapolis! As of the deadline for this article we are in crossover week. This is an extremely busy week when all bills that are going to be passed must be voted on, and passed to the opposite chambers by the close of session on March 21. Any remaining bills that do not make this deadline will need several extra steps to get passed into law. The final step in the process is at midnight on “Sine Die,” April 11, when all of the bills that are passed in both bodies and are sent to the governor for his signature.

Unfortunately, due to the timing of this, I really can’t say what has passed, but hundreds of bills are being considered. Some of the topics having serious debates include a bill that would enshrine abortion into the Maryland Constitution, requiring insurance companies to pay 100% of the cost, and allow very late term, partial birth abortions. A companion bill requires a \$3.5 million mandate annually in the budget to train additional healthcare workers to perform abortions.

Many amendments were offered, including one of my own that would require parental notification before a minor could have an abortion. I did not support either of the abortion bills. In addition, a bill has passed the House to legalize recreational marijuana. Again, this will be a change to the State Constitution; therefore, both abortion and marijuana could be on the ballot this fall as a referendum for all Marylanders to have a chance to decide the final outcome.

Please remember these topics when you vote this fall; unfortunately, the questions on the ballot are not always written for you to know exactly the full intent.

Locally, I submitted a bond bill that would help provide funding for our Ocean Pines Volunteer Fire Department South Station renovation plans. I have also submitted a request to Gov. Hogan to include the additional funding needed be included in the 2023 Supplemental Budget.

Other topics that I have spent a considerable effort on include protecting our second amendment, transparency in our schools, fighting for meaningful tax relief for Marylanders, especially to help our retirees and also to provide immediate relief to all Marylanders feeling the pinch of inflation and rising gas prices through a gas tax holiday.

With a \$7.5 billion budget surplus, Marylanders deserve significant tax cuts. Additionally, I have sponsored several pieces of legislation that would grow our agritourism in Maryland and legislation that would allow the Town of Ocean City to make alterations to buildings on the beach in the erosion control district. This legislation is currently necessary to add an elevator and ADA upgrades to the Ocean City Life-Saving Station Museum. There are many other bills that I have sponsored or co-sponsored with a variety of topics.

On a personal note, I am happy to say that my wife and I purchased a home in Ocean Pines and will be moving in late April, after session. We look forward to being a part of the community once again.

After session, I will once again be creating an end-of-session newsletter. If you are interested in receiving this, please email us at Wayne.Hartman@house.state.md.us to be included in the email of the letter. As always, I appreciate hearing from my constituents on pending legislation, and we are always here to help you with any state agencies or issues with which you may need help. **Thank you!**



Guest column:

Worcester Health wants to help put a 'spring' in your step

Physical activity and nutrition programs can help promote healthier 2022

Tortoise and Hare Dare 5K walk/run

The 25th Annual "Tortoise & Hare Dare" 5K walk/run will be held at 9 a.m., on Saturday, April 9 at Pocumoke River State Park-Shad Landing in Snow Hill. Registration check-in begins at 8:30 a.m., with warm-ups at 8:45 a.m.

This is a free event and is pet friendly. The first 100 runners/walkers to register for the event will receive a free commemorative t-shirt.

You can register at eventbrite.com/e/288068038257 or **scan the QR Code above with your smart phone's camera to take you to EventBrite's website.**



There is no cost to take part in the Tortoise and the Hare Dare. The Worcester County Health Department (WCHD), Worcester County Department of Recreation and Parks (WCDRP), and Pocumoke River State Park (PRSP) all co-sponsor the 5k.

The event began in 1997 and was created out of the joint vision of WCHD staff Kathy Wool, Becky Flater and Marty Pusey, and was held in partnership with the same amazing organizations, WCDRP and PRSP, that continue to support the Tortoise and Hare Dare in 2022. This year, we will be honoring all of those who helped make the event that it is today.

Just Walk

Looking for more ways to get moving and active? You can sign up for *Just Walk* today through www.JustWalkWorcester.org. It's a free, self-directed, incentive-based physical activity program that encourages Worcester County residents to move in their own way.

Worcester County is meant for being active. Whether you walk as part of a fitness regimen, to socialize or just for the joy of it, there's really nothing better than a great walk. At each milestone you reach, you'll receive a prize! Report your

mileage - we use the "honor" system - and a package will come your way. First prize offered is at 25 miles.

From beach to bay, woodlands to parkland, there is a location and surface for everyone. More than 15 walks of all lengths, surfaces and environments are included here, each showcased with drone video and a printable PDF that includes a map and highlights. Directions for all of our parks and trails can be found in the Maps section of the website.

Prevention classes and resources

In addition to our physical activity programs, Worcester Health offers a variety of prevention classes and resources including Worcester Wellness Weigh (nutrition education and weight loss), diabetes prevention programs, diabetes support groups, smoking cessation, What's Cooking in Worcester (nutritious recipe videos), medical nutrition therapy, and so much more.

Visit WorcesterHealth.org/prevention-sidebar for more information on all of these programs and follow our social media @WorcesterHealth for regular updates. Questions? Call the Worcester County Health Department's Prevention Office at 410-632-1100 extension 1108.

Marlene Ott

Associate Broker, CRS

Cell: 410-430-5743
Office: 410-208-3500
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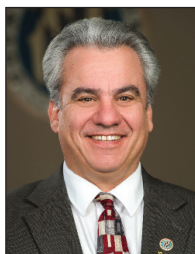
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5 Star Plumbing, Heating & Cooling...	22
Adcock Art Studio - Jim Adcock...	32, 27
Advanced Climate Care.....	39
Aero Energy.....	9
AES Drafting Services.....	45
AES Laser Etching and Engraving.....	45
All American Roofing.....	47
Atlantic General Hospital.....	43
Atlas Eco Clean.....	46
Avery Hall Insurance.....	25
Ayers Creek Adventures.....	2
Baby Boomer Insurance.....	34
Bank of Delmarva.....	21
Bay Area Wildlife Solutions.....	33
Brenda Archer-Nichols, Realtor.....	35
Catered Living at Ocean Pines.....	43
Chesapeake Health Care.....	41
Choptank Electric.....	21
Cindy Poremski, Realtor.....	37
Coastal Services.....	29
Comcast.....	5
Copy Central.....	14
Covenant Contractors.....	7
Deeley Insurance Group.....	23
Donna Frankowski, Realtor.....	14
Eagle Roofing & Roof Cleaning.....	35
Eastern Shore Cremation.....	18
ERA Martin Assoc/Shamrock Division.....	31
Faye & David Carey, Realtors.....	24
Fyzical Therapy & Balance Centers.....	45
Habitat Restore.....	35
Headlines Salon.....	29
Hileman Real Estate.....	29
Home Instead Senior Care.....	34
Jimmy's Lawn Care.....	23
John Bennish / Edward Jones.....	31
John Talbott, Realtor.....	46
Jolly Roger Amusement Parks.....	19
Marlene Ott, Realtor.....	9
Maryland Coastal Bays Program.....	37
Mazza Financial Group.....	28
Mickey Lobb.....	11
Mid-Atlantic Insurance Group.....	2
Mike's Flooring & Design Center.....	27
Montgomery Financial Services.....	25
My Backyard.....	45
Oceans East Luxury Apt. Homes.....	35
Poole Contracting & Consulting.....	31
Sea Floor Carpet, Hardwood & More.....	45
Seaside Plumbing.....	31
Shore Therapy Solutions.....	19
Shore Windows and Doors.....	13
Steve Howse, Realtor.....	7
The Pros to Know, Realtors.....	27
The Wisch Team, Realtors.....	44
TidalHealth.....	3
Tidewater Physical Therapy.....	30
Tyler Building Co.....	15
Weed Pro.....	7, 40



Guest column:

Sports complex concerns

By Chip Bertino

Worcester County Commissioner,
Ocean Pines District



There has been much talk about building a multimillion-dollar sports complex in northern Worcester County to attract national and regional lacrosse and soccer tournaments to the area. The Town of Ocean City has expressed interest in some way being a part of the project, which is forecast to attract thousands of visitors who will fill hotel rooms and restaurants in Ocean City and West Ocean City, especially in the shoulder seasons. It's been said the county will reap increased tax revenues.

The idea of a sports complex being built in our county is appealing to me, more so if it were built in the southern part of the county. I recognize the economic possibilities of such an endeavor. Yet, I have concerns, especially because taxpayer money will be involved.

Two of my greatest concerns are these: First, I don't believe taxpayer money should fund the project because doing so mitigates any revenue growth the county treasury will realize. This should be a private sector endeavor.

Second, our road system would struggle, even more than it already does, with increased traffic volume.

I respect those advocating for this project, believing it will be a boon, a relatively easy way to increase tax revenue. That sounds pretty good to me. But when I look beneath the surface, the financial and quality-of-life realities associated with a taxpayer-subsidized sports complex concern me.

Last month, a majority of Commissioners moved another step closer to a taxpayer-subsidized county sports complex by voting to bond about \$11 million for the purchase of land and the construction of a facility, effectively making this a county taxpayer responsibility. This amount does not include the expenses of additional personnel necessary to manage, market and maintain the facility, nor regular maintenance costs still to be determined.

The term of the bond will be 15 years, with an annual debt service of about \$750,000.

I voted against this, as did Commissioners Bunting and Elder.

As I write this, no business or marketing plan has been made available. No partnership details or discussions between the Commissioners and Ocean City have occurred or been outlined, discussed or agreed upon. And there is no land acquisition contract.

Under these conditions, I have concerns about moving forward at this time. Let me explain why.

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

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

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

If a guest decides to stay in Ocean City and the overall increase in lodging for the season is \$1 million, the additional revenue to the county would be \$500.

So, using this example, a sports complex would generate \$50,500 in additional room tax revenue for the county.

The county also collects a one half of 1% tax for food sales only in Ocean

City and retains a 5% administrative charge for the collection fee.

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

Combined, the county would net about \$50,525 in additional tax revenue, which is much less than the annual \$750,000 bond debt service.

It has been said that Program Open Space (POS) grant money could pay for most, if not all, of the land acquisition and construction costs, thus requiring little or no county taxpayer funding. That would be a good thing. But let's look at that for a moment.

For those unfamiliar with Program Open Space, it is a state program that provides grant funding to local subdivisions for the planning, acquisition and/or development of recreation land or open space areas.

Assuming that all POS grant funding available to the county was applied to the sports complex and the project met all grant requirements, which has yet to be determined as of this date, there is just over \$2.6 million in grant funds available, including \$733,000 in funds the Commissioners have already earmarked for other projects.

That isn't nearly enough to cover the \$11 million the county has already committed to purchase land and build the complex.

Let me be clear, the idea of a sports complex is appealing, but not at taxpayer expense under these conditions.

Thousands of additional visitors coming to northern Worcester County should concern us all. Think for a moment about traffic congestion on routes 589, 90 and 50 on any summer day. Consider event weekend backups during the offseason. Think where GPS may route thousands of vehicles to avoid congestion: Cathell Road? Ocean Parkway?

How can our roads accommodate thousands of additional sports complex visitors when they can't handle current traffic volumes? State Highway Administration officials recently told the Commissioners that improvement funding is nowhere in sight. Road improvements are necessary to limit the negative impact of increased traffic on our already burdened roadways.

You may think this sports complex would be open to the public, similar to our many parks like Showell Park. That's likely not to be the case. It's hard to imagine that a multimillion-dollar facility with tournament fields costing many hundreds of thousands of dollars each to construct and maintain will be open to the public for pick-up games or dog walking, jogging or bicycling. When taxpayer money is involved, the public should have access to it, which is one of the requirements of POS mentioned earlier.

Several years ago, a study concluded that a sports complex would compete with established complexes in nearby Wicomico County and Delaware. How will competition impact bookings for a Worcester complex?

One final point. Who in county government would be

responsible for the success of this undertaking? Who would be the person held responsible for the management, maintenance and marketing of the complex? Who would be the person held accountable to ensure that the conceptual financial assertions currently bandied about are achieved?

Based on available information, here's my take of what will happen if a taxpayer-funded complex continues to move forward: responsibility and accountability will be murky, promised results will be elusive and future subsidy allocations will be necessary. Eventually, the financial performance of the operation will be folded into the county's general fund budget, becoming another line item for which taxpayers will be responsible.

This is certainly a project that begs for questions to be asked and answers to be supplied before taxpayer money is spent.

If this were a private venture, with no taxpayer involvement, I could support the project. And, if traffic improvements were made to routes 50, 589 and 90 to accommodate more vehicle volume, I could support the project.

Government has neither the expertise nor the entrepreneurial passion to sustain a business effectively and profitably. Inevitably, taxpayer subsidies become part of the operation. Several years ago, I wholeheartedly supported Worcester County getting out of the liquor business for this very reason.

I support economic development. I like the idea of a privately owned and managed sports complex. But I cannot support a multimillion-dollar, taxpayer funded facility that to date has no property, plan or partnership, that will be a drain on the county treasury, that will congest our roadways and whose success is dependent on government bureaucracy. It's not in the long-term best interests of taxpayers.

With so many blanks yet to be filled in, it would be interesting to learn whether a private lending institution would spend its money for this project as taxpayers may soon do.

If you share my concerns or if you think otherwise or still aren't sure, I urge you to ask questions and request answers, and participate when a public hearing is scheduled.

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Dr. Colette Horn
OPA President

Spring has sprung

Spring is upon us. We're seeing more walkers and bicyclists on our streets and trails. The Clubhouse Bar and Grille is back to full hours with some new menu items, and the Yacht Club is getting ready for a busy summer season. We're seeing an increase in activity at our racquet center, playgrounds and golf course. Before we know it, our pools will be filling up with swimmers. We are gearing up for what hopes to be a fun and healthy summer.

The Board approved an historic budget that brings a \$100 reduction in base assessment with no increase to the bulkhead lot assessment. This is in addition to increased contributions to our Replacement Reserves and Road Reserves, and a transfer into our new capital reserve fund to cover additional t-docks at the Yacht Club, and – for the second year in a row – a projected year-end surplus. Thanks goes to our Budget and Finance Advisory Committee for their work in supporting the budget process, the review of our financial performance and updating forecasts throughout the year.

As a result of research done by the Recreation and Parks Advisory Committee, kayak storage racks will soon be installed at the Swim and Racquet Club to offer 12 seasonal rentals. The committee is gearing up for a second annual Community Bike Ride and is planning for a community walk.

In connection with the May 15 Bay Day activities, the Marine Activities Advisory Committee will be conducting the **Marine Debris Plunder**, with assistance and grant funding from Maryland Coastal Bays to raise awareness and involve residents and watermen in keeping our waterways clear of debris at the shoreline and under the water. **Also see pg. 37-39**

The Environment and Natural Assets Advisory Committee continues to focus on efforts to mitigate the migratory geese population. Signs have been installed to alert the public about the dangers to geese when people feed them.

The Architectural Review Committee is focusing on compliance with requirements for tree removal on private properties.

The Golf Advisory Committee's Sand Dawg team will soon restart their divot-filling initiative. We are pleased to see the tree trimming project and removal of "widow makers" on the golf course coming to completion, and look forward to golfers enjoying another season of great course conditions.

The Aquatics Advisory Committee is focusing on expanding activity offerings and the overall aquatics marketing plan.

The Communications Advisory Committee is cataloguing historical artifacts in preparation for digitizing and displaying them for public viewing and is discussing plans for a Community Day in August.

The Strategic Planning Advisory Committee completed and shared with the Board and the membership their analysis of the property owner survey and is working with the Board to take the next steps in preparing a strategic plan for Ocean Pines Association. Top priorities for members are safety, community appearance and infrastructure maintenance. **Also see pg. 36**

The Bylaws and Resolutions Advisory Committee, a Bylaws Revision Workgroup and members of the Board culminated nearly two years of review of the bylaws with a set of proposals to update and clarify language and address deficiencies in our bylaws highlighted in two election-related lawsuits. The Board unanimously agreed on the proposed revisions, conducted a public hearing on them, and in the coming weeks will present them to the membership for a

Ocean Pines Association BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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

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

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

Email: directors@oceanpines.org



PRESIDENT
(TERM 2020-2023)

Dr. Colette Horn
443.791.7724
chorn@oceanpines.org



VICE PRESIDENT
(TERM 2021-2024)

Frank Daly
410.790.2677
fdaly@oceanpines.org



TREASURER
(TERM 2019-2022)

Larry Perrone
443.513.1407
lperrone@oceanpines.org



SECRETARY
(TERM 2021-2022)

Josette Wheatley
410-206-9539
jwheatley@oceanpines.org



DIRECTOR
(TERM 2021-2024)

Richard Farr
410.390.1425
rfarr@oceanpines.org



DIRECTOR
(TERM 2020-2023)

Doug Parks
443.397.3077
dparks@oceanpines.org



DIRECTOR
(TERM 2021-2022)

Amy Peck
443-857 8242
apeck@oceanpines.org

EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT



GENERAL MANAGER

John Viola
410.641.7717 Ext. 3001
jviola@oceanpines.org

referendum vote. The Board also is preparing for a revision to our Declarations of Restrictions to add language that will align with Worcester County laws pertaining to short-term rentals. Be on the lookout for more information on these important initiatives. Your vote will determine the future content of our governing documents.

The OP Volunteer Fire Department worked with the Association president, general manager, and county, state and federal officials to acquire funding for much-needed renovations to the South Fire Station. Kudos to Chief Grunewald and President Van Gasbeck for the work they did with Sen. Carrozza and Del. Hartman that yielded a grant in the amount of \$1.35 million. They will be initiating another truck raffle fundraiser soon and working to raise the profile of their overall fundraising to enhance its effectiveness. Their sale of reflective house numbers, the centerpiece in the "Help Us Help You" initiative, is ongoing.

The Board has committed to increased accessibility to Board and advisory committee meetings by prioritizing the installation of technology that supports hybrid meetings, offering both in-person and virtual participation utilizing the Microsoft Teams platform. Already, this has yielded increased member attendance and participation. Board meeting videos and links can be accessed by visiting the OPA website. Subscribe to Ocean Pines weekly emails for notices about upcoming meetings at <https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/su/WyIaXID/thisweekinthepines>.

We look forward to seeing you out and about, enjoying our beautiful community and amenities this spring and summer. Stay safe and healthy!



Keeping our South Pond trash free

Springtime has arrived with the promise of warmer weather, and this includes more fun outdoor activities. Some of us will be walking, with or without our canine friends, riding our bikes around the Ocean Pines community, and enjoying our trail around the beautiful South Pond.

As we enjoy the pretty weather and spending more time outside on sunny days with our loved ones, it would be especially appreciated if all of us could help keep our environment as clean as possible from human litter, fishing gear and dog waste.

The picture associated with this article is from one walk around the South Pond. All of the items collected could easily have been tossed into a trash bin by the individuals using them at the pond.

Thanks to our Public Works Department, you will notice we have several large trash bins placed around the South Pond for your convenience. Public Works empties them on a routine basis.

For the safety of our residents, guests and wildlife, your Environment and Natural Assets Committee members are asking that people please don't leave bait containers, fishing gear, hooks, or lines behind when you are done fishing at any of our ponds. The hooks can become imbedded in a dog's paw or the webbed feet of our waterfowl, and the fishing lines can be lethal if they wrap around any animal's body part. Hooks can also be swallowed inadvertently by an animal seeking a fish meal at the pond.

Among other items picked up on walking around South Pond, you can see plastic bags (some of which have dog feces in them that were not tossed in the trash), as well as bags of chips and pretzels, water, and beer bottles. Food, especially, should be thrown into the trash bins and not tossed into the water's edge, since bags of food only pollute the water and have the potential to cause botulism outbreaks.

If you have time on your walks and would like to help us keep our South Pond clean of trash, please consider bringing a trash bag to pick up debris, and be sure to wear gloves for your protection. Taking this extra step will aid in keeping our South Pond beautiful and trash free.

Your Environment and Natural Assets Committee would like to say "thank you" for any additional clean-up efforts.

Questions? Concerns?



EMAIL

info@oceanpines.org



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After hours, call Ocean Pines Police at 410.641.7747.




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2022 OPA Board election process gets underway

Important dates announced; Association seeks at least five candidates for three Board seats

The Ocean Pines Elections Committee has announced important dates for the 2022 election process, including filing and voting deadlines, and dates for two candidate forums.

This year, three seats on the Board of Directors will be up for election: those currently held by directors Larry Perrone, Amy Peck and Josette Wheatley. The seven-member volunteer board is the governing body of Ocean Pines.

Ocean Pines' Resolution M-06 calls for at least two more candidates than open seats, meaning the Association is seeking five or more candidates in 2022. **The deadline to file is by 4 p.m. on Tuesday, May 10.**

"If you're thinking about applying as a candidate for the Ocean Pines Board of Directors, there's a wealth of information at oceanpines.org," Elections Committee Chairperson Carol Ludwig said. "We also recommend that you establish contact with the Ocean Pines Search Committee, and educate yourself about the Ocean Pines community and governance through the bylaws and Book of Resolutions."

"Pay particular attention to Resolutions C-08 and M-06, as they pertain to candidate activities and elections procedures. Previous Board of Director meeting agendas, meeting materials and minutes are available at oceanpines.org, and

IMPORTANT UPCOMING ELECTION DATES

Tue MAY 10	Application Deadline for Candidates by 4 p.m.
Tue JUNE 7	Eligible Candidate Draw and Workshop (to determine ballot order and seating during candidate forums) 2 p.m. • Ocean Pines Community Center
Wed JUNE 22	First Candidate Forum 6 p.m. • Clubhouse Meeting Room
Sat JUNE 25	Second Candidate Forum 10 a.m. • Clubhouse Meeting Room
Wed JULY 6	Voter Eligibility Deadline Payment of annual dues, per bylaws Section 3.01(c)
Wed AUG 10	BALLOT DEADLINE by 4 p.m.
Thu AUG 11	Ballots Counted and Vote Totals Announced starting at 10 a.m. • Clubhouse Meeting Room
Sat AUG 13	Annual Meeting • Time and Venue TBD

videos of previous Board of Director meetings can be viewed via YouTube and oceanpines.org," Ludwig added.

Applications are available at the administration building or on the Ocean Pines website at www.oceanpines.org/documents/10184/53744/OPA+Board+candidate+registration+form.pdf.

For questions about the election, please contact elections@oceanpines.org.



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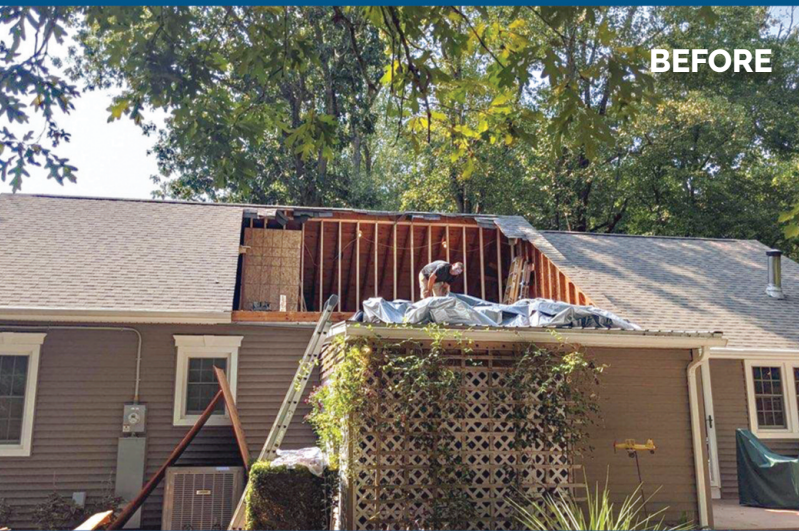
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John Viola
General Manager

Well-managed expenses

In February, the Board approved a record-setting \$100 assessment reduction for fiscal year 2022/2023. The basic annual assessment is now \$896, versus the \$996 assessment from fiscal 2021/2022. This came after months of hard work by the entire team, and public review by the Budget and Finance Committee and the Board. **Also see pg. 1**

We started in the fall with a bottoms-up approach and budget guidance from the committee, and individual budget reviews with each department and the GM. A major factor in lowering the budget was a one-time assessment reduction from the current fiscal year surplus, which accounted for (\$77) of the decrease. This is something we will review each year, with the budget process.

For the first time, homeowners can pay assessments online by visiting www.oceanpines.org/login and following the on-screen instructions. The Finance, IT and Public Relations teams worked with Northstar for many months to get that done, and it's another important first for the Association. **Also see pg. 17**

Aquatics and Golf led the way on the amenity side, with both producing strong performances to budget thanks to organic revenue growth and well-managed expenses. Recreation and Parks, Marinas and Racquet Sports were also positive to budget.

The Matt Ortt Companies continues to put up positive numbers for our food and beverage operations at the Yacht Club, Beach Club and The Clubhouse Bar and Grille. Banquet sales were also strong at each venue.

Public safety was a key issue in the recent community survey, and our budget included necessary funding increases for our Volunteer Fire Department, and we are looking at budget requirements for Police Department body cameras to be in compliance with new state regulations.

In March, I announced that Linda Martin would be our new senior executive office manager, continuing a position she had held temporarily since the beginning of the year. Linda has been an important part of the team for many years, and has shown strong leadership skills on several key projects, notably the DMA reserve study and our customer service initiative of using info@oceanpines.org for all general questions. Linda will also continue her work with the CPI Department, and will work with Public Works on projects like the cleaning up of our community mailboxes.

Public Works recently finished renovating the Clubhouse Meeting Room, based on feedback that the flow of traffic through there to the grill was noisy. Public Works also oversaw improvements at the North Gate Bridge, and we continue to review estimates for new bridge lights to help make the approach more visible.

Public Relations and IT worked together to vet a new hybrid meeting system in the Clubhouse Meeting Room, and that was used successfully during a town hall meeting and a Board meeting in March. We already have a hybrid system in the administration Board Room, and we'll soon have a compact hybrid system in the small conference room for committee meetings.

Staff are also working on maintenance and improvements at our amenities ahead of our busy season, including new HVAC systems and other repairs at the Sports Core Pool, new bar area flooring and beach wheelchairs at the Beach Club, and replaced ramps, railings, bumpers at the Marina. We will also install kayak racks along the side of the Swim and Racquet Club.

Finally, we continue to work with contractors to deliver on four new pickleball courts at the racquet center. The team there continues to expand their offerings, with new sports like "Spec Tennis," and new and returning tournaments that benefit our membership.

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

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

.....

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

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

Memorial Day: Mon, May 30

Independence Day: Mon, July 4

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.

Marketing & Public Relations Director

Josh Davis

443.366.1844

jdavis@oceanpines.org

Marketing Coordinator Julie Malinowski

410.641.7717 Ext. 3014

jmalinowski@oceanpines.org

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To advertise,

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or visit OceanPines.org**

(go to "Departments" & "Public Relations & Marketing")

Worcester County announces spring waterline flushing schedule for Ocean Pines

Worcester County Public Works has announced its spring fire hydrant flushing schedule for Ocean Pines.

Public Works typically flushes the Ocean Pines system twice a year to remove any accumulated sediment from the lines and to ensure the hydrants are operational. Proposed dates for the flushing of waterlines in Ocean Pines include the following:

- **April 18: Sections 3 & 7**
- **April 19: Sections 6 & 8**
- **April 20: Sections 1, 2 & 5**
- **April 21: Sections 4 & 19**
- **April 22: Sections 12 & 18**
- **April 25: Sections 13 & 14A**
- **April 26: Sections 14B & 14C**
- **April 27: Section 14D**
- **April 28: Sections 9 & 11**
- **April 29: Sections 10A & 16**
- **May 2: Section 10**
- **May 4: Sections 15A & 15B**
- **May 5: Section 17**

Please note that dates are subject to change depending on weather conditions.

Questions or concerns should be directed to Worcester County Public Works – Water & Wastewater Division at 410-641-5251.

Homeowners can now pay assessments online

Ocean Pines homeowners can now pay assessments online by logging onto the Association website at www.oceanpines.org/login.

Once on the site, users can click on the “login” tab and then follow onscreen instructions:

- **To log in to the members’ side of the website, enter your member number as your username. This can be found on your physical assessment mailing. Your initial password will be your last name in all lowercase letters.**
- **You will then be prompted to enter a new password. New passwords must be at least eight alphanumeric characters and include at least one uppercase, one lowercase and one special character, such as an exclamation mark (!) or “at” symbol (@).**
- **Finally, you will be asked to select a security question, which can be used to reset your password**

To view or pay the assessment, click on “HOA Payments” at the top of the page.

To make a payment, first select a payment option by creating a new ACH-EFT account or creating a new credit card entry. ACH accounts draw directly from a bank account and require an account number and routing number.

There is a 3.5% charge for credit/debit card payments, but no fee for paying through a checking account (ACH).

For questions, contact the Membership Office at 410-641-7717 x 3031 or email member@oceanpines.org.

For general questions, email info@oceanpines.org.

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 April 15-29, to benefit the Worcester County Veterans Memorial at Ocean Pines Foundation.

With this offer, new members receive a 12-month BJ’s Inner Circle Membership for \$25 and \$10 in cash awards to be used at the register, or a BJ’s Perks Rewards Membership, which earns 2% cash back on most BJ’s purchases, for \$75 and \$20 in cash awards, with BJ’s Easy Renewal.

Existing Inner Circle members can purchase a 12-month renewal for \$55 and receive \$10 in cash awards to be used at the register. Existing Perks Rewards members can purchase a 12-month renewal for \$110 and receive \$20 in cash awards, with BJ’s Easy Renewal.

Cash awards will be added to the member’s primary membership account 24 hours after enrollment and must be used within 30 days from the membership enrollment date.

In addition to offering special membership benefits, BJ’s will donate \$5 of each Inner Circle membership fee and \$10 of each Perks Rewards membership fee to the Worcester County Veterans Memorial at Ocean Pines Foundation.

This offer is not available online, at any BJ’s location or for any current Easy Renewal members. Members can check their Easy Renewal status and opt out by calling 1-800-257-2582 prior to submitting an application.

This special promotion is only offered through Ocean Pines two times a year. The next promotion will be in October 2022. Current BJ’s members whose memberships will expire before then are encouraged to renew during the spring offer. Those unsure of their membership expiration date can check their BJ’s receipts or the BJ’s mobile app, or call 1-800-257-2582.

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 up to 25% off supermarket prices, a mobile app with digital coupons and online shopping at BJ’s.com.

BJ’s membership applications are available at the Ocean Pines administration building at 239 Ocean Parkway and online at oceanpines.org. Applications must be returned with payment by April 29. Check and credit card payments will be accepted.



Debbie Donahue
Director of
Recreation & Parks

Looking forward to sunshine and fun

Spring and summer are just around the corner, and we could not be happier to be getting back to our summertime fun!

One event that will be returning this year in May will be **Bay Day**, hosted by Ocean Pines and the Maryland Coastal Bays Program. We are so excited to be able to offer the event again this year. **Also see pg. 2**

Family Fun Nights, Concerts in the Park, Summer Camps, the July 4th 5K, July 4th Carnival and Fireworks, and miscellaneous special events are all underway.

The **Farmers & Artisans Market** is open on Saturdays and is growing in vendors each week. It has started its summer hours of 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., so please come out and enjoy the different vendors and keep up that healthy eating.

Also see pg. 40

The **Pine'eer Artisan Gift Shop** is also open Saturdays and Sundays. Their beautiful new store holds many handmade products and is the perfect place to find that something for that special someone, or maybe that perfect something just for you. Stop by and enjoy the items, and say "hi" to the lovely ladies who make the items in the store. Stop in for the **Craft Fair on Aug. 6**, featuring multiples vendors indoors and outdoors at White Horse Park and the Community Center.

The **Ocean Pines Marinas** opens May 1. The Yacht Club Marina Fuel Dock will be open and serving many customers this summer with some of your boating needs, such as fuel, oil, ice, bait, ice cream and drinks. Check out the merchandise they have for sale and sport your new Ocean Pines Marina sweatshirt, hat or t-shirt. The staff at the marina are fun and friendly, and they are happy to help you with your boating needs and to share some fun (fish) conversations. **Also see pg. 37**

The **Ocean Pines Racquet Center** at Manklin Meadow Park will be hosting multiple clinics, classes, and events this season. Stop by and learn to play tennis, pickleball, and platform/Spec Tennis. **Also see pg. 21**

Stop by the Recreation Department any time to pick up flyers, ask questions or just to say "hi." We are there Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., and Saturdays 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

For all your spring and summer fun info, please visit www.oceanpines.org or stop by and pick up the latest *Activity Guide*.

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

New family run and day of fun coming to Ocean Pines

Families of all ages are invited to enjoy a day of fitness fun as the Ocean Pines Recreation and Parks Department hosts its first 1-mile fun run/walk on Saturday, May 14 beginning at 10 a.m. at Veterans Memorial Park.

The event, which will include a 1-mile walk or run around the South Gate Pond and a variety of other fun activities, is designed to encourage families to exercise together, according to event supervisor Katie Goetzing.

"Recreation and Parks wanted to hold an event where the whole family could participate and get active," Goetzing said. "The South Gate Pond is a great place to both get exercise and enjoy the beautiful scenery our neighborhood has to offer."

The after-walk party at the park will last until 2 p.m. and will feature moon bounces, face painting, music, vendors and giveaways, all of which are included in the registration fee. Food will also be available for purchase.

The cost to participate is \$10 per person before the event; day-of registration is \$15 and begins at 9 a.m. Those who

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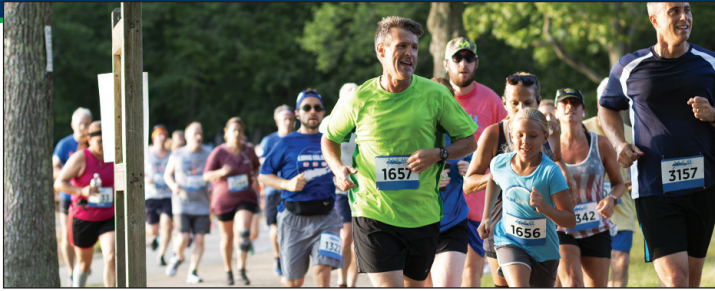
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Message from the Dir. of REC & PARKS



pre-register are guaranteed an event t-shirt, and all participants will be entered into a drawing for a chance to win a new bicycle.

“Event vendors will include the Get Baked food trolley and Ray’s Wraps, which offers sand art, hair wraps and airbrush tattoos. Recreation and Parks will also have a concession stand with snacks and drinks for sale,” Goetzinger said.

Sponsors are needed for this family-friendly event. Sponsorship levels range from \$50-\$200 and include race entries, promotion on event t-shirts and recognition in event publicity and banners. Businesses interested in sponsorships should contact Goetzinger at kgoetzinger@oceanpines.org or 410-641-7052.

This program is open to the public and pre-registration is suggested. For more information or to register, call 410-641-7052.

Information regarding additional recreational programs, including an online version of the Ocean Pines Activity Guide, is available at oceanpines.org.



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Kathleen Cook

Director of Aquatics

Gearing up for spring

Aquatics is hoping to finish strong after what's so far been a profitable year. My entire team has worked hard to provide a safe, clean and pleasant experience for everyone, and we've reaped the benefits of that. We made changes based on best business practices, and the staff really executed. We also had the benefit of some really good weather.

We're gearing up to reopen our four outdoor pools and working on annual permitting. Our outdoor pools will open starting May 28, and they'll stay open through Sept. 5, pending the availability of staff. Our indoor Sports Core Pool is open year-round.

Thank you to Clint Parks and the Public Works team, who always help make this a smooth transition and make sure our pools are in the best shape possible. Worcester County and the State of Maryland regularly certify our pools as among the cleanest and safest in the region.

Our biggest challenge this spring and summer is likely to be staffing, and we're looking for lifeguards, swim instructors, bathroom attendants and front desk attendants. If anyone is interested, call us at 410-641-5255. Please consider joining our wonderful team!

Ocean Pines Aquatics seeking lifeguards, swim instructors

LIFEGUARDS: Lifeguard candidates must be skilled in swimming, rescue work, resuscitation and giving first aid. They must have the ability to recognize emergencies and take appropriate action to control them. Candidates should have good physical strength and sufficient strength and skill technique to control struggling adult swimmers. Candidates must have successfully completed the American Red Cross Life Guarding Course or another nationally recognized agency and possess all current certification cards.

Lifeguards perform specialized work in the environment of regulations and protection of lives at Ocean Pines community swimming pools. This position is responsible for the enforcement of all pool rules and maintaining a reasonable state of discipline and behavior to ensure a safe, secure environment. Lifeguards will be rescuing swimmers who might be in distress. Lifeguards are tasked with general cleaning of the facilities. This position works 30 hours a week with 40 hours weekly available in the summer. This position starts at \$14 per hour. Currently licensed Pool Operators start at \$15 per hour.

To apply, contact Kathleen Cook at 443-299-9949.

SWIM INSTRUCTORS: Part-time swim instructors are needed for individual and group lessons. Candidates must be available mornings, evenings, and/or Saturdays. Water Safety Instructors are preferred, but experienced instructors will be considered. Candidates who have experience working with children will also be considered. A background check and drug screen will be performed.

Apply at the Sports Core Pool, located at 11144 Cathell Road, Ocean Pines, MD 21811, or call Michelle at 443-397-0455. Pay rate commensurate with experience.

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MON / WED 9-9:40AM	INSTRUCTOR	# OF CLASSES
Mar 28-May 4 May 16-Jun 22 Jul 4-Aug 10 Sep 7-Oct 17	Julie Winterling	12 (6 weeks)
\$90 Swim Member \$95 OP Resident \$100 Non-Resident Drop In: \$9 \$11 \$13		
TUE / THU / FRI 9-9:45AM	INSTRUCTOR	# OF CLASSES
Apr 5-May 13 May 24-Jul 1 Jul 12-Aug 19 Sep 6-Oct 14	Michelle Hitchens	18 (6 weeks)
\$135 Swim Member \$143 OP Resident \$150 Non-Resident Drop In: \$9 \$11 \$13		
TUE / THU 10-10:45AM	INSTRUCTOR	# OF CLASSES
Mar 29-May 5 May 17-Jun 23 Jul 12-Aug 18 Sep 6-Oct 13	Jennifer Kauffman	12 (6 weeks)
\$90 Swim Member \$95 OP Resident \$100 Non-Resident Drop In: \$9 \$11 \$13		
TUE / THU 6-6:45PM	INSTRUCTOR	# OF CLASSES
Mar 29-May 5 May 17-Jun 23 Jul 12-Aug 18 Sep 6-Oct 13	Team Taught	12 (6 weeks)
\$90 Swim Member \$95 OP Resident \$100 Non-Resident Drop In: \$9 \$11 \$13		



Free platform tennis lessons

The Ocean Pines Platform Tennis Association is offering free lessons at the Ocean Pines Racquet Center on 11443 Manklin Creek Road.

"Platform tennis is a fun outdoor racquet sport, played on a fenced-in court that's one third of the size of a tennis court," Platform Tennis Association Board member Karen Kaplan said. "Also known as 'paddle tennis,' the sport is played with a wooden platform paddle and a dense, bouncy ball. Paddle has elements of tennis in strokes and scoring, and it's like racquetball in that you can play the ball off the fence."

Free lessons are available every Saturday at 9:30 a.m. To make an appointment for another time, email Kaplan at oppaddle2020@gmail.com. All abilities are welcome, and equipment will be provided.

Along with free lessons, Kaplan said the Platform Tennis Association also hosts men's, ladies' and co-ed groups, as well as daytime play, and nighttime play under the lights.

"Platform tennis is played year-round," she said. "There are numerous drop-ins, reserved-court play, and lots of social events including happy hours, barbecues, bonfires and Chili Day, to name just a few."

For more information about platform tennis in Ocean Pines, visit www.oceanpines.org/platform-tennis, or search "OP Platform Tennis" on Facebook.

Pickleball Club donates \$2,000

The Ocean Pines Pickleball Club continued its charitable giving this spring, announcing a \$200 donation to the OCMD Cold Weather Shelter in March and another \$200 donation to the Lower Shore Clinic in April.

Since 2021, the club has donated \$2,000 to local groups including the Believe In Tomorrow Children's Foundation, Worcester County Humane Society, Town Cats Inc., the Maryland Coastal Bays Foundation, Diakonia, Inc., the Cricket Center, NAMI-DE and the Mary Mac Foundation.

Club Treasurer Ron Kurtz said the OCMD Cold Weather Shelter provides a place for people who need a hot meal and a bed on a cold, winter night.

"Thank you for the wonderful work you and Trisha do each winter in recruiting and training volunteers to assist the most vulnerable people in our community by providing emergency shelter, food and supplies, and assistance in helping those in need with transportation and medical care. Your mission is truly awesome and provides a much-needed service and we are proud to offer our support," Kurtz said.

For more information about the OCMD Cold Weather Shelter, email ocmddcoldweathershelter@gmail.com or visit www.facebook.com/ocmdCOLD.

For more information about the Lower Shore Clinic, visit www.lowershoreclinic.org.



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John Malinowski
General Manager
of Golf

Continued improvement

It is hard to believe that the winter season has passed so quickly. We are certainly hoping for a warm spring season and praying that we do not have to deal with too many COVID restrictions in the coming months. I hope you all have been safe and have been able to weather the storm as easily as possible.

Personalized golf club fittings with our Foresight GC-Quad launch monitor continued to be a big hit over the winter, and I encourage all golfers to get personally fit for golf clubs before they buy something. Being properly fit with clubs specifically for you and your swing characteristics makes golf a whole lot easier to play – who does not want that?

Despite the cold and snowy winter, the golf maintenance crew was busy with several projects throughout the winter including drainage, tree work, tee expansion, fairway expansion and rough seeding.

In November and December, the maintenance crew spent time on the annual cleaning out of drains and installed a new

6-inch drain line on the eighth hole.

January through March, the maintenance crew was busy with tree work. With the help of the Public Works Department, they were able to limb-up the trees bordering the fairways to help with airflow, sunlight and the appearance of the holes. It was a huge undertaking that lasted longer than anticipated due to the multiple snow events and the wind in January and early February.

The golf cart fleet underwent its winter maintenance checkup in February and March to make sure it's ready for the upcoming season. This maintenance included new filters, belts, oil and any necessary adjustments to the brakes.

We are looking forward to seeing the continued improvement of the course conditions throughout the season and building on all the work over the past eighteen months. We will continue the aerating and top-dressing programs for the greens, and we will also implement the same type of program for our tee boxes to continue their improvement.

These practices will make our greens and tees healthier and



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Message from the Gen. Mgr. of GOLF

more able to withstand the challenges that Mother Nature throws at us during the golf season. We are in a much better position now with the health of the course than we were two years ago, and we expect that the results will continue to be enjoyed by all who come to play our Robert Trent Jones, Sr. golf course. This proves to us that the maintenance practices we have implemented have been working. **We are all excited and looking forward to the new season.**



Play golf with Ocean Pines men's and women' golf associations

The Ocean Pines Ladies' Golf Association will begin weekly play on Tuesday mornings starting April 12. The group plays different formats each week and meets for social time after. Applications are available at the Ocean Pines Golf Clubhouse. For more information, contact Ann Shockley at 410-688-1976 or rexerann@gmail.com.

The Ocean Pines Men's Golf Association will begin its season of weekly play on Thursday, April 14 at the Ocean Pines Golf Club. All residents of Ocean Pines are invited to join the OPMGA - applications are available at the Golf Clubhouse. For more information, contact Charlie McMichael at 302-983-6520 or chmrunner@comcast.net.



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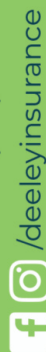
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Public Works yard to open in May

The Ocean Pines Public Works yard will be open to Ocean Pines residents May 2-28 from 7:30 a.m.-3 p.m., Monday-Friday and 8 a.m.-4 p.m. on Saturdays. Yard debris may be dropped off during this time.

Only loose yard debris, such as leaves and limbs, is accepted. Debris may also be placed in paper bags. Plastic bags are not allowed.

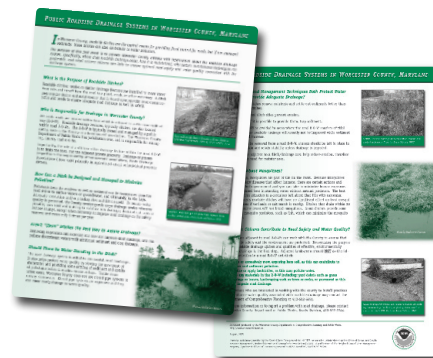
Republic Services customers may place up to four additional bags of leaves or yard debris curbside for each scheduled pickup. Republic will also pick up branches if they are tied in bundles no longer than 4 feet and weighing no more than 50 pounds.

Trash collection days for residents south of Route 90 are Tuesday and Friday. For residents north of Route 90, the collection days are Monday and Thursday.

For more information, contact Public Works at 410-641-7425.

Public roadside drainage systems in place

Spring is here, which is a great time to discuss and review the public roadside drainage systems in place in Worcester County, including in Ocean Pines. The county has shared important information about how these systems function and what property owners and residents can do to help maintain them – [see page 26](#). You can also download copies of the complete [fact sheet about roadside drainage](#) at www.co.worcester.md.us/departments/publicworks/roads.



Here comes warmer weather

With spring comes warmer weather and the dreaded cutting of grass. To avoid any violations by Ocean Pines, please cut your grass regularly.

Any grass/weeds that exceed 10 inches will be issued a violation notice. If not cut after 10 days, Ocean Pines will have a contractor cut it for you, which will incur the contractor's fee plus a \$75 administrative fee. Avoid our sending you a letter and maintain your yard!

Also, with spring around the corner, permits have been on the increase. The Compliance, Permits, and Inspections (CPI) team so far in 2022 has issued 66 building permits and 96 tree removal permits.

Many questions are received about what does and does not need a permit in Ocean Pines. When in doubt – just ask! The CPI office is open from 7 a.m.-4 p.m., Monday-Friday to answer any questions you have. Give them a call at 410-641-7425 or stop by the office at 1 Firehouse Lane

(behind the south gate firehouse).

And, for all other questions, concerns, complaints, and general information, please contact info@oceanpines.org, or call 410-641-7717 during business hours (410-641-7747 on nights and weekends).



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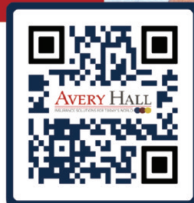
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In Worcester County, roadside ditches are the typical means for providing flood control for roads, but if not managed optimally, these ditches can also contribute to water pollution.

The purpose of this fact sheet is to provide Worcester County citizens with information about the roadside drainage system, specifically, where does roadside drainage occur, how it is maintained, why certain maintenance techniques are preferable, and what actions citizens can take to ensure optimal road safety and water quality associated with the drainage system.

Download the complete fact sheet at www.co.worcester.md.us/departments/publicworks/roads

What is the Purpose of Roadside Ditches?

Roadside ditches, swales or similar drainage features are installed to move water from rain and runoff from the road to a pond, creek, or other waterway. A ditch may require design and maintenance that is based upon specific local characteristics and needs to ensure adequate road drainage as well as safety.

Who is Responsible for Drainage in Worcester County?

All public roads are located within land which is referred to as the road right-of-way (R-O-W). Roadside drainage features, typically ditches, are also located within road R-O-Ws. The R-O-W is typically owned and managed by a public entity, such as the County or a homeowners' association. The Worcester County Department of Public Works has jurisdiction over, and is responsible for managing, County road R-O-Ws.

Importantly, the role of a ditch or other drainage feature within the road R-O-W is to drain the road, not the adjacent private property. Drainage of private properties is the responsibility of homeowners' associations, Public Drainage Associations (these exist primarily in agricultural areas) or individual property owners.

How Can a Ditch be Designed & Managed to Minimize Pollution?

Pollutants from the roadway as well as sediment can be transported from the road R-O-W to surface waters or groundwater, and ultimately, to the bays. Adequate vegetation and/or ponding slow and filter runoff. To ensure water quality is protected, the County creates gentle slope drainage swales wherever possible; uses seed and matting to stabilize new drainage; does not cut trees or remove stumps, except when necessary to improve road drainage or for safety reasons; and mows only 5 times per year.

Aren't "Clean" Ditches the Best Way to Assure Drainage?

Removing vegetation and exposing soil does not improve ditch drainage, and can pollute downstream waters with additional sediment and clog drainage.



Bare soil in this ditch will erode and contribute to pollution downstream.
Photo by Bruce Nichols, NRCS



Sediment traps and protective buffers improve water quality downstream.
Photo by Bruce Nichols, NRCS



A wide, shallow drainage area can reduce erosion and control sediments.
Photo by Bruce Nichols, NRCS



Adjacent property owners can reduce pollution by avoiding over-mowing, fertilizing or placing stone, wood or cement in the R.O.W.
Photo by Bruce Nichols, NRCS

Should There be Water Standing in the Ditch?

The open drainage system is suited to our coastal, rural landscape. It also helps protect water quality by slowing the movement of stormwater and providing some settling of sediment and uptake of pollutants before it reaches creeks or bays. Unlike dense urban areas, Worcester County does not use closed pipe systems to convey stormwater. Closed pipe systems are expensive and they can cause costly damage to water quality.

What Design and Management Techniques Both Protect Water Quality & Provide Adequate Drainage?

- Shallow, wet ditches remove nutrients and settle out sediments better than deep, narrow ditches.
- Stable, vegetated ditch sides prevent erosion.
- Small pools, if it is possible to provide them, trap sediment.
- Ditching should be avoided in areas where the road R-O-W consists of tidal marsh, because roadside drainage will usually not be improved while sediment pollution will increase.
- Should trees be removed from a road R-O-W, stumps should be left in place to prevent erosion and retain stability unless drainage is impeded.
- Grass buffers adjacent to a ditch/drainage area help reduce erosion, therefore reducing the need for maintenance.

But What About Mosquitoes?

Unfortunately, mosquitoes are part of life on the coast. Because mosquitoes sometimes carry diseases that affect humans, there are certain actions and precautions both government and you can take to minimize human exposure. Mosquitoes breed best in standing water without natural predators. The best example of this situation is a container left about that fills with rainwater. Draining County roadside ditches will have no significant effect on local mosquito populations if wetlands or salt marsh is nearby. Ditches that drain within 30 hours of a storm event will not breed mosquitoes. Some ditches provide some habitat for mosquito predators, such as fish, which can minimize the mosquito population.

How Can Citizens Contribute to Road Safety & Water Quality?

Landowners adjacent to road R-O-Ws can work with the County to ensure that both public safety and the environment are protected. Recognizing the purpose of the roadside drainage system and qualities of effective, environmentally friendly drainage is the first step. Adjacent landowners should **NOT** do the following activities in a road R-O-W and ditch:

- Scrape or excessively mow, exposing bare soil, as this can contribute to erosion and sediment pollution.
- Fertilize or apply herbicides, as this may pollute water.
- Place any materials in the R-O-W including: yard debris such as grass clippings or leaves, landscaping such as trees or rocks, or pavement as this may impede road drainage.

Landowners who are interested in working with the county to install practices that enhance water quality associated with roadside drainage may contact the Department of Comprehensive Planning at 410-632-5651.

For more information or to report a problem with road drainage, please contact Worcester County Department of Public Works, Roads Division, 410-632-2244.

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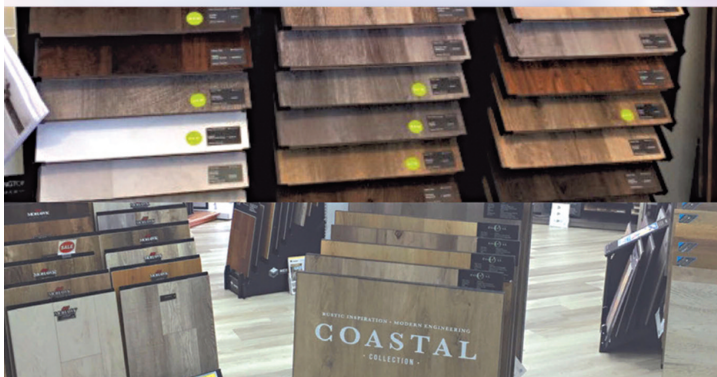


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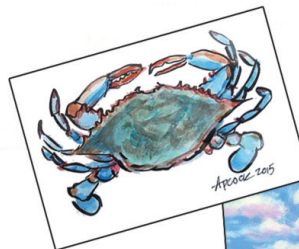
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Steve Phillips
Director of Finance/
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Record-setting revenues generated by amenities

Heading into the final months of the 2022 fiscal year, OPA has accumulated a positive year-to-date operating variance of more than \$1.5 million, with total revenues making up the majority of this, favorable by approximately \$1.4 million. As highlighted in previous newsletters, this is driven by the record-setting revenues generated by OPA's amenities during this past 2021 summer season.

Now that the fiscal year 2022-2023 budget has been adopted by the Board of Directors, the Finance Department is gearing up for "year-end." Attention will turn to responsibilities such as the billing and collection of annual assessments, the sale of amenity memberships, the renewal of company benefits for employees, liability insurance renewals, an open enrollment period for employees, and of course the year-end audit. UHY LLP, formerly TGM Group LLC, will be conducting preliminary audit procedures beginning in April in preparation for their final fieldwork that is scheduled to occur in June/July.

I am very proud of the work our Finance group has produced this past fiscal year. We have great group of Finance team members. We have several new faces, and I am very excited to be bringing in a new accounting manager as we head into spring.

While we of course look forward to OPA continuing the financial momentum that it has had the past three years, we also are anxious to undertake new initiatives. One initiative is the launch of an online payment portal, allowing the membership community to pay their annual assessment dues online by logging onto the Association website at www.oceanpines.org/login. **Also see pg. 17.**



Summary Financial Report

Year-to-Date 2/28/2022

OPERATING ACCOUNT SUMMARY UNAUDITED

	ACTUAL	BUDGET	VARIANCE
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)			
REVENUES			
Assessments	\$9,348	\$9,348	\$0
Grants	549	485	64
Amenities (Net)	6,078	4,830	1,248
Recreation & Parks	253	362	(109)
Other fees and Income	<u>1,449</u>	<u>798</u>	<u>651</u>
Total Revenues	17,677	15,823	1,854
Less transfers to reserve accounts	(3,715)	(3,273)	(442)
Net Operating Revenues	13,962	12,550	1,412
OPERATING EXPENSES			
Administration & Management	1,780	1,822	42
Amenities	4,396	3,927	(469)
Recreation & Parks	606	774	168
Police	1,462	1,539	77
Fire / EMS	621	621	0
Public Works / CPI	1,435	1,666	231
General Maintenance	<u>495</u>	<u>588</u>	<u>93</u>
Total Operating Expenses	10,795	10,937	142
EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES	3,167	1,613	1,554
TRANSFERS	(34)	0	(34)
NET	\$3,133	\$1,613	\$1,520

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Leo Ehrisman
Chief of Police

Current updates and operations

OCEAN PINES POLICE DEPARTMENT OPERATIONS:

The full-service, 24-hours-a-day operation of the Ocean Pines Police Department remains available to respond to needs and calls for service. Services include, but are not limited to, activities such as motor vehicle accidents, burglar alarms, noise complaints, domestic disturbance calls and drug and alcohol issues.

SCAMS AND FRAUD:

Scams such as phone calls for fake contest winners and contract services have increased in the area. Identity theft and other issues sometimes are attributed to lost wallets, cell phones and other devices that may contain your personal information. Scam and ID thefts are still the No. 1 reported incident, according to the last reporting quarter of this year.

ARRESTS:

Since our last report, police made several arrests related to assault, domestic situations, mental health issues and warrant services for subjects located here who have outstanding warrants in other states or jurisdictions.

DRUG AND ALCOHOL ISSUES:

Ocean Pines has also seen an increase in the number of drug overdose calls in recent months. The Worcester County Criminal Enforcement Team (of which OPPD is a member) has worked several narcotics cases in the past few months. These cases involve Ocean Pines, Berlin, Ocean City and other local areas.

Police are here to help anyone battling the addiction of any drugs or alcohol to prevent these accidental overdoses.

We are now connected with the LEAD team, which creates a faster link to resources to help those struggling with addiction return to a normal, healthier life. Since the onset of this program, we have quickly become one of the most productive units in the area for assisting abused and/or neglected elder adults as well as for assisting Child Protective Services and with mental health issues that are not criminal in nature.

INCREASING POPULATION AND VISITORS:

The police would like to ask for your help in reporting activity as it occurs. Little or no police action can be taken on an event that is reported the day after a disturbance has happened. Noise complaints or traffic and parking issues can only be addressed if the violation is reported as it happens. These complaints increase as the summer is upon us.

As the weather gets warmer and COVID restrictions are lifted, the public gets a chance to enjoy many outdoor activities. Please remember that this does not give pedestrians the right of way to walk in the middle of the roadway. Please use reflective clothing and flashlights when appropriate.

IN CLOSING:

Ocean Pines Police would like to thank everyone for the strong show of support from this community during these stressful times. Organizations such as Worcester County Back the Blue and American Legion have been a great support to local emergency responders.

Please remember that the police in your community not only work cases, respond to calls and enforce traffic laws, they are here to help you, serve you and care for you and your families as well as your property.

Be proud of our officers and employees as they continue to serve and protect you.

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Meet Ocean Pines Police Ofc. Jon Marton-Rollins

Jon Marton-Rollins grew up dreaming of being a police officer. He never expected to start his career during a once-in-a-century pandemic.

Originally from Westchester, New York, Marton-Rollins worked as a seasonal officer in Ocean City in 2019 and joined the Ocean Pines Police force the following year.

Marton-Rollins joked he initially picked the area because “somebody told me it was warm.”

In July 2020, he entered the police academy and started working for the Ocean Pines Police Department, which at the time was headquartered in trailers behind the administration building. The new police station would open a few months later.

“I never knew the old building at all, but I heard a lot of interesting stories. It didn’t sound like there was a lot of space,” he said with a laugh. “But, coming in, I graduated from the academy and then we moved into the new building, and that was a very nice transition.”

Ocean Pines Police “have to do a little bit of everything,” Marton-Rollins said. That includes using his prior training as an emergency medical technician, where he’s spent 12 years as a volunteer, including almost a year as an EMS associate with the Ocean Pines Volunteer Fire Department.

“My focus was on tactical emergency medicine, because I’ve wanted to be a police officer since I was 6. I really enjoy being able to integrate that into what we do,” he said.

“A lot of working in the backs of ambulances is talking to people, so I’m very comfortable with my people skills and walking people through their problems,” Marton-Rollins continued. “Ocean Pines is kind of a cool environment because, most of the time, if EMS is called to something I’ll actually be on the scene well before they are, just because I’m already out on the road.”

On a daily basis, Marton-Rollins said police duties can range from basic traffic enforcement to “whatever they need us to do.” It’s a balancing act that keeps officers on their toes.

“What I tell everybody about Ocean Pines is that it’s just like every other town or city. You’re going to see a little bit of everything that goes on, wherever you get a population of people together,” he said. That includes everything from theft and drug use to occasional violent crime or domestic disturbances.

“We see a lot of family matters, because there are a lot of families around here. What we have to remind ourselves, is

that we see people on their worst day,” he said. “Nobody likes calling 911. A huge responsibility as a police officer is just understanding that. They’re calling you because they don’t have any other options and it’s our job. No matter how serious or mild, we have to help that person get to a place where they’re comfortable and they no longer feel in extremis.”

What was unusual, Marton-Rollins said, was starting police work in 2020. While going through the academy, he said, “it was abundantly clear that our lives as police officers were going to be very different.”

“It was wild. 2020 was such a crazy time to be a police officer that it’s almost hard to articulate,” he said. “In 2019, people were a little more willing to talk to police in general. When 2020 happened, we came in with masks and with people rioting in other parts of the country. A lot of people would see me in uniform and automatically assume things about me, and that personally breaks my heart, because I’ve wanted to be a cop for as long as I could remember.”

“I grew up with a sense that police are here to help, and I’m here to try to help as many people as I can. And for people to truly, deeply believe that police officers are here to do anything other than help, sometimes it’s tough,” he added.

Marton-Rollins said he was working for Emergency Medical Services in Westchester County during the offseason in 2020, when COVID first arrived. The area was among the first in the nation to experience the

pandemic.

“I was there when we were first figuring out what COVID was – we had no idea,” he said. “We were told, ‘Here, we have this new respiratory virus running around. And, oh, by the way, we’re running out of masks and we don’t have anything for you guys.’”

He remembers calling a friend who was working as a nurse in New York City, and finding her in tears.

“She was actually crying and said, ‘I don’t know what I’m doing anymore. We don’t have ventilators. I have people dying all the time and I don’t know why I’m in this career right now,’” he said.

Along with the obvious safety risks, Marton-Rollins said policing during a pandemic is difficult because body language is a key part of investigation. He remembers a



MEET THE TEAM: Ocean Pines Police Department



conversation with Det. Sgt. Joseph Bailey, one of his mentors in Ocean Pines.

"He has law enforcement experience all over the place and he's an absolutely incredible investigator. And he turned to me and said, 'How in the world are we supposed to do an investigation with masks on? Half of what you see about a person is their facial expressions and having an interaction with somebody,'" Marton-Rollins said. "There are a lot of challenges, and it's just a learning curve."

Marton-Rollins said the Ocean Pines community has largely been very supportive of police, something that he's grateful for.

"As a police officer, you're not allowed to have a bad day. No matter what your opinions or views or emotions, or any fights you've had with your significant other or family member, you have to check that at the door, because when you put on the gun and the badge you are the objective party now," he said. "That by itself is an incredibly stressful role. Add, on top of that, what we respond to. When that call comes in, we have to expect the worst, so it's constant stress."

"But the public for the most part has been very supportive, organizations like Worcester Backs the Blue have been out in force. They've done cookouts and things like that, and it really helps," he continued. "They make our lives a lot easier."

For those on the other end of the call, Marton-Rollins said it's best to try and remain calm and to give police accurate information.

"A huge part of what we do is communication. We understand that you are having an emergency. We will try to get to you as quickly as possible. But we need the best information that we can get at that moment, so we know what we're responding to," he said. "Getting the best information to our dispatchers so

they can pass it onto us is probably the biggest thing."

For many years, Ocean Pines has statistically been one of the safest communities in Maryland and in the United States. Marton-Rollins said that's because the department "does a very good job at utilizing the resources that we have and creating a visible police force."

"I think, in Ocean Pines, people like seeing the police. I think doing proactive things like patrolling around and making ourselves known at events helps deter crime," he said. "A lot of times that determines what police are able to do, and I think we do that well here."



Marton-Rollins said he cannot predict what his future in law enforcement will bring, but his present focus is on learning as much as possible.

"The police world is so crazy, and you don't know what tomorrow brings," he said. "Right now, I'm just trying to soak up all the experience that I have around me."

"You don't have the opportunity to work side by side with a detective in Ocean City," he continued. "Being able to pick

their brain and see how they operate and learn from them – you're really not going to find that anywhere except for a place like Ocean Pines. Det. Sgt. Bailey has been a wealth of information and I've loved working with him."

Marton-Rollins said he also enjoys the community policing approach of working in Ocean Pines, which means interacting with people each day.

"They're genuinely lovely people here," he said. "And everyone is stressed out right now with the pandemic and everything else that's going on, but I don't want people to think that Ocean Pines Police are here to do anything but help."

"I work with a lot of great, young officers just starting out their careers here. They want to have that honorable, respectable career in law enforcement, and they're using Ocean Pines as that building block," he continued. "So, we get that opportunity to foster that really cool relationship. It's a cool place."



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OPVFD to hold open house, recruitment day and MSP aviation demo

The Ocean Pines Volunteer Fire Department will hold an open house/recruitment day on **Saturday, April 23** from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at the South Station, located at 911 Ocean Parkway. The family-friendly event will include:

- Games & handouts for kids
- Kids' coloring contest
- Live demonstrations from Maryland State Police
- Aviation with the TROOPER 4 helicopter (weather permitting)
- Firetruck, ambulance, special rescue vehicle tours (10 a.m.-1:45 p.m.)

- A chance to meet firefighters, paramedics & flight crew
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Strategic Planning Committee shares survey results during March 2 town hall

A recent community survey sought to gauge overall community satisfaction, what is most important, core values, and feedback on key issues and opportunities for Ocean Pines property owners.

Strategic Planning Advisory Committee members who conducted the survey led a town hall to present the results on March 2. Members of the Communications Committee helped moderate the event.

In total, 1,832 property owners completed the hybrid survey (using both online and hard copies), with 96.5% of surveys being completed online. Of those, 61% of respondents were full-time residents and 37% were part-time residents.

According to Strategic Planning Committee Chairman Bernie McGorry, survey respondents were very satisfied overall and likely to recommend Ocean Pines to others. A wide majority, 95.2%, were either somewhat, very, or extremely satisfied, and 68.5% said they were either very or extremely satisfied.

McGorry said what was most important to residents was: 1. safety, 2. maintenance of infrastructure, and 3. community appearance. Safety was either very or extremely important to 95.2% of survey takers, followed by maintenance of infrastructure (94.2% very or extremely important) and community appearance/aesthetics (89.8% very or extremely important).

The largest gaps in importance versus overall satisfaction were in maintenance of infrastructure, community appearance, and the assessment fee value for the money. Just 23.6% rated maintenance of infrastructure as slightly or significantly above expectations, while 24.7% said the assessment value was slightly or significantly above expectations. Overall, safety was rated

very positive, with 58% rating safety as either slightly or significantly above expectations.

Five potential core values received some of the highest ratings on the survey. All were rated as being very or extremely important: integrity (86.4%), accountability (82.2%), collaboration (76.3%), respect (74.4%) and sustainability (74%).

The top three issues identified were transparency, infrastructure and collaboration between the Board of Directors and the general manager. All three issues were rated very or extremely important by more than 80% of respondents. Another concern for survey respondents was traffic on Route 589.

The top two opportunities were electronic voting and increasing amenity fees for non-residents. The survey revealed 64.7% of respondents either slightly or strongly agreed with support for electronic voting.

Property owners also showed a preference for investing in current amenities rather than creating new ones, with 58.7% slightly or strongly agreeing that Ocean Pines "should invest in improving current amenities." Just 35.7% slightly or strongly agreed that Ocean Pines should invest in new amenities.

McGorry said the survey results will be the most important input used in development of long-term, three-to-five-year plan for Ocean Pines. The committee's target for completing the long-term plan is Aug. 30, 2022, which would be prior to the start of the next budget cycle.

Survey results and a video of the town hall are available at www.oceanpines.org/web/pages/strategic-planning.

Survey Objectives

To obtain input and insights from OP Property Owners on a long-range plan for Ocean Pines

1. Overall satisfaction
2. What is most important to OPA owners and how is OPA doing
3. Importance of core values
4. Feedback on key issues and opportunities

The results are based on questions from the survey

1. Overall Satisfaction

Ocean Pines Residents are Very Satisfied & are Very Likely to Recommend Ocean Pines to Others

2. What is Most Important & How is Ocean Pines Doing?

Safety, Maintenance of Infrastructure & Community Appearance Were Most Important to Property Owners

Largest Gap was in Maintenance of Infrastructure, Community Appearance & Assessment Fee Value for the Money

3. Importance of Core Values

All 5 Potential Core Values Were Rated Very Important

1. Integrity
2. Accountability
3. Collaboration
4. Respect
5. Sustainability

4. Feedback on Key Issues and Opportunities

Top 3 Issues:

1. Transparency
 2. Infrastructure
 3. BOD/GM Working Collaboratively
- In Addition, Property Owners felt Traffic on 589 is a Key Issue

Top Opportunities:

1. Electronic Voting
 2. Increasing Amenity Usage Fees for Non-Residents
- In Addition, Property Owners had a Slight Preference to Invest in Current Amenities vs. New Amenities

Level of Agreement

Q-8. Please rate your level of agreement with the following statements. (1=Strongly Disagree; 5=Strongly Agree)

Rank	Statement	Weighted Average	% Slightly or Strongly Agree
1	Traffic on Route 589 is a concern	3.81	62.5
2	I support the use of electronic voting for BOD & Ref.	3.75	64.7
3	The premium paid for non-resident use of amenities is too low	3.69	56.6
4	OP should invest in improving current amenities	3.62	58.7
5	I would support an increased enforcement of covenants & regulations	3.60	54.6

Owners Slightly Agree That Traffic on 589 is a Major Concern & 64.7% Slightly or Strongly Support Electronic voting

* 4.0 = Neutral; 4.0 = Slightly Agree

New or Improved Amenities and Services

Q-10. Please rate your interest in the following possible new and/or improved amenities or services. (1=Not Interested at All; 5=Extremely Interested)

Rank	New/Improved Amenity or Service	Weighted Average	% Very or Extremely Interested
1	Improved Walking and Bike Paths	3.01	36.2
2	Fitness Center	2.99	41.1
3	Improved Street Lighting	2.90	38.6
4	Updated Beach Club	2.66	29.5
5	Improved Disability Access to Amenities	2.53	21.3

In General, Only Lukewarm Interest for any New/Improved Amenities or Services. Top 3 Were Improved Walking & Bike Paths, Fitness Center and Improved Street Lighting



Ron Fisher
Dockmaster

Marina open in May

Ocean Pines Marinas will open May 1. The Yacht Club Marina Fuel Dock hours are as follows: May 1-26: 8 a.m.-6 p.m., May 27-Sept. 5: 6 a.m.-6 p.m., Sept. 6-30: 8 a.m.-6 p.m., Oct. 1-31: 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

Stop by the Yacht Club Marina store for all of your boating needs, including oil, ice, bait, ice cream, drinks and branded apparel (sweatshirts, t-shirts and hats).

For more info about our marinas, call the dockmaster at 410-641-7447 or email rfisher@oceanpines.org.

Slip rentals available

We have a limited number of slips available and we also maintain an annual boat slip waitlist.

The Ocean Pines Marina offers 86 slip rentals for boats up to 42' in length.

The Swim and Racquet Marina offers 16 slip rentals for boats up to 22' in length.

For more information about boat slip rentals, please call Ocean Pines Recreation and Parks at 410-641-7052.

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Meet the Marine Activities Advisory Committee

Marine Activities Advisory Committee members said they've been invigorated by new volunteers and are working on several important projects, from safe boating practices to cleaning up marine debris.

The committee advises the Board of Directors on policies and concerns relating to marine activities affecting Ocean Pines. That includes helping to formulate policies related to marine matters, disseminating information on water and marine safety, and liaising with federal, state, and local agencies.

Donna McElroy is the committee secretary. Originally from Pennsylvania, she and her husband, Tom, bought a home in Ocean Pines in 2000 and moved to the community full-time in 2017, from Baltimore County. She previously worked as a high school teacher, and then went to law school to become an attorney at the age of 50.

Now, she spends about six hours a month in court, and volunteers at the self-help center in the Wicomico County District Court and with the Bar Association.

"Some time around May 1, which is Law Day, we would go into the schools and teach law-related topics to the students," she said. "I also do child welfare work, so I represent parents when children are taken out the home for abuse and neglect. I do what I can to help people."

McElroy joined the Marine Activities Advisory Committee in 2019.

"We're really excited now," she said. "We have done more with the new committee members than in all the years I have served on this committee. It is just wonderful. Sometimes you just need to change things up."

McElroy also praised committee Chairperson Dave Allen, who was appointed last October.

"He has filled this position well with his enthusiasm and knowledge," she said.

Sue Challis is one of the newer committee members. She and her husband, Jim, moved to Ocean Pines from Severna Park nearly three years ago. She's retired from a career working in public affairs for the federal government.

"We lived there on the waterfront for 20 years and enjoyed our boat and kayaks on the Magothy River and Chesapeake Bay. Now we live on the water in Ocean Pines, and we really love it here," she said.

"I got involved with the Marine Activities Advisory Committee because I care about the water, and I want other people to learn how to protect it and enjoy all that it offers here in Ocean Pines. It's also for me a great way to get involved in solutions instead of just complaining about things," she added.

Among the issues the committee recently explored are nonresident use of boat ramps, dredging, osprey nests, bridge lights, and safe use of electrically powered devices at the marina piers.

"With each issue, we talk about it, and we discuss how we should follow up and get information," McElroy said. "Sometimes that's with the Board or with the appropriate Ocean Pines department, but other times we reach out to

organizations in the community like the Bay Restoration Fund or the Maryland Coastal Bays Program to get our answers.

"Committee member Jerry Leuters also suggested that we contact other advisory committees to find out whether we might work with them on mutual projects," she continued. "Jerry continues to reach out to other committees and has invited members of these committees to join us at our

monthly meetings."

McElroy said committee member Mike Johnson was particularly interested in questions raised by a resident about the maintenance of the osprey nests.

"He sought and received some valuable information on the osprey populations in Maryland from Tracey Spencer and Paula Becker with the Department of Natural Resources," she said. "You can contact the committee for a list of resources if you are interested in finding out more."

Last summer, committee members helped spread the word about new "man overboard device" standards.

"You have to clip those onto the pilot of the boat, so that if he falls over, the motor cuts off," McElroy said. "People don't do that, and now there's a fine involved in a failure to comply."

On behalf of the Committee, Challis and others are working in partnership with Maryland Coastal Bays on a marine debris cleanup initiative, with an event planned to follow the May 15 Bay Day in Ocean Pines. The nonprofit is using grant money to host an event encouraging local people to spend a day cleaning up local waterways.

"It doesn't cost us anything but time, which is great," she said. "The publicity and supplies for participants will come from the grant money. We consider it an opportunity to raise awareness about keeping our waterways clean and safe, and getting our community involved in a fun activity at the same time."

She said a similar event last year helped collect 1.5 tons of debris near Ocean City.

"A lot of it are things like the ghost pots, but they also found things like dingies that were recovered from the bottom of the river," Challis said. Ghost pots refer to crab pots that have lost



their floats and can't be recovered by their owners.

"It can be a hazard for boaters but also for sea life - turtles, crabs, fish and other creatures get trapped at the river bottom in these pots and can't get out," she said. "That's a big issue, and it's something we want to help raise awareness for."

McElroy said committee members are also interested in the oyster restoration.

"They'll take a year or so to where they will grow and can be harvested, and you can do this right off your pier," she said. "Each 3-inch oyster will filter 50 gallons of water every day, so we can clean our canals. We're hoping to be able to get people to volunteer to do this."

For more info about oyster restoration, contact Protectors of the St. Martin River at protectorsstmartinriver@yahoo.com.

The committee also addressed concerns about sailboats left behind the Mumfords Landing Swimming Pool and unattended for several years.

"The small boats were part of an educational program on sailing at the university. Committee member John Latham contacted the Public Works Department, and they immediately took care of this," McElroy said.

Along with those projects, Challis said committee members also help answer resident questions.



"A lot of information is out there, but people can't read everything, so they will come to our committee for answers," she said. "Part of our job is to gather inquiries on a given subject and either answer

residents directly or refer them to whoever can answer them. You don't want someone's complaint or comment to go down the drain. So, we're really trying to be responsive."

With everything, McElroy said the committee has "remained within our obligation" based on the Association's governing documents.

"We are to advise the Board of Directors, so we do not overstep that," she said. "We work closely with our liaison, Doug Parks, who gives us great information on how to proceed with our questions and projects, and everything is working out great."

Committee Info

The Marine Activities Advisory Committee advises the Board of Directors on policies & concerns relating to marine activities affecting the Ocean Pines subdivision. This committee may have 3-9 members.

Committee members: **Doug Parks - Board Liaison, David Allen - Chair, Donna McElroy, Jerry Leuters, Mike Johnson, Sue Challis, John Latham.**

For more info on the Marine Activities Advisory Committee, including meeting times & locations, visit oceanpines.org/web/pages/marine-activities-committee.

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2022 Achievement Award winners

The Ocean Pines Farmers & Artisans Market recognized its merchants, artisans, volunteers, and community partners during the 2022 Achievement Awards, held at the marketplace in January.

"We are excited to celebrate this outstanding group of 2022 winners," Market Manager David Bean said.

Honorees included **Parker Place** owner Anne Taylor, who was named **Marketplace Merchant of the Year**. Taylor features upcycled rugs made from recycled plastics, along with other home products.

Calm Coast Boutique was named **Artisan of the Year**. Boutique owner Jamie Millhoff creates unique hand painted artwork and jewelry.

"It was so nice to be honored for doing something that I truly love," Millhoff said.

Del Vecchio's Bakery was named **Green Market Merchant of the Year**. During the pandemic shutdown, owner and baker John Del Vecchio made several trips to his Snow Hill bakery during each market day to restock his Ocean Pines market stand, to make sure his customers could have the comforts of his baked goods while sheltering at home.

Cove Craft and Treasures was also honored with **Peddler Merchant of the Year**. Owners Ruth and Gary White offer estate sale sterling silver jewelry to shoppers.

"This is so exciting. We are so honored! We have never been nominated for anything," Ruth White said. "We so love our OP Farmers & Artisans Market Family and look forward to another great year."

The market also recognized three participants with **Legacy Honors**. The awards are given for commitment through service and leadership to the Ocean Pines marketplace.

Those honored included the **Ocean Pines Volunteer Fire Department** for its participation as a community partner; greengrocer **D. J. David & Company**, recognized for 10 years of continuous participation at the market; and **John Chandler, assistant market manager**, for his outstanding contribution to market leadership.

Also recognized were **Janice Curtis, Educational Programming**; **Terry Jordan of Longridge Gardens, Storefront Presentation**; the **Jessie Klump Memorial Fund, Community Corner Partner of the Year**; **Brightman Farm, Outstanding Social Media Promotion**; and **Janine Dufrene of Amish Friendship Breads, the 2022 Inspiration Award**.

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

Special Market Days

APRIL

- 2 National Handmade Day
- 16 Easter Holiday Market

MAY

- 7 Mother's Day Celebration
- 28 Memorial Day Holiday Market

JUNE

- 4 11th Year Anniversary Celebration

JULY

- 2 July 4th Holiday Market
- 23 Christmas in July Funday

AUGUST

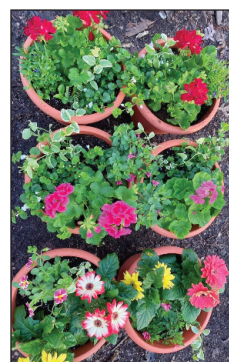
- 6 National Farmers Market Week Celebration

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- 3 Labor Day Holiday Market

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- 1 Pumpkin Festival





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‘They’re really my heroes’

Ocean Pines man speaks on Oct. 31 rescue at Clubhouse Bar and Grille

Wilmington, Delaware native Corey Link and his wife, Brenda, moved to Ocean Pines in April. Link said their new home has “the best of everything,” with a waterfront view, two-car garage and a wraparound driveway on Ocean Parkway.

On the afternoon of Oct. 31, the couple were dining at The Clubhouse Bar and Grille, less than a half mile from their home, when Link collapsed and went unconscious.

In a flash, bartender Rob Ruszin and manager Judie Scotti sprang to action. Scotti grabbed a nearby Automated External Defibrillator (AED) and Ruszin used the machine, and his prior knowledge as a lifeguard, to resuscitate Link. Scotti then called the paramedics, who would later transport Link to TidalHealth in Salisbury.

Just a few minutes after he went unconscious, Link said he was awake and joking with the restaurant staff. But, he added, things could have gone very differently.

Link said he and his wife were at the Clubhouse that day for food and drinks.

“I had just ordered a chili cheese dog and a cocktail, and when I went to take a sip of the cocktail ... my wife said my words were coming out a little weird and then my eyes rolled into the back of my head. I turned blue and fell to the ground,” he said.

“The next thing I remember, I was laughing and joking with [Ruszin] and the paramedics got there, and we laughed and joked all the way to Salisbury,” he added.

Link said TidalHealth doctors told him he had a cardiac arrest brought on by a severe potassium deficiency.

“I was there probably about five days,” he said. “My potassium, it should be like four [millimoles per liter], but it was down around one. Who knew? Potassium is what makes your heart go.

“It just turned off, like somebody flipped a switch. It wasn’t a heart attack, because that damages the heart,” he continued. “The main reason I was there five days, is they were trying to get the potassium and magnesium levels up.”

Link said doctors put him on supplements and told him to eat bananas, and dark green vegetables and beans.

He has no permanent damage to his heart, thanks to the fast action by Ruszin and Scotti. When he was able, Link returned to the Clubhouse to thank them.

“She came running up to me and gave me a big hug, and it was really nice to see them both,” he said. “It’s a big thing for them too. I know they had training, but is it really going to work? It was a big commitment from them, and they’re really my heroes.

“We saw them again on the last day before [the Clubhouse] closed for the season, and my wife thanked them too, because we wouldn’t have had a Christmas if it wasn’t for them,” he added.

Since then, Link has also heard stories from bystanders who

Ocean Pines Volunteer Fire Department President Dave Van Gasbeck, center, presents the American Heart Association’s Heartsaver Hero Award to Rob Ruszin and Judie Scotti. Also pictured are Ocean Pines Board member Doug Parks, left, and Carol Rose, representing Sen. Mary Beth Carozza, right.



Van Gasbeck said he applied for the Heartsaver Hero Award shortly after Oct. 31. “You are both truly heroes,” he said. “You did an amazing job. You just jumped into it, and we can’t tell you how much we appreciate what you’ve done and how much we actually recognize, being in the business, how important it is the work you’ve

were there on Oct. 31.

“My dentist knew somebody that was there that day. She said they just leaped over and started doing CPR, and then they got the [AED] machine and used that,” Link said. “She said it was incredible.

“They’re just my heroes. And even without any of that, they’re just such nice people,” Link continued. “And thank God I was there, because if I was home, by the time the paramedics got there, if I did live, I would have been brain dead. Because of them, I’m here today.”

Studies have shown that quick use of a defibrillator can drastically increase a person’s chance of survival.

A National Institutes of Health report said the survival rate was 74% for victims who received their first defibrillation within three minutes, while those who received their first defibrillation after three minutes have a survival rate of just 49%.

Additionally, an American Heart Association study showed that cardiac arrest victims who received a shock from a publicly available AED had a far greater chance of survival and being discharged from the hospital (66.5%) than those who did not (43%).

For their heroism, Ruszin and Scotti earned honors and recognition from the Worcester County Commissioners, the State of Maryland, the American Heart Association, and the American Red Cross.

The Ocean Pines Association has also continued its commitment to keep AEDs in all its facilities, including the Administration Building and Community Center, all five pools, all three restaurants, and the Golf Club, Marina and Racquet Sports Center.

Aquatics Director Kathleen Cook maintains the defibrillators and supplies information to staff on how to use them.

Cook tests all the units monthly.

“I’m just thrilled that it was there and that it worked,” she said. “[The defibrillator] would have never shocked him unless he needed it, so the guy was in trouble. So, hats off to Judie and Rob. They handled it flawlessly.”

General Manager John Viola said he was proud of the team and gratified that their training and knowledge paid off.

“Their quick actions saved a life. As a resident, that’s extremely comforting,” he said. “We purchased defibrillators last year for all of our facilities, and many of our staff are trained to use them in case of an emergency. Going forward, that will continue to be a priority, and we’ll ensure these devices are working and that our team members know how to use them.”

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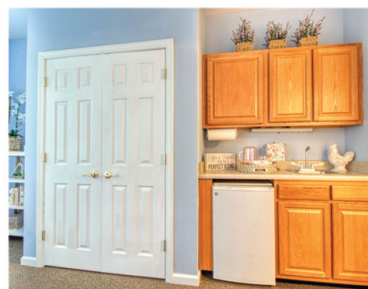


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Bauer receives prestigious Carnegie Hero Fund award

Berlin, OPA officials present honor to local man who saved toddler from drowning

Town of Berlin and Ocean Pines Association officials on March 23 presented Jonathan Bauer with a 2021 Carnegie Hero Fund award, considered North America's highest honor for civilian heroism.

The award was established by industrialist-philanthropist Andrew Carnegie in 1904 to honor acts of extraordinary heroism. Last year 71 Americans received the honor.

According to the Carnegie Hero Fund website, Bauer was involved in a multivehicle accident on the Route 50 Bridge in Ocean City on May 2, 2021. During the accident, a 23-month-old toddler was ejected from her family's pickup truck, "causing her to land in the cold water of the bay."

"Bauer ... climbed over the bridge's guide rail and jumped 30 feet into the shallow water. He swam to the girl, who was unresponsive. Holding her over his shoulder, he tapped her back until she coughed, spit up water, and opened her eyes. Bauer held her above the surface of the water until a pontoon boat arrived to take them to shore. The toddler was airlifted to the hospital and was released the following day. Bauer was sore, but he did not require medical treatment," the website said.

Bauer is an Ocean Pines resident. The Town of Berlin received the physical award through the Carnegie Hero Fund.

During a brief ceremony at Berlin Town Hall on Wednesday, Berlin Mayor Zack Tyndall presented Bauer with the award. Also attending the ceremony were Bauer's wife, Wendi, daughter, Ava, Town of Berlin Mayor's Assistant JoAnn Unger, and Ocean Pines Association Public Relations Director Josh Davis.

Bauer said the award was a true honor, made even more special because he's originally from Pittsburgh, home to the Carnegie Steel Company that launched Andrew Carnegie's fortune.

"Growing up there and being awarded the Carnegie Hero Fund is just amazing," he said. "It absolutely was a life-changing moment, not only for me, but for my entire family."

Bauer's daughter, because of the incident, was inspired to volunteer with local EMS.

Tyndall reflected on his own EMS experience, and said it was a great honor to present the

Carnegie Hero Fund award.

"You work here and you live in Ocean Pines, so I think it's very awesome to have somebody receive that locally," he said. "I also think that what you did impacted a lot of people, including your own daughter and her aspirations, and I think it will forever change you."



Ocean Pines General Manager John Viola said Bauer is an inspiration to the entire community.

"When I read and heard what Mr. Bauer did, I said this person is a hero," Viola said. "What a wonderful and well-deserved thing for him to receive that great honor."

"We couldn't be prouder to call Mr. Bauer one of our own," Davis added. "What he did was truly heroic, and people like him are what make it so

wonderful to live and work in this area."

For more information on the Carnegie Medal and the history of the Carnegie Hero Fund Commission, visit www.carnegiehero.org.

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FAQS about fences in Ocean Pines

Where can I find regulations regarding fences in Ocean Pines?

Section 200.5 of the Architectural Review Committee (ARC) Guidelines has specific information about fencing restrictions and can be found at <https://www.oceanpines.org/web/pages/public-works>.

Are fences permitted?

Yes, but there are exceptions. The ARC has authority to set up regulations as to the height and size requirements. Fences must contribute to and be in keeping with the character of the area in which it is built.

Additionally, certain sections in Ocean Pines may have separate guidelines regarding fences. The Declarations of Restrictions for the different sections in Ocean Pines can be viewed online at <https://www.oceanpines.org/web/pages/board-of-directors>.

Do I need a permit to build a fence?

Yes. The following must be submitted before you build a fence:

- **Zoning permit from Worcester County** (available at <https://www.co.worcester.md.us/departments/drpf/permit>)
- **Filing fee and review inspection fee**
- **Completion Agreement** (The completion deposit is refundable upon final inspection and approval of the fencing and landscaping by the CPI Department.)
- **Two completed copies of the Application for Fencing** (available at Ocean Pines Public Works or at <https://www.oceanpines.org/documents/10184/470931/permit+application+%25281%2529.pdf>)
- **Two copies of a site plan showing the proposed location of the fencing and the types and locations of plantings outside of the enclosure**

Is there a limit to how tall a fence can be?

Yes. The maximum height of a **privacy fence** is 6 feet from the ground directly below it. (Only a maximum of 24 feet in length of privacy fencing is allowed.) **Pre-manufactured dog**

runs up to 72 square feet are also allowed up to 6 feet. **Play and pet enclosure fencing and architectural fencing** can't be higher than 4 feet.

Can I use any materials I want to build a fence?

No. Metal posts, metals rails and wire mesh are not permitted.

I just planted a garden and want to put some fencing around it. Do I need a permit?

No. Fencing is allowed around vegetable gardens and newly landscaped areas without a permit as long as the fence is no more than 2 feet above the ground and is removed after the vegetable growing season and/or the newly landscaped area is established.

I've obtained the necessary permits and have had my fence built. Is there anything else I need to do?

Yes! Fences require plantings that screen the outside perimeter. Generally, planting every 3 feet with a minimum height of 30 inches for a 6-foot-high fence and 18 inches for a 4-foot-high fence is appropriate.

If a fence is not screened within one year after approval, or the plantings are not maintained, the enclosure must be removed.

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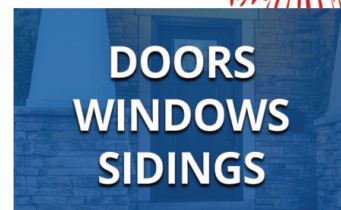
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MAY 6 GREAT TRAIN ROBBERY
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MAY 8 *Mother's Day*
MAY 13 SONS OF PIRATES
MAY 14 EXIT 93
MAY 20 SCORPION ROSE
MAY 21 OPPOSITE DIRECTIONS
MAY 22 **Annual KICK-OFF-
TO-SUMMER LUAU**

Memorial Day Weekend Lineup

MAY 27 **THE BENDERZ**
MAY 28 **TRANZFUSION**
MAY 29 **GREAT TRAIN ROBBERY**

JUN 3 FULL CIRCLE
JUN 4 BOB LOUGHEED
& THE MEMPHIS MAFIA
JUN 5 DOWNHILL UPRISE
JUN 10 OVER TIME
JUN 11 MIKE HINES & THE LOOK
JUN 12 BEACH BANDITS
JUN 17 TRANZFUSION
JUN 18 KALEIDOSCOPE
JUN 19 ROCKAHOLICS
JUN 24 SONS OF PIRATES

JUN 25 DYLAN ZANGWILL 7-10PM
*Featured on America's
Got Talent Season 16!*

JUN 26 HOMETOWN STRANGERS
JUN 30 JOSH CHRISTINA

July 4th Weekend Lineup

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

AUG 7 OVER TIME
AUG 11 LAUREN GLICK (6-9pm)
AUG 12 GREAT TRAIN ROBBERY
AUG 13 ELTON JOHN/BILLY JOEL
TRIBUTE (8-10pm)
AUG 14 JOSH CHRISTINA
AUG 18 BRIAN AND THINGS
AUG 19 THE BIG HOUSE BAND
AUG 20 FULL CIRCLE
AUG 21 ROCKAHOLICS
AUG 25 NELLY'S ECHO
AUG 26 LATE LAST NIGHT
AUG 27 JADE LOVE
AUG 28 SCORPION ROSE

Labor Day Weekend Lineup

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