

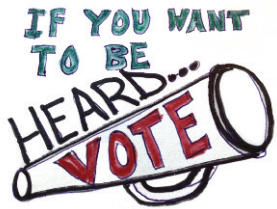


OCEAN PINES REPORT

ELECTION ISSUE

Painting by Jim Adcock

Communications Committee
"VOTE" Sign Contest Winners



Design by The Cook Family

YOUR
VOTE
MATTERS

Design by Kevin Doxzen

KEY DATES in the Election Process

Wed, JULY 6: Cutoff date for voter eligibility

Week of JULY 11: Paper ballots mailed to Association members in good standing

Tue, AUG 8: BALLOTS ARE DUE back to our voting contractor in Washington State by 4 p.m., Eastern Daylight Time

Thu, AUG 10: Ballots counted & vote totals announced starting at 5 p.m., Eastern Daylight Time (Clubhouse Meeting Room)

Sat, AUG 12: Annual Meeting 9am (Clubhouse)

For election questions, email elections@oceanpines.org or call 410-208-3989 & leave a message

Election season is here!

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

Candidate draw results announced

Results of the 2023 Ocean Pines Association Candidate Draw were announced by the Ocean Pines Elections Committee on June 2.

Drawn at random using a series of playing cards, the results determine ballot order for the 2023 Board of Directors election, and the order candidates are seated during the election forum.

Results were:



1. John Latham



2. Jerry Murphy



3. Elaine Brady



4. Jeff Heavner



This year, three seats on the Board will be up for election: those currently held by Doug Parks and Colette Horn, plus the remaining year of Frank Daly's term. Daly announced his retirement on June 6. Because of Daly's retirement, the top-two vote getters will each be elected to a three-year term. The third-place finisher will fill Daly's remaining year.

Elections Committee Chairman Tom Piatti said ballots would be mailed to homeowners the week of July 11 and are **due back to our voting contractor in Washington State by Tuesday, Aug. 8 at 4 p.m., Eastern Daylight Time. Do not delay in placing the ballot in USPS mail.**

For questions about the election, email elections@oceanpines.org.

To "Get To Know The Candidates," see pages 41-45.

Annual Meeting Notice

The Annual Meeting will be held on Saturday, Aug. 12 at 9 a.m. at the Clubhouse. As per our governing documents, members will be checked in to verify voter eligibility. Members are urged to arrive at least 30 minutes early to ensure the verification process is completed prior to the meeting start time. Members will be required to provide a valid ID with photo and name.

Instructions on how to attend the meeting virtually for members in good standing can be found

at oceanpines.org. Please note: Public comments are available only for those who attend in person.

The agenda will include: Call to Order, Appointments, Presentation of the Sam Wilkinson Volunteer Award, Ascertainment of Quorum, Approval of Agenda, Approval of Minutes from the 2022 Annual Meeting, Reports, Unfinished Business, New Business, Elections Committee Report: Validation of Election Results, Public Comments, Adjournment.

Jim Adcock: *From publisher to painter, shaping Ocean Pines for three decades*

As a painter, illustrator and newspaper publisher, Jim Adcock has quietly been one of the most influential figures in the Ocean Pines community over the last three decades.

His fingerprints remain on one of the most widely read local papers – where he continues to pen weekly editorial cartoons – and his vibrant, beachy paintings are ubiquitous with local art, capturing everything from Thrasher’s French Fries and Fisher’s Popcorn, to the Ocean Pines Yacht Club and Golf Clubhouse.



my wife made a pile of money [in real estate]!” he added with a laugh.

Adcock would sell the paper to Elaine Brady and the company that published *Ocean City Today* in 2004. He continues contributing weekly editorial cartoons.

“Occasionally, I would come up with an idea and it would be funny, and I just put it in. And I can’t stop now!” he said of the illustrations.

“But I was very fortunate to sell the newspaper at a time when other papers were folding. And I was very fortunate to get an offer from *Ocean City Today* to really pay off my debts, and that’s when I decided to go back to painting,” Adcock said.

From publisher to painter

At that point, Adcock turned his attention toward freelancing and commission work, focusing especially on capturing the essence of Ocean City.

He started at the inlet and the Boardwalk, but said he was less attracted to the aesthetics and more to the intangibles that drew people to the resort.

“I realized very quickly that the architecture really leaves something to be desired,” he said. “The people are there for the food and for the rides. So, I concentrated on that – whatever tourists will remember, whether it’s a bar or the food they loved or the haunted house. People want to take that memory home with them.”

Over the years, Adcock said he’s refined his approach toward painting that now has as much to do with character as with aesthetics.

“I really enjoy doing local themes,” he said. “And I have a certain pattern when I get a commission. Whether it’s a house or a bar or a restaurant, I’ll go look at it, and I’ll sit down and talk to the bartender. It’s a method so that, when I get ready to paint, I really have a background. I’ve been inside and I’ve gotten to know the place a little.”

Among his favorite painters, Adcock named Edward Hopper, Wayne Thiebaud, Andy Warhol, Alexander Calder, and the Impressionists.

Locally, he’s a fan of people like Deborah Rolig, Patrick Henry, Kirk McBride, Elaine Bean, and Megan Burak. He also spoke highly of the Art League of Ocean City, a group that helped

(cont. on pg. 4)

Start the presses

Adcock grew up in Baltimore, graduated from the prestigious Maryland Institute College of Arts, and worked as a schoolteacher and commercial artist before moving to Ocean Pines in the 1990s.

On the Eastern Shore, he got involved with a company called Coastal Images that both put his artistic talents to good use and gave him a crash course in publishing.

Then, in 1998, he founded the *Ocean Pines Gazette* newspaper that would later become the *Bayside Gazette*.

“I was working for different publishers and freelancing. And I thought to myself, I really don’t like the newspapers in Ocean Pines,” Adcock said. “I thought I could put one together if I got an editor and some other people to work on it, so that’s what I did. I launched the paper and then spent the next seven years behind a computer.”

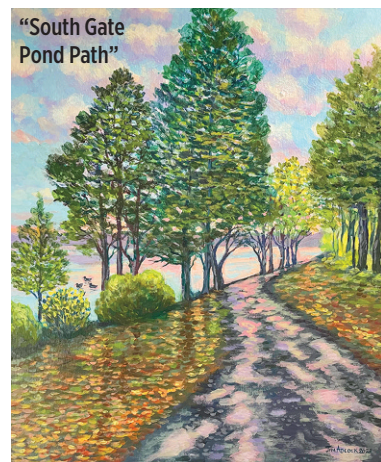
It became something of a family affair, as Adcock’s late wife, Edie Brennan, wrote a social column for the paper and his sister-in-law, Kristy McDonald, wrote the weekly cooking column.

Brennan was one of the original Ocean Pines residents and salespeople, having sold lots in the community since the early 1970s. She received a Coastal Realtors Lifetime Achievement award in 2015.

“I had no idea that either one of them were such good writers,” Adcock said. “And this thing was really popular. We were getting invitations to parties and we didn’t even

know these people! It was just a wild ride for a long time.

“Looking back, I realized I didn’t make very much money, but





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(cont. from pg. 2) him feel at home, despite being a transplant from “over the bridge.”

“I think the Art League is one of the most vital parts of the community, as far as their outreach for all ages and the energy that they put into the community,” he said.

Adcock plans to head back to Assateague Island soon to capture more of the beachy scenery and local wildlife there.

He’s also moving his home and studio from Bishopville to St. Martin’s by the Bay.

Living and working in the Pines

Adcock said Ocean Pines was a little crowded when he first moved there, but there was always plenty to do and see.

“There’s a vibrant community – that’s always been true,” he said. “There may have been different clubs or politics that dominated, but there’s always been something to do if you’re looking for it. It’s always been like that.”

He said the single biggest change during his time happened when the Matt Ortt Companies were brought in to manage Ocean Pines’ food and beverage operations.

“In all the history of bad things, that was the shining star,” he said. “They came along and turned everything around. That was a really great thing.”



“Ocean Pines Golf Club”

He compared the Yacht Club, with its large, open waterfront patio that each summer draws in thousands of residents and visitors, to “the basis for European architecture.”

“It’s a wonderful space for all these people to go, and it’s very, very important for people to gather,” he said.

Adcock, the editorial cartoonist, said he enjoys continuing to contribute to the *Bayside Gazette* – but it’s occasionally something

of a tightrope act. Over the years, he’s lambasted scores of local politicians, including many Ocean Pines Board members.

“I really have to be careful. I have to find out my sources and I have to do research, so that I don’t look bad,” he said. “[Former Board member] Marty Clarke was one of my favorite guys to cover, and he’s got my cartoons going up the staircase to his second floor. It’s quite an honor.”

Adcock is also regular contributor to the *Ocean Pines Report* quarterly newsletter. Some of his commission work is featured in the Ocean Pines Administration Board Room, and in the pages of this issue.

To contact Jim Adcock about a commission, call 410-726-2440, email jimadcock12@gmail.com, or visit www.adcockstudio.com.



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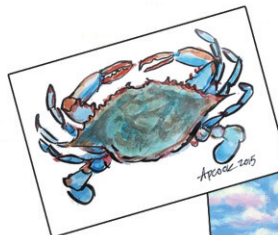
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'Good teachers tell good stories'

Volunteers connect with students at Worcester County Veterans Memorial at Ocean Pines

Each year, hundreds of local students are bussed to the Worcester County Veterans Memorial at Ocean Pines to tour the grounds and learn a valuable lesson about where their freedoms come from.

The Veterans Memorial Foundation, since 2010, has sponsored field trips for all fifth grade students in Worcester County.

Walking the Patriot's Pathway, children learn about the history of American conflicts. They also learn about the memorial itself and hear stories of heroism tied to local people who served.

Volunteer docents talk about the history of the U.S. flag, and the Junior ROTC demonstrates how to properly fold and display it.

Tim McMullen has been a volunteer docent since 2016.

"Professionally, as a retired history teacher, I feel it is absolutely necessary that fifth graders start to appreciate military history," McMullen said. "We have a movement in American high schools now not to teach about Gettysburg, not to teach D-Day. That frightens me.

"And also, I am just so proud of our community," he continued. "I think what we have with this Veterans Memorial and this educational program is phenomenal."

Personally, McMullen said both his parents served during World War II and later met in Paris in the spring of 1945.

"My father, who was Donald McMullen, Sr., ended up as a full colonel with a 10th grade education and is a tremendous inspiration for everyone in our family," McMullen said. "My mother, in 1942, got into an argument with her father and told him she was going to join the WACs, which was the Woman Army Corps. He told her she didn't have the courage enough to do it. So, she got on a bus and went to Boston. And I remember her telling me the next thing she knew she was in London during the Blitzkrieg."

The couple were married in 1946 and soon after had two sons, 11 months apart: Tim and Don McMullen, Jr. Along with his parents, McMullen said he was also inspired by his youngest brother, Bill, who enlisted in the U.S. Army in 1967 and served in Vietnam.



Agent Orange," McMullen said. "When we count the number of people that died in the Vietnam War, we count those people that died during that period, from about 1963 to 1974. But there are thousands and thousands of Americans who died from physical and emotional difficulties because of Vietnam."

As a former teacher, McMullen said it's important to engage visiting students with those kinds of personal stories.

"What you have to do is ask each of them, do you have a veteran in your family?" he said. "Then I tell the story about these two people, one from Western Pennsylvania who quit school in 11th grade, lied about his age, and enlisted. And I tell them about the lady in Boston who got in a fight with her dad.

"Good history teachers can tell good stories. Those stories are important," McMullen added.

McMullen credited his brother, Don, along with Susan Pantone and Sharyn O'Hare, with making the educational programs a vital part of the community and an important part of each local student's schooling.

He said volunteering also helps strengthen the bond with his brother.

"For me to be able to do this with Don is very important," he said. "Don and I are the two oldest in a large family. We were born the same year and we grew up like twins, although we're not twins. The fact that I'm doing it with Don is very important to me.

"I think it's also important to note that Don and I are not creating and inventing things - Don and I are carrying on the tradition that was taught by our parents. And now we pass the baton on down," he added.

Mary Adair, a former president of the Worcester County Veterans Memorial Foundation, has been involved with the education program for about a decade.

Her late husband, U.S. Army Col. Robert Adair, served two tours in Vietnam and she still describes herself as a military wife.

"My husband served 28 years active duty as an officer. That



"Bill spent three years in the service, and we just buried him a year ago. Among other things, he had respiratory lung failure due to

was my life and it's very close to my heart - our country, our flag, all of it," she said. "Everything that I live for is for our freedom and



the fact that I want the children to be aware of this. I don't think that they're teaching it in school, so I try to instill in them the pride for our flag and for our country."

As a docent, Adair talks about the history of the U.S. flag and some of its notable variations. In doing so, she said she tries to keep things light and keep things moving.

"I try to have an interplay with them," she said. "I tell them that they're not in school and there's no wrong answers. Hopefully, they will learn some things from having gone through the presentation, but I also want them to ask questions. I want it to be kind of a conversation."

Adair said she'll speed through the first two colonies that joined the union, and then introduce Vermont and its role in history as that place that also gave us Ben and Jerry's, skiing and maple syrup.

"I usually go through all the New England states fairly quickly, so they can pick up on it. But when they do connect with something, you can really see their faces light up," she said.

Adair said everyone knows about George Washington, but many students don't know much about the War of 1812, or Gen. Charles Cornwallis.

"I think it's important because a lot of adults didn't know that stuff either," she said. "In fact, I didn't know until I started teaching that the Queen Anne's Flag was the British flag that



the British troops marched under, and I just think that's kind of cool to know!

"Over the years I've cut out quite a bit, but I still want them to know that if you hold a flag upside down that it's a sign of distress, because that's still useful today. And I like to tell them about who is third in succession for the president. So, just a few key points that I know they're not getting in school," she

continued.

"It's also got to be fun for them," Adair said. "They're out there for a fun day. They're not out there to be in class, so to speak. So that's the way I try to approach it."

For others who may be inspired to tell similar stories or give back to their community, Veterans Memorial Foundation President Marie Gilmore said there is always a need for volunteers.

"We're always looking for new docents to tell the stories of our veterans," she said.

"If you feel strongly about your country and you feel strongly about the memorial, we welcome you with open arms," Adair added.

Docent training generally starts in April, ahead of annual field trips in May and October.

For more information on volunteering, call Susan Pantone at 410-430-1040 or Don McMullen at 443-388-2941.

To learn more about the Worcester County Veterans Memorial at Ocean Pines, visit www.opvets.org.



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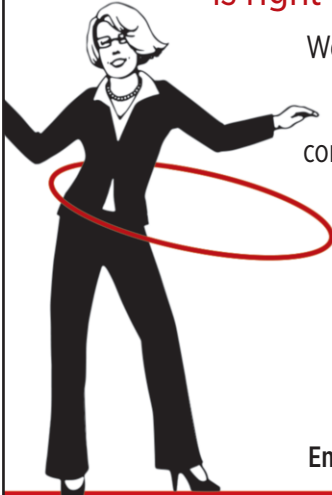
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Guest column:

Good to be back on the Shore

By Mary Beth Carozza

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



With the Maryland General Assembly adjourned until January, it's **good to be back on the Shore**, visiting with constituents and attending local events, especially those with my parents, Tony and Mary Pat Carozza of Ocean Pines. With a new governor and many new legislators, I have stayed focused on balancing local bills and key policies impacting the Shore while providing quality constituent service.

Several of the bills I introduced in the 2023 session have been signed into law, including Senate Bill 823, which allows for a **\$40 discount on the annual \$75 State Park Pass for law enforcement and first responders**, including fire/EMS/paramedics and 9-1-1 specialists; and Senate Bill 493, establishing a commission to study the adequacy of trauma funding across Maryland. This was a top legislative priority, as **TidalHealth is the only trauma center on Maryland's Eastern Shore**, and it's vital to ensure fair funding for the trauma center in the future. Additionally, \$9.5 million was set aside to assist trauma centers experiencing financial challenges, and I worked to successfully secure **\$250,000 for needed medical equipment at Atlantic General Hospital**.

Another local capital bond that I supported and introduced by Del. Wayne Hartman provides **\$75,000 for the Ocean Pines Volunteer Fire Department South Station renovation**. The Maryland General Assembly also passed Senate Bill 414, focusing on recruitment and retention incentives for firefighters and other first responders to address the workforce and volunteer shortage. I expect similar legislation to be reintroduced next session to increase recruitment and retention initiatives for law enforcement as well.

As a member of the Maryland General Assembly's Veterans Caucus, I co-sponsored Senate Bill 553, Keep Our Heroes Home Act, which **increases the maximum amount of military retirement income** that may be exempt from Maryland income tax from \$5,000 to \$12,500 for veterans younger than 55 and from \$15,000 to \$20,000 for veterans 55 and older. The bill unanimously passed both the Senate and House.

Retiree tax relief will continue to be a top priority for me. I again cosponsored Senate Bill 461, the Retirement Tax Elimination Act of 2023 designed to phase out all retiree state income tax by 2028 for retired seniors at least 65 years old, not employed full-time, and on a fixed income. This would help those on fixed incomes who have worked all their lives and now are retired but having problems keeping up with inflation and the high cost of living. SB 461 did not advance this session but will be reintroduced next session.

One of the major achievements of the previous 2022 legislative session was the long-awaited passage of Gov. Hogan's retiree tax relief legislation, which I cosponsored. This legislation included \$1.55 billion reduction in taxes over five years for

retirees 65 or older. Individual Marylanders who make less than \$100,000 a year in retirement income receive a \$1,000 subtraction off the income taxes they owe, and married couples making \$150,000 or less receive a \$1,750 subtraction. I will continue to advocate for a full exemption for all retirees.

As **violent crime** continues to increase everywhere, we are fortunate that our local communities, especially Ocean Pines, remain relatively low in crime and we want to keep it that way. The Joint Republican Caucus sponsored and advocated for several bills to combat Maryland's violent crime crisis by increasing penalties on repeat, violent offenders using guns and other gun crimes, but the Maryland General Assembly failed to act on these measures.

With the brutal murders of local law enforcement **Delmar Police Cpl. Keith Heacock** in 2021 and **Wicomico Sheriff Cpl. Glenn Hilliard** in 2022 by repeat, violent offenders, I vow to continue my push for increasing penalties against these hardened criminals who kill and have a total disregard for human life.

Turning to the positive, one of my most rewarding public service experiences is awarding and presenting my Senate scholarship to our local students. These scholarships help keep our local student talent right here in Maryland, with many scholarship recipients attending **Salisbury University**, the **University of Maryland Eastern Shore**, and **Wor-Wic Community College**, all three in District 38.

It is an honor to attend these high school award ceremonies and let these remarkable students know their hard work has paid off. However, this program is not only open to graduating high school seniors who have been accepted at a Maryland community college or university, public or private, but also to returning veterans, single mothers, and other adults who have decided to pursue their passions through education, training, and a new career. For more information on my **Maryland Senate Scholarship** program, please email me at marybeth.carozza@senate.state.md.us.

I truly am grateful and blessed for this opportunity to serve the people of Ocean Pines and all of District 38, which includes a total of 11 municipalities spread throughout Worcester, Wicomico, and Somerset counties. It is a special joy when I can participate in events with my parents, like the annual and very meaningful Memorial Day Ceremony held at the **Worcester County Veterans Memorial**, or ask them to represent me at local small business openings like **PopCe's Homemade Ice Cream** in Ocean Pines sponsored by the **Ocean Pines Chamber of Commerce**. With these type of sweets involved, this was not a hard sell to my folks!

I wish you a very happy, healthy, and relaxing summer, and hope to see you when I'm out making my constituent rounds.



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Guest column:

County budget passed

By Chip Bertino

Worcester County Commissioner, Ocean Pines District



The Worcester County Fiscal 2024 budget was passed by Commissioners during our June 6 meeting. The \$235,890,227 budget reflects an increase of \$8,833,449, or 4% more than the FY23 budget while reducing the requested expenditures of \$241 million by \$5.8 million. Budget decisions were based upon current and projected trends.

The FY24 budget maintains the real property tax rate of 84.5¢ per \$100 of assessed value and the county's local income tax rate of 2.25%. Worcester County residents will continue to benefit from the lowest income tax rate and the third lowest real property tax rate, as compared to all other counties in Maryland. This fiscally conservative budget maintains funding for valuable public services such as public safety, education, and infrastructure.

The county allocation for the Board of Education's (BOE) operating budget is \$100,765,319, a decrease of \$218,286 based on a lower student population. School construction debt and Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB) is paid by the county on behalf of the BOE. These expenses are not reflected in the BOE's budget; however, it is included in the county's operating budget. The BOE's approved operating budget of \$100,765,319 plus debt service of \$10,797,206 and OPEB of \$8,485,818 totals \$120,048,343, or 51% of the County's total estimated revenue.

The cost per student increased 4.7% to \$26,884 for fiscal 2024, the highest of all jurisdictions in the state.

County employees received a 2% Cost of Living Adjustment as well as a step increase, which is 2.5%.

Ratepayers of the Ocean Pines Water and Wastewater district will see a \$12 increase in their base quarterly bills beginning in July. This increase was unfortunately unavoidable and is directly

related primarily to increased costs for fuel and chemicals.

To honor volunteers whose contributions help improve the quality of life locally, Worcester County residents are invited to nominate individuals, organizations, and businesses for the Volunteer Spirit of Worcester County awards. The nomination period is open through Aug. 25 at 4:30 p.m.

Volunteer Spirit nominations will be accepted for each of the following eight categories, with one winner to be chosen from each: individual, group/team, emerging leader, faith-based, non-profit volunteer program, local business, veteran, and lifetime achievement.

Nominees should reside in and represent the volunteer spirit of Worcester County. Nomination forms are found online at www.worcestervolunteer.org. Once there, click on "News." Completed forms may be submitted to the

Human Resources Office, Room 1301 in the Worcester County Government Center in Snow Hill, or by contacting Brinkley at 410-632-0090 or kbrinkley@co.worcester.md.us.

All five branch libraries – Berlin, Ocean City, Ocean Pines, Pocomoke, and Snow Hill – will have paper copies of the nomination form. This year nomination forms may also be completed and submitted at any Worcester County branch library.

Finally, the county continues to recruit for multiple positions, including Emergency Services specialists (9-1-1 dispatchers). If you or someone you know is interested in working for Worcester County, go to <https://worcesterhr.co.worcester.md.us> for a complete listing of open positions and requirements.

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

Enjoy your summer and be safe.



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Guest column by the Worcester County Health Department

Summer sun safety

Summer projections from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) show that Maryland is predicted to have one of the hottest summers on record. Living on the Eastern Shore, residents are more vulnerable to this extreme heat. Here are some tips to keeping cool this summer:

- **Limit your outdoor activity, especially midday (during the hours of 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.) when the sun is hottest.**
- **Drink more water than usual & don't wait until you're thirsty to drink more. Muscle cramping may be an early sign of heat-related illness.**
- **Wear loose, lightweight, light-colored clothing.**
- **Always use sunscreen of SPF 15 or higher.**
- **Check on a friend or neighbor & have someone do the same for you.**
- **Never leave children or pets in cars.**
- **Keep humidity in mind - When the humidity is high, sweat won't evaporate as quickly. This keeps your body from releasing heat as fast as it may need to.**

Remember, those who are at highest risk include people 65 and older, children younger than two, and people with chronic diseases. Take these measures to stay cool, hydrated, and healthy this summer.

Be prepared, not scared - Hurricane preparedness

From June 1 to Nov. 30 is the Atlantic hurricane season. The Eastern Shore is vulnerable to weather threats such as hurricanes and flooding. It's important for you and your family to have a planned response in the event of an emergency. When you're prepared for whatever comes your way, you're not scared.

Here are some preparedness tips for you and your family:

- **Have an emergency kit ready with supplies for at least three days.**
- **Know your evacuation/route.**
- **Have important documents/ID's copied & in a safe place.**
- **Stay informed - use weather apps, radio stations, or television stations to stay up to date on any developing storms.**

This summer, Worcester Health is launching the "Be Prepared, Not Scared" video series starring community members, and details everything you will need to know to be prepared for this hurricane season. Videos will be posted on the Worcester Health YouTube channel and Facebook page.

Hot summer programs

Quit Smoking/Vaping Classes:

Kick off your summer days by quitting smoking/vaping! Summer is a great time to begin your quit journey; you're less stressed, there's more sunshine, and outdoor activities resume. Take advantage of all of these good changes and join one of our Quit Smoking/Vaping classes!

Worcester Health offers classes for both youth aged 13-17 and adults over 18. For the adults, vouchers for free nicotine patches, gum, or lozenges are offered with regular attendance of

weekly classes.

For more information on the Quit Smoking/Vaping Classes, call 410-632-1100 ext. 1103.

Diabetes Prevention & Support:

Did you know that 96 million adults in the U.S have prediabetes? Many do not even know they have it because prediabetes often goes undetected until serious health problems such as type 2 diabetes show up. It's important to talk to your primary care physician about getting your blood sugar tested if you have any of the risk factors for prediabetes, which include:

- **Being overweight**
- **Being 45 years or older**
- **Having a parent, brother, or sister with type 2 diabetes**
- **Being physically active less than three times a week**
- **Ever having gestational diabetes (diabetes during pregnancy) or giving birth to a baby who weighed more than nine pounds**
- **Having polycystic ovary syndrome**

Worcester Health offers multiple diabetes prevention and support programs including Lifestyle Balance, Diabetes Support Group, and Medical Nutrition Therapy. For more information on diabetes programs, call 410-632-1100 ext. 1108.



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Guest column:

Summer energy efficiency tips

By Mike Malandro, President & CEO
Choptank Electric Cooperative



Choptank Electric Cooperative

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The summer months are opportune times for home upgrades and DIY projects. If you're planning to make improvements to your home, consider upgrades that promote better efficiency. Here are a few projects that can help you save energy and money – and increase the comfort of your home.

Installing a smart thermostat is one of the simplest ways to manage home energy use and keep summer bills in check. Smart thermostats are easy to install and allow you to control your heating and cooling system from your phone. You can purchase an ENERGY STAR®-certified smart thermostat for as low as \$100, which can save you 8% on annual heating and cooling costs, about \$50 per year. This upgrade will quickly pay for itself, and you'll gain insight into better ways to heat and cool your home with the data from the app.

Speaking of smart, additional devices like **smart LED bulbs** also offer convenient control and help boost energy savings at home. With smart lighting, you can set a schedule for when and how your lights should be turned on or off. And the next time you head out to run errands and realize you left the lights on, all you have to do is turn them off through your phone. Smart lights come in a variety of shapes, colors and brightness levels – and you can purchase bulbs for indoor or outdoor use. Schedule outdoor smart lights to illuminate your home at night and when you're out of town for better security.

While it's not as trendy as incorporating smart technologies, **sealing air leaks around your home** is a simple, effective way to save energy and lower your bills. Applying new or replacing old weather stripping around doors and windows can instantly make your home more comfortable and reduce energy waste. Applying caulk to fill gaps can also improve the seal of your home. Caulk can be

applied to a variety of areas, including windows, doors, bathtubs and sinks.

If your home feels too warm during summer (and too chilly during winter) even after you've sealed with weather stripping and caulk, **your home may need additional insulation**. Insulation is considered a more expensive efficiency upgrade; however, if your home is under-insulated, additional insulation can make a big impact on reducing energy use and costs. The cost of new insulation depends on a variety of factors like materials, size of the home and whether you use a contractor. Typically, the project costs can be recouped in a few years and your home will immediately feel more comfortable.

Of course, there are additional efficiency upgrades that can make a big impact on energy use, like **replacing old appliances** with ENERGY-STAR® models or with new, energy efficient windows. But these upgrades can be a bit pricey.

If you're wanting to make your home more energy efficient but you're not sure where to start, your best bet is to enlist the help of an expert to conduct an energy audit of your home. An energy audit can easily identify areas to boost efficiency, and then you can determine the projects you want to tackle first based on your budget and needs.

Choptank Electric Cooperative's **Chop-A-Watt Home Energy Saver Program** assists eligible members (based on income) through grants to accomplish weatherization projects and repairs in their homes to become more energy efficient. Learn more about the qualifications and apply today at choptankelectric.coop/chop-a-watt.

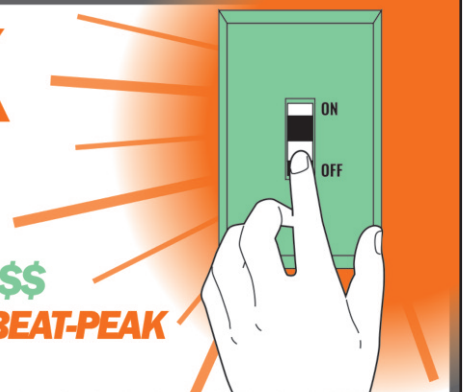
For more information about energy efficiency during warmer weather and to start making changes to save money before the summer months, visit choptankelectric.coop/energy-efficiency.

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Bullying: What you and your child's teachers can do to stop it



Guest column by The Jesse Klump Suicide Awareness & Prevention Program

Bullying happens often at school, or on social media among kids who are classmates. This means that educators play a key role in stopping bullying behavior when they see it happen. Educators and families can also make a big difference in preventing bullying before it starts. When educators plan activities that create a welcoming school environment, they help prevent bullying.

Teachers are asked to do a lot in modern times – teach, discipline, act as social worker, counselor, work with others to provide healthy meals, be aware of mental health issues, and last but not least learn to protect their students from in-school violence. It's a complicated job, and never has there been a time when “it takes a village to raise a child” been truer. Bullying is also a main cause of youth suicide. What can families and teachers do to stop it before it happens?

Understand that bullying is a hurtful two-way street. It harms the victim of course, but it also harms the bully. Both kids need guidance.

Model kindness and respect. By treating others with kindness and respect, adults show the kids in their lives that there is no place for bullying.

Bullying isn't just an issue for families and teachers – it's a community concern. Identify partners such as mental health specialists, neighborhood associations, service groups, faith-based organizations, and businesses that interact with young people.

Involve youth. Teens can take leadership roles in bullying prevention among younger kids.

How do you recognize the signs that a child is being bullied? Kids are good at hiding their emotions. Here are some signs that a child is being bullied:

- **Be aware of excuses to stay home from school: faking illness, feeling sick**
- **Lost or torn clothing, lost electronics, lost school supplies can indicate that other kids are picking on a bullying victim**
- **Unexplained bruises or cuts**
- **Falling grades**
- **Sleeplessness, anger, mood swings**

If an older sibling begins to bully younger siblings, that is a sign that the older child is suffering from bullying.

The first recommended step for families is to try to get your child to open up about what's happening in their life by showing them that you understand and won't judge them.

Listen: Encourage your child to tell you the whole story. Listen calmly and without interrupting, and reassure them that they've done the right thing by speaking up. Your child may need to tell the story more than once.

Talk: Have a conversation about what happened. Try not to let your very understandable emotions (anger, distress) show. Your feelings can intensify the child's or make it worse for them and might even deter your child from talking to you another time.

Take note: What, when and where did the bullying occur, who was involved, how often and if anybody else witnessed it. Don't offer to confront the young person or their parents yourself. This might make things worse for your child.

For more information on how families can prevent bullying or stop it in its tracks, visit <https://momlovesbest.com/bullying-prevention>.



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Green Street: Easy ways to go "green"

Guest column by
the Environment & Natural Assets Committee

Since the very first Earth Day in 1970, more and more individuals have joined the movement to mindfully make choices in their daily lives that reduce pollution and waste to protect the environment. Here in Ocean Pines, we can all contribute to the preservation of the beautiful natural resources that surround us by adopting lifestyle changes that can contribute to a greener and cleaner future.

Here are some simple steps each of us can take to go green.

Cut down on single-use plastics. Plastic doesn't biodegrade or get absorbed back into the environment, which means it can sit in landfills for hundreds of years where it breaks apart into smaller and smaller pieces called microplastics. While it's nearly impossible to avoid all plastic, switching to reusable water bottles and grocery bags is a good place to start. Instead of buying bottled water, start carrying a refillable bottle. Keep handy a supply of reusable bags for groceries and store leftovers in reusable containers.

Go paperless by embracing technology. Sign up for paperless utility bills and financial statements that can be downloaded and stored on digital drives. Use one of the many free apps available for making lists and taking notes on your phone, tablet or laptop. Don't worry about the paper backlog you have already accumulated and concentrate on developing new habits going forward. Of course there are important papers that we all need to keep, but by going digital with most documents you can reduce the time you spend filing and the space needed to store paper files.

Reuse your household "greywater." In most homes, there are several sources of uncontaminated water that can be used to water plants and gardens, for cleaning projects, and for just about anything but drinking. Safe greywater sources include water collected by dehumidifiers, cooking water from pasta or vegetables and ice melt from coolers. Ambitious "greenies" might even consider installing a cistern to collect rainwater.

Reduce food waste. Plan meals carefully to avoid leftovers and/or make plans to use them. Gardeners might consider composting as a way to recycle kitchen scraps (excluding proteins), grass clippings, leaves, and other yard waste into a high quality soil amendment.

Switch to battery-powered yard tools. Eliminate unwieldy electrical cords, gasoline costs and pollution by switching to rechargeable battery-powered yard maintenance tools. From lawnmowers to leaf blowers, you can now find everything you need to maintain your landscape in a battery-powered format.

Reduce home energy consumption. Replace incandescent light bulbs with LED types and turn off lights when

you leave the room. Unplug chargers when they are not in use. Install solar-powered or motion detector lighting in outdoor areas. Save money on your heating and cooling bills by lowering your thermostat when you are asleep or away from home. (Programmable thermostats make this easy but are not recommended for homes that have heat pumps). Wash laundry in cold water instead of hot.

Buy Used. Before buying something new, consider secondhand shopping. Quality clothing, furniture and other household goods can often be found at thrift stores or from online resale outlets. Secondhand shoppers save money and help the environment by avoiding the resources used to produce, package, and ship new products.

Adopt Greener Driving Habits. Even if you are not driving a hybrid or all-electric car, there are ways to reduce gas consumption and emissions. Make sure your car and tires are well-maintained and keep your trunk or hatchback empty of items that might weigh your car down. Drive the speed limit and coast as much as you can. Take your foot off the gas pedal when you are approaching a red light or stop sign. Being gentle with your car's accelerator saves gas and improves brake life. Use cruise control to maintain a steady speed on highways and avoid idling. Many newer vehicles allow you to drive in "Eco Mode," which is another gas-saving feature.

Finally, observe the 3 "Rs" of Sustainable Living. The first "R" is for reduce. As is noted above, reducing consumption of single-use plastics, food waste and buying used are good ways to reduce your carbon footprint. The second "R" is for reuse. Before you toss an item into a recycling bin, consider how it might have a second life. Glass jars and bottles can be reused to store pantry goods and other household items or in creative crafts. Plastic carryout containers can be reused for leftovers. Outgrown clothes can be donated to thrift stores and worn out household textiles can become cleaning rags. The third "R" is for recycle. Whenever possible, choose products that come in recyclable containers. In Ocean Pines, Republic Services accepts glass, plastics numbered 1 through 7, and most paper and cardboard material including milk cartons in their large mixed material bins. Republic also accepts but does not recycle yard waste. Using paper bags instead of plastic for yard waste decreases its life in a landfill.

You don't have to adopt all of these green habits at once. Start slowly by changing one behavior and then add new eco-friendly practices gradually until they eventually become second nature. The more you do, the better you will feel about your carbon footprint and your impact on our ecosystems.



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Message from the OPA BOARD PRESIDENT



Doug Parks
OPA President

Summer is in full swing

Summer is here and I'm sure the weather will cooperate so we can enjoy the wonderful amenities here in Ocean Pines. Given our swimming pools, pickleball and tennis courts, golf course and many other services and facilities, there is something for everyone in our community.

The Yacht Club is in full swing and with the number of folks that are going there, especially on Friday and Saturday evenings to enjoy the live music, things are looking up for a successful and enjoyable summer season. The Matt Ortt Companies continue

to provide great service and quality in managing our food and beverage operations.

The upgrades to the marina dock have been completed and the GM is addressing a number of other issues, including walking trails and informative signage that will keep Ocean Pines a community we can be proud of in both activities and appearance. With the changes that have been done at the North Gate, the entrance to Ocean Pines is more inviting than ever. As I said in the spring newsletter, all in all, the community and its amenities are in good hands with John Viola and his team.

However, we do have some challenges ahead. The south side fire station building is in need of major renovation. Thanks to Sen. Carozza and Del. Hartman, \$1.3 million has been secured that will cover some of the costs of these much-needed improvements. A task force organized by our GM is looking into several potential funding opportunities to address the overall costs of the project. Additionally, in the foreseeable future the Association

will need to address the need for professional firefighters, as the ability to effectively staff the department with volunteers is becoming more difficult.

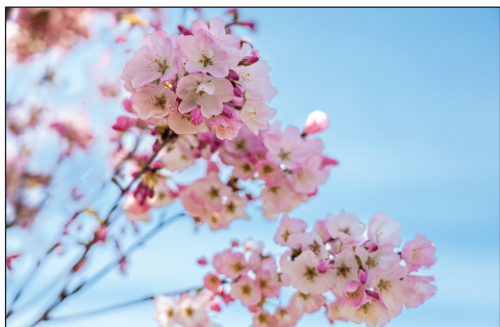
The election is upon us and there are three Director seats to be filled. The candidate pool is sound and I am confident the Association will be in good hands

with the new Board. Read the bios, get to know the candidates, and vote for those who you believe will work together and continue to support our community and its membership.

On a personal note, this article is my last as a Board member, as my second term expires in August. I have gladly served the Ocean Pines community for the past seven years through both challenging and prosperous times, and even accomplished a few things along the way.

I want to thank several of my former Board colleagues, committee members, and the GM and his staff who offered their generous support during my time on the Board. I don't plan on "going away" and "riding off into the sunset" after I'm off the Board, so I'll see you at the Yacht Club, or the golf course, or the Beach Club, or somewhere else in Ocean Pines.

Here's wishing everyone a safe and enjoyable summer season full of good times with family, friends and neighbors.



Ocean Pines Association BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board of Directors is a legislative policy-setting body of the Ocean Pines community. The affairs & business of the Association are managed by a Board of 7 & the terms of the Directors will be for 3 years & until their respective successors are duly elected policy-setting. The Board of Directors appoints a General Manager to oversee the executive management of the operations of the Association. **Email all members at directors@oceanpines.org.**



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John Viola
General Manager

Operations updates: year-end financials, cell towers, new capital projects, and more

Financial updates: The unaudited numbers for April were positive to budget by approximately \$36,000. The favorability was largely driven by a strong showing from Golf operations and maintenance, which were positive to budget by \$52,000.

Overall, the Association finished the fiscal year ahead of budget projections by just over \$1.15 million.

Over 90 percent of the favorability is driven by revenue growth, because across the board we have a very good product. When you have a good product and the weather agrees with us, we're going to make those good numbers.

The preliminary estimate for May, which was the start of a new fiscal year, was \$150,000 positive to budget.

Cell service improvements coming: The Association reached out to Verizon about the poor cell phone reception in Ocean Pines, and upon request provided a list of problem areas, as well as phone numbers of volunteers who agreed to help the company explore the issue.

Verizon representatives said there are plans to upgrade existing equipment in the Berlin and Ocean Pines area next year, but they will try to get the work done this year. The company is also looking into the possibility of additional cell towers.

An Ocean Pines workgroup will continue to work with Verizon and provide updates.

Marina gas dock: The new Marina gas dock is open seven days a week, from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. All five gas pumps are up and running.

The Association received a few questions about the decision to go with an aluminum dock. The new dock meets all necessary safety requirements and is more durable than similar wooden structures.

Installation was done following standards of the American Boat and Yacht Council and the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers/National Electrical Contractors Association. The dock was inspected and certified by the contractor and the State of Maryland.

Many marinas have aluminum docks, as they require less maintenance, have a long life, and are cooler to the touch and more environmentally friendly. No paint or other chemicals go into the bay while power washing.

In short, you have a product that will last way longer – and is more efficient and effective – than the wooden docks.

Also at the Marina, Dockmaster Ron Fisher has introduced a new line of merchandise in the shop, including fishing gear and bait, shirts and hats, and soda, ice cream and other snacks.

Proposed capital projects: Capital projects in consideration for the next fiscal-year budget include playground upgrades at Bainbridge Park, a toll area for the boat launches, a new irrigation system at the Golf Club, a new Racquet Center building, a pavilion at the Veterans Memorial, and a new south fire station.

Each project will be reviewed by the Budget and Finance Committee, and each will be vetted through benchmarks.

Specifically on Bainbridge Park, we formed a work group to study replacing the existing structure with a new ADA compliant one. A survey on



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ASSOCIATION**

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

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

The Ocean Pines Association will observe the following upcoming holidays. Please note that Ocean Pines administrative offices will be closed for:

Independence Day: Tue, July 4

Labor Day: Mon, Sept. 4

OCEAN PINES REPORT

A Quarterly Publication by
OCEAN PINES ASSOCIATION, INC.
239 Ocean Parkway, Ocean Pines, MD 21811

Marketing & Public Relations Dept.

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

Marketing & Public Relations Dir.

Josh Davis

443.366.1844 • jdavis@oceanpines.org

Marketing Coordinator

Nancy MacCubbin

410.641.7717 Ext. 3014
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the playground was released on June 15, and preplanning discussions occurred with two vendors. The Association is exploring grants to help at least partially fund the project.

Maintenance update: Maintenance continues to be a high priority, with work being split between Ocean Pines Public Works and outside contractors.

Recently completed initiatives include painting the Clubhouse and Yacht Club bathrooms, and painting the Yacht Club bar area. A new baby swing was added at Bridgewater Playground, and the Manklin Meadows Playground entrance was updated to make it more ADA accessible.

Ongoing initiatives include maintenance of Ocean Pines walking trails, general landscaping, and the addition of a second fountain at the North Gate.

Golf updates: The Golf Club recently hosted several major tournaments, including the 2023 Men's Club Championship on June 24-25, and the annual Ravens Roost Tournament on June 2. The Ravens Roost event raised funds for scholarships for local high school students.

Business at the course and the pro shop continue to be robust, and Golf Director Bob Beckleman is a big reason why. Since Bob's been here, every month has been a big increase from the prior year – all record breaking.

Golf Superintendent Justin Hartshorne and his staff also deserve a lot of credit for keeping the course well maintained.

The course is in excellent shape, and the place is packed.

Racquet Center updates: The Racquet Center has also been busy, holding a Davis Cup tennis event on June 10 and a "Pickle Bowl" on June 23.

Staff held an open house on May 27, and platform tennis

clinics are scheduled each Saturday in June.

Recreation and Parks events: The Veterans Memorial recently hosted field trips for Worcester County fifth graders, an annual Memorial Day ceremony, and a car show sponsored by Kiwanis.

Coming up, the Recreation and Parks Department will host Family Fun Nights on Wednesdays, June 21-Aug. 23, at the Yacht Club Pool from 6-8 p.m. Concerts in the Park return on Thursdays, June 22 to Aug. 24, at White Horse Park from 7-9 p.m.

Rules reminder: As a public service announcement, we're asking residents to keep in mind that all dogs must be on a leash – even on Ocean Pines property – per county law. Dog owners should also clean up after their pets.

Additionally, per Ocean Pines guidelines, trash cans must be stored away from the curb on the evening after trash is collected.

CPI, work orders, and other questions: The Compliance, Permit and Inspections (CPI) Department saw 73 new violations opened in May, including 56 for maintenance, trash or high grass. During the same period, 48 cases were closed. In total, 167 remain open.

The department also saw 121 new work orders opened in May and 117 work orders closed. As of May 31, 110 remain open, most of which are related to drainage items.

The info@oceanpines.org email for general questions received 156 questions in May. Most, 84, were general questions. Thirty-five were about amenities, 24 were about Public Works issues, and 13 were for CPI.

For additional questions, email info@oceanpines.org any time or call 410-641-7717 during normal business hours.



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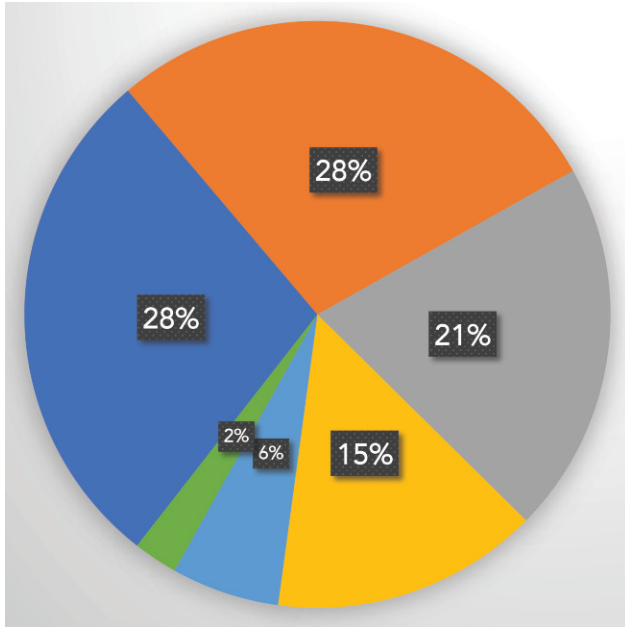




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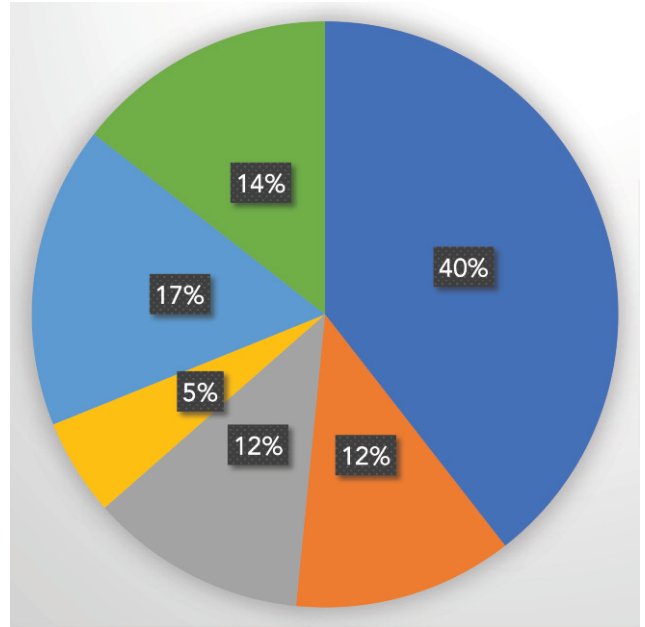
FINANCE DEPARTMENT

Where Your Assessment Dollars Go



Public Safety	(\$289)
Public Works & Maintenance	(\$287)
Capital Replacement	(\$210)
Admin	(\$151)
Rec and Parks	(\$ 61)
Bulkheads	(\$ 25)

Amenities with an Operating Profit



Beach Parking	\$509,769
Yacht Club	\$156,257
Beach Club	\$154,302
Clubhouse Grille	\$ 69,019
Marinas	\$215,404
Golf	\$186,567

- The majority of OPA homeowners' assessments dollars goes toward keeping the community safe and well maintained.
- Just over half, **56%**, pays for public safety (including Police, **Fire** and **EMS**), and **Public Works and Maintenance**.
- Roughly **20%** goes to funding for current and future year **capital expenses**, and about **15%** pays for **administration costs**, which includes the GM Office, Finance and PR/Marketing departments, along with other administrative costs such as legal expenses, IT contracted services, bad debt expense, Board expenses, etc.
- About **6%** helps pay for **Recreation and Parks** programs, and **2%** pays for common area **bulkhead replacement**.

- Four of Ocean Pines' six amenities were budgeted with an operating profit in fiscal year 2023-2024.
- That includes:
 - **Beach Parking** with a **\$509,769** operating profit
 - Combined **Food and Beverage** with a **\$379,578** operating profit
 - **Marinas** with a **\$215,404** operating profit
 - **Golf** with a **\$186,567** operating profit.
- A fifth amenity, **Racquet Sports**, is budgeted close to breaking even.
- Combined amenities are budgeted with an overall operating profit of about **\$1.2 million**, meaning the amenities help to reduce the overall Ocean Pines




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Message from COMPLIANCE, PERMITS & INSPECTIONS DEPARTMENT



Linda Martin
Senior Executive
Office Manager

Be a good and respectful neighbor

Everywhere you look on the weekends there are yard sales, especially during the summer months. The Compliance, Permits and Inspections (CPI) Department receives several complaints regarding yard sales, mostly about the congestion of traffic on a particular street or the numerous yard sales a certain neighbor is having, even during the week. As a reminder, per Section 600.3.I. of the

or persons that place any signs for yard sales to remove all signs by 5:00 p.m. on the last permitted sale date. Yard sales are limited to a total of four (4) per year per developed lot.

This includes the popular Marketplace that people use to sell items. If you have items in your yard that you are listing online with potential buyers visiting your property to look at the items, then that is a yard sale that counts towards the four allowed per year. Be a good and respectful neighbor and obey the guidelines.

To report any other violations, or for any questions, concerns, or general information, please contact the official Ocean Pines customer service at info@oceanpines.org or call 410-641-7717 during business hours (410-641-7747 on nights and weekends). The info@oceanpines.org team is here to assist you!

Guidelines:

Signs for yard or garage sales shall be limited for use only on Saturdays and Sundays during the hours of 6:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. It is the responsibility of the person



Eddie Wells
Director

Message from PUBLIC WORKS

Please keep your ditches clear

Ocean Pines and Worcester County officials are reminding residents to keep their ditches clear of leaves and other debris.

Ryan Presock, a Natural Resources Inspector for Worcester

County, said clogging one ditch can cause drainage problems that impact multiple properties, or even an entire neighborhood.

impose citations up to \$1,000 to the homeowners.

"Filling ditches with leaves or any other debris or materials can impede flow," he continued. "If this causes property owners upstream



Nobie Violante
Manager

a hardship and areas get flooded on their property because of this illegal operation, the violator can be sued civilly under Maryland Common Drainage Laws."

Presock said Worcester County and Ocean Pines will be working together to rectify the issue, so nearby homeowners are not impacted.

For questions or to report an issue, call 410-641-7425.

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PUBLIC WORKS

Maintenance continues to be top priority

Upkeep of the Ocean Pines community and its facilities has been a major theme of the Association's efforts during the last several years.

General Manager John Viola said maintenance has been a top priority for the GM, the team, and the Board. Those efforts keep the Association's facilities in top working order and help get the amenities ready for the busy summer season.

Recent efforts have included the installation of a new C-Dock and fuel lines at the Ocean Pines Marina, which was able to open prior to Memorial Day.

The Aquatics Department saw the installation of a new roof at the Swim and Racquet Club in March. The building was one of the first Ocean Pines amenities and remains popular with residents.

Work at the Ocean Pines Racquet Center has included landscaping, power washing, court maintenance, and repainting of the lounge and pro shop. A new ice machine is on order, and new rollers, squeegees and brushes are now hanging from the court fences.



Viola also unveiled two possible designs for a new Racquet Center building during a recent Ocean Pines Board meeting.

Springtime landscaping efforts occurred communitywide, including at Pintail Park prior to the annual Arbor Day ceremony, and at Veteran's Memorial Park, Sports Core Pool, and Beach Club.

Public Works has done maintenance at virtually every Ocean Pines park, and cleanup efforts have begun on several of the community trails.

Many entrance signs have been refreshed, and additional cherry blossom trees have been ordered for the North Gate

Pond. Last fall, 2,000 tulips were planted and are now blooming across the community.

A mailbox replacement initiative begun in 2022 has included power washing and repairs, along with the installation of new pedestals and mailboxes.

Ocean Pines' Compliance, Permit and Inspections (CPI) Department continues to enforce violations including lack of permits, trash, dangerous trees, and unregistered or junk vehicles.

Additionally, the Administration Building underwent a major renovation that included the installation of a new HVAC system, as well as a reorganization of the building's interior, with new flooring installed and a fresh coat of paint on every wall.

Viola said Ocean Pines has used a fully engaged team along with help from outside contractors to get the job done.

"We're committed to maintenance and have listened to requests from the Board, our committees, and our homeowners," he said. "Public Works does an outstanding job and, with the help of our local contractors, everything on our list is getting done."

Public Works Director Eddie Wells said he's able to cover a lot of ground because of the diverse expertise of his department.

"We continue to utilize the professionals that we have on staff, including experts in the HVAC, electrical and carpentry fields, as well as several people who are familiar with local permitting requirements," Wells said. "Because of our experience, even with a labor shortage we're able to work on several major projects at once and produce strong results."



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Walk safe, bike safe: OPPD encourages pedestrian and bicycle safety

Ocean Pines Police is reminding residents of the importance of pedestrian and bicycle safety, and asking that walkers and bicyclists follow the rules of the road.

First, all pedestrians and bicyclists are encouraged to wear light colored or reflective clothing, so they are visible to drivers. Dark colors, worn at night or on overcast days, can be difficult for cars to see and may lead to slower reaction times.

When walking at night, it is also a good idea to carry a flashlight and wear a reflective vest or armbands. Taking a few extra moments to prepare can save someone from an accident, or even death. Safety is everyone's responsibility.

Where a sidewalk is not provided, pedestrians must walk on the left shoulder or the left side of a roadway, facing any traffic that might approach from the opposite direction. Walking on the opposite side is a violation of Maryland Transportation Code 21-506b, and violators are subject to a \$50 fine.

Cyclists must ride on the right-hand side of the roadway, going with the flow of traffic. Riding on the wrong side of the



road could put turning cyclists in the path of oncoming traffic and would make them at fault in the case of an accident. Violators are also subject to a \$50 fine under Maryland Transportation code 21-1205a.

Maryland Transportation Code 21-1210b states that riders cannot operate a bicycle and wear ear plugs in both ears, including headphones. Many people like to listen to music or have a GPS for directions as they ride, but riders must only cover one ear so they can hear what is going on around them, such as an approaching emergency vehicle or a motorist trying to alert them. This violation carries a \$60 fine.

Helmets are encouraged for all bicycle riders and are required by all persons under the age of 16 riding as a passenger or driver of a bicycle. If a parent or guardian allows such a violation, they may be subject to a \$50 fine.

For more information about pedestrian and bicyclist safety, visit <https://zerodeathsmd.gov/road-safety/pedestrian-bicyclist-safety>.

Cpl. Brasure gets top honors from American Legion

Ocean Pines Police Cpl. James Brasure was named Officer of the Year for the community during an April 5th ceremony of the American Legion, Synepuxent Post 166.

Ocean Pines Lt. Shakhan Toppin said Brasure has been with OPA Police for 27 years – since 1995. Toppin was named Officer of the Year at the same ceremony last year.

“His dedication to duty, his work ethic, and his commitment to the community were factors I considered when I nominated him for this prestigious award, which was given by the American Legion,” Toppin said.

The Legion hosts annual recognition ceremonies for local police, firefighters, EMS, and Coast Guard workers.

The Ocean Pines Police Department is currently hiring officers. Police academy candidates are also welcome to apply.

To download an application, visit www.oceanpines.org and click on the “Work Here” tab under “About Ocean Pines.”

Applications may be dropped off at the Ocean Pines Police Station on 239 Ocean Parkway or emailed to stoppin@oceanpines.org.





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OCEAN PINES VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT



**David
Van Gasbeck**
OPVFD President

The Ocean Pines Volunteer Fire Department is reminding residents to make their house numbers visible for firefighters and other emergency responders. This is especially important during a fire or a medical emergency, when seconds count.

"It's important for firefighters to be able to quickly identify the address of a burning building," Lt. Joe Enste, OPVFD public information

officer, said. "If the numbers are not visible, it can delay our response and make it more difficult to put out the fire or save a life."

House numbers are also a requirement of Ocean Pines Association Architectural Review Committee guidelines.

Per section 500.2.A., "The street address house number shall be posted to be visible from the street. It may be displayed on the front of the house or on a sign in the front yard (Note: The house number is not the same as the lot and section number and can be obtained from the CPI Department office). House

Help OPVFD help you

numbers shall not be less than four (4) inches or no greater than eight (8) inches in height, a contrasting color, and visible from the street."

While there are several ways to make house numbers visible, the fire department offers a fundraising opportunity to purchase a reflective 911 address sign. Each sign is constructed of aluminum, with green

and white reflective material

and numbers that measures 6 by 18 inches. Signs with mounting posts cost \$60 (which includes free installation) or \$48 for just the sign.

It is important to remember to not plant shrubs or trees that will block the view of house numbers from the street.

"By making your address visible, you can help ensure that emergency responders can get to your home quickly and safely," Enste said. "This could save your life or the life of a loved one."

Download an order form at www.opvfd.com or call 410-641-8272 for more information.



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OPVFD Chief





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Debbie Donahue
Director of
Recreation & Parks

Summer is finally here, and we couldn't be more excited to dive into all our favorite seasonal activities! We've got a fantastic lineup for you to enjoy, including **Family Fun Nights** on Wednesdays through Aug. 23 at the Yacht Club, and **Concerts at the Park** through Aug. 24 in White Horse Park.

Our staff is busy with another full roster of summer campers enjoying our parks and pools, and we're also gearing up for another thrilling **July Fourth carnival and fireworks extravaganza**.

If you're a fan of fresh produce and local arts, you won't want to miss the **Farmers & Artisans Market** happening every Saturday. It's getting bigger and better each week, with more vendors joining in. Make sure to swing by between 8 a.m. and 1 p.m. to explore the diverse offerings and keep up with your healthy eating routine.

If you're looking for unique, handmade goodies, the **Pine'er Artisan Gift Shop** is the place to be. It's open on Saturdays and Sundays, and they've got an incredible selection of items that make perfect gifts for yourself or that special someone. Also, mark your calendars for the highly anticipated annual **Pine'er**

Soak up the sun and fun

Craft Fair on Aug. 5. It's going to be another amazing event, with tons of vendors showcasing their goods both inside the Community Center and outside in White Horse Park.

If you're into racquet sports, head over to the Racquet Center at Manklin Meadows Park. They've got a ton of clinics, classes, and events lined up for you this season. You can learn and play tennis, pickleball, platform tennis, and even Spec Tennis. And don't forget to register for the **Oktoberfest Pickleball Tournament!**

For the second straight year, we'll be hosting a **Back-to-School Bash** on Saturday, Aug. 26 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Veterans Memorial Park. It's going to be a blast, with moon bounces, games, delicious food, live music, and so much more! Plus, we're collecting donations of backpacks and school supplies to help out those in need. Admission is just \$10/person.

To keep up with all our summer events, make sure to visit oceanpines.org or check out the Recreation and Parks' Facebook page. And if you have any questions or want to grab an **Activity Guide** or some flyers, don't hesitate to drop by the Community Center. We're open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

I can't wait to soak up more sunny days and create lasting memories with all of you at these exciting summer events. See you soon!



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Family Fun Nights, Concerts in the Park events return

Two major Recreation and Parks events returned in June, with Family Fun Nights at the Yacht Club Pool and Concerts in the Park at White Horse Park.

Family Fun Nights run on Wednesdays, through Aug. 23, from 6-8 p.m.

The event features food, games, music and more, all set in the picturesque locale of the Yacht Club Pool overlooking the Isle of Wight Bay.

Cash-only entry is \$3 for Ocean Pines swim members with a membership card, \$5 for Ocean Pines residents, or \$7 for non-residents. Entry is free for non-swimmers.

Concerts in the Park are scheduled each Thursday, through Aug. 24, from 7-9 p.m. under the White Horse Park Pavilion.

For the line-up of scheduled entertainment, see the Concerts in the Park ad below.

Concertgoers are encouraged to bring chairs and blankets. Concessions provided by the Kiwanis Club will be available for sale.

Recreation and Parks Director Debbie Donahue said both events are geared toward giving Ocean Pines families more to do during the summer.

"Our goal is to create memorable moments and foster a sense of community through our family-friendly summer

events," Donahue said. "We strive to offer a wide variety of engaging activities, and each event is designed to provide a safe and welcoming environment where families can create lasting memories. We hope everyone will join us this summer!"

For more information on Ocean Pines Recreation and Parks programs and special events, visit www.oceanpines.org/web/pages/recreation-parks.

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White Horse Park Pavilion

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JUN 29	Marsh Lovers Band	AUG 3	The Tribe
JUL 6	229th Military Band	AUG 10	Still Rockin'
JUL 13	Breath of Fresh Air	AUG 17	Club Phred
JUL 20	Delmarva Big Band	AUG 24	Dusty Vinyl

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Mary Mac Foundation donates to Ocean Pines Rec and Parks

Ocean Pines Recreation and Parks recently received a \$1,200 donation from the Mary Mac Foundation.

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

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

Recreation and Parks Director Debbie Donahue said the funds would go toward expenses related to Ocean Pines summer camps.

"We are grateful for the continued support of the Mary Mac Foundation," Donahue said. "Our summer camps benefit so many in our community, and it's wonderful to have that community support - especially from a

foundation and a family who have helped local children for so many decades."

Mary Mac Foundation cofounder Tim McMullen said the



money was raised through a grant from Choptank Electric Cooperative. He credited former Ocean Pines Board member and current Choptank board member Tom Terry with helping to secure the grant.

"Supporting the summer camps in Ocean Pines is important to us for a couple of reasons," McMullen said. "Mary and I started the youth program back in 1973.

And I surely see how important it is for young people to have peer groups during the summer with constructive activities."

Coming up, the Mary Mac Foundation will host its annual Family Jam at Manor Hill Brewery in Ellicott City on Saturday, Sept. 30, starting at noon. Donations are welcome, but the event is free to attend.

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

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



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PUP OF THE PINES Photo Contest

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"My name is Penny. I am a Cavalier King Charles Spaniel and am the 2023 'Pup of the Pines!'"

My owner says I am a very affectionate dog with many neighborhood friends. Everyone knows me!"

As "Pup of the Pines," Penny receives a free 2023 Ocean Pines Dog Park registration. She is also the official face of the dog park for 2023 and will be featured in the Ocean Pines Activity Guide and other postings throughout the year.

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FROM SEPT. 1 to OCT. 14

Ocean Pines pet parents can enter their pup(s) for a \$5/dog entry fee. Official entry forms are available at the Community Center. The top 8 pups will be on display at the Ocean Pines Halloween celebration. Attendees at the event will be able to vote for their favorite. The winner will be announced at the Hometown Christmas Tree Lighting in November.



Pools earn top honors from county

Four of Ocean Pines' pools recently received a "Certificate in Excellence in Pool Operation" award from the Worcester County Health Department.

A fifth pool was excluded because of a notice related to pool phone lines, which was remedied that day.

Aquatics Director Kathleen Cook said the honors recognize a spotless safety record and are not easy to come by.

"We follow stringent guidelines set by the county and the



state, and these awards are a reflection of the job that we're doing and how we're presenting the amenities," Cook said. "These recognize that we operated through the season without having any critical or major violations recognized by the health department."

She said Ocean Pines pools have earned safety awards regularly over the last decade.

Ocean Pines' outdoor pools reopened for the season on Saturday, May 27.

For more information on Ocean Pines Aquatics, visit www.oceanpines.org/web/pages/aquatics.

Summer pool hours to be announced weekly

Because of continued staffing issues related to the national lifeguard shortage, Ocean Pines expects some pools to operate with limited hours this summer.

OPA officials said pool schedules are likely to be similar to the rotating hours announced last year.

The Association will announce the Monday-Sunday operating hours in advance. Announcements will be posted on the front door of each Aquatics facility, and advertised on the Ocean Pines Association website, Facebook, and in a weekly email. To subscribe to weekly emails, visit www.oceanpines.org and



click on the Weekly Emails link under the "News" tab.

The likelihood of limited hours was previously publicized and also listed on pool membership applications.

To try and combat the lifeguard shortage, the Association hosted and participated in job fairs, increased lifeguard salaries, offered to pay for safety training, and posted job

openings on the website, social media, and through paid advertising in local press and through local schools.

For information on current job openings in Ocean Pines, visit www.oceanpines.org/web/pages/work-here.

New sessions of Aqua Yoga and Bootcamp start in July

AQUA YOGA

This super low-impact class makes it possible for those with joint pain to improve their strength, flexibility & range of motion. The buoyancy of the water allows the muscles to relax & be stretched & strengthened with less incidence of injury. **Note: Must have 7 registered participants for class session.**

WHEN: WED / FRI 12 classes (6 weeks)

TIME: 8:00am-8:45am

JUL 5 - AUG 11

SEP 6 - OCT 13

POOL: Sports Core

INSTRUCTOR: Chrissy Ehrhart, Certified Yoga Instructor

FEE: Swim Member \$60;

OP Resident \$70; Non-Resident \$86; **Drop-in:** Swim Member \$6; OP Resident \$7; Non-Resident \$8



BOOTCAMP

This intense fitness class is boosted by the benefits of water resistance with the bonus of little to no impact on joints. Never the same class twice, each workout features weight & resistance training, cardio & an instructor who is retired Army. **Note: Must have 6 registered participants for class session.**

WHEN: MON / WED / FRI 18 classes (6 weeks)

TIME: 6:00pm-6:45pm

JUL 3 - AUG 11

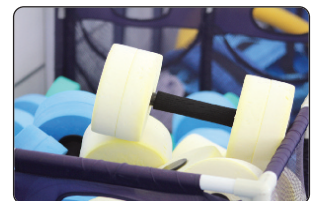
SEP 6 - OCT 13

POOL: Sports Core

INSTRUCTOR: Maria Love, AFPA Certified Aquatic Instructor

FEE: Swim Member \$60;

OP Resident \$70; Non-Resident \$86; **Drop-in:** Swim Member \$6; OP Resident \$7; Non-Resident \$8





Tim Johnson

Racquet Center Manager

Racquet Center news

Summer news: The Ocean Pines Racquet Center has seen a surge in activity this season, with more members, more activities, and more options than ever before! This summer, we will offer leagues, social events, tournaments, and casual drop-in play in all club areas. Contact us at 410-641-7228 or via email at tjohnson@oceanpines.org to get

your summer off to a great, active start!

Tennis news: Our summer tennis recently held a highly successful “Davis Cup” team tennis event and is looking forward to another exciting offering, “Breakfast at Wimbledon,” involving a friendly competition and viewing party. Other summer events will include league and tournament play, as well as holiday mixers. We offer classes for all ages and levels, private tennis lessons, and we have courts available for social or competitive play.

Pickleball: The Racquet Center will be hosting the third annual Oktoberfest Pickleball tournament this fall, so watch for more details to come and join us for a great weekend of competition!

The OP Pickleball Club continues its commitment to give back to the local community, recently announcing a \$500 donation to the Cricket Center, Worcester County's only child advocacy center.

The club held the very successful 2023 Summer Classic tournament in June, with 219 competitive players from all over the East Coast battling it out in singles, mixed doubles, and

men's and ladies' doubles.

The club is already working on the planning stages of the sixth annual Pink Ribbon Classic at the Beach, a pickleball tournament that the club holds in October each year to raise funds for the American Cancer Society's Making Strides Against Breast Cancer campaign.

Summer on the platform tennis courts: There is something for everyone on the fenced platform tennis courts: platform tennis, Spec Tennis, and Timeless Tennis. Spec Tennis is the current craze. With simple rules and scoring, and a low-compression tennis ball, it's easy to learn, so you will be playing Spec Tennis in no time! Timeless Tennis is played with a tennis racquet and low-compression (slower) tennis ball. It's small-court tennis fun!

You will love platform tennis if you've played racquetball or if you like a fast game. You can take the ball off the 12-foot fence to keep it in play. With tennis rules and scoring and a lively ball, it's an exciting game! We host many social activities, have a welcoming group of players, and have the equipment to loan you. So, dust off those old racquet skills and drop in for an intro lesson. It's never too far to the ball!

Keep your eyes on social media for special club offerings and for info on our September Platform Tennis Tournament and Exhibition to benefit the Michael J. Fox Research Foundation for Parkinson's Disease. Players from three states will be competing and the high level of competition will be impressive!

Come on down to the courts! For more information, email oppaddle2020@gmail.com.

Meet the Team: Ocean Pines hires new Racquet Center manager



Ocean Pines Association in April announced Tim Johnson as the new Racquet Sports manager.

A former member of several Ocean Pines Racquet Sports, Johnson brings a wealth of professional experience to the position.

He most recently served as the tennis supervisor for the Town of Ocean City. Johnson is also a USPTA-certified Elite Tennis Professional, USPTA-certified Pickleball Professional, and a SPEC Tennis Ambassador.

Johnson has coached in the Mid-Atlantic area for more than 30 years and directed programs at the Aspen Hill Club, Saint Albans School, the International Tennis Club of Washington, and the Washington Area Tennis Patrons Foundation.

A former lawyer, he also served as a legislative counsel on Capitol Hill, and as an advocate for Native Hawaiian rights in federal legislation.



Johnson said he enjoys playing tennis with his three children and his wife, Helen.

“I am truly looking forward to working with all our Ocean Pines Racquet Sports groups to enhance our already successful operation,” Johnson said. “My goal is to ensure that our community is healthier, happier, and even more active!”

Ocean Pines General Manager John Viola said Johnson was hired after a process that was inclusive of many Racquet Sports groups.

“We took feedback from the Racquet Sports Committee and incorporated that into a job description and the eventual hire,” Viola said. “We believe we found the right person for the job, and that his combination of professional experience and experience as a member in Ocean Pines makes him uniquely qualified for this role.”

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



Ron Fisher
Dock Master

New Marina fuel dock opens

The new fuel dock at the Ocean Pines Marina reopened on May 26 after a complete replacement.

Dockmaster Ron Fisher said the entire C-dock was replaced with an aluminum structure that includes a new gas dock building and new gas pumps.

The replacement was mandated by

new state environmental regulations.

"It's been a process, because we wanted to be certain that we complied with all the new regulations as they pertain to the gas lines, electrical, everything," Fisher said. "The piping that's going out there right now meets the new standards, so it's pretty much leak proof. The wiring is explosive-proof wiring when you get up close to the gas dock. So, if there's any fumes from gas pumps, it won't ignite."

Fisher said the new pedestals at each boat slip also meet state regulations.

"The other nice thing is they have hose hangers for the boaters as well," he said.

Fisher expects to have a strong season at the marina.

"I think we'll be good," he said. "We finished staff training on the new fuel management system, which is very accurate, and it eliminates a lot of manual work."

He said they also added new fishing tackle at the marina shop, which is adjacent to the Yacht Club.

Ocean Pines General Manager John Viola said improving overall safety near the fuel lines was a top priority.

"What they've done in terms of safety has been incredible, and we believe the new C-dock will also require less maintenance and have a longer useful life," Viola said. "I'm also very happy that

the contractors and the team were able to get this done in time for Memorial Day weekend. We're excited for a big season at the marina!"

The Ocean Pines Marina is open daily, 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.

For more information on Marina programs and events, visit www.oceanpines.org/web/pages/marinas-water-sports.



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OCEAN PINES GOLF CLUB

Putters Club and instructional programs help spread goodwill at Golf Club

Instructors at the Ocean Pines Golf Club recently pitched in during a putting league started by members of the Ocean Pines Ladies Golf Association.

Those who took part said the willingness of staff to lend a hand has led to a surge of goodwill at the Golf Club.

Colette Horn, a member of both the Ocean Pines Board of Directors and the Putters Club, said the group was put together by OPLGA Treasurer Norma Kessler.

"It was formed to provide a fun event for the winter months that would give an opportunity for golfers to meet new people and practice their putting and chipping," Horn said. "It was open to any women golfers interested in participating, regardless of their status as golf members."

She said the club started in January and met on the putting and chipping practice greens.

"We also had two tutorial events," Horn said. "For the initial event, [Golf Director] Bob Beckelman gave us instruction and drills to improve our putting."

Beckelman said his staff also set up a special nine-hole putting course, and the OPLGA members played twice through and recorded their scores.

"For our final event, instead of the competitive challenge, Matt Ruggiere gave us tips and guidance to improve chipping and putting," Horn said.

Ruggiere has been leading the new Golf Academy at Ocean Pines since March. The program features adult and junior golf programs, along with private lessons.

"I met everyone last week and told them I would come out to give some tips and set up a few practice stations for them," Ruggiere said. "They typically do not have any instructors with them, but they usually meet to have a putting contest and some challenges for fun, with small prizes at the end."

Horn said groups like the Putters Club, along with the OPLGA and the 9-Hole Ladies League, are helping make the game of golf more accessible to local people.

"We are seeing members returning who had not been members in recent years," she said. "Several of the members of this year's Putters Club are women who don't play golf anymore, but wanted to participate in golf at a level that is possible for them and to have the social benefits of spending time with other women on an activity they enjoy."



Horn said instructional programs offered at the Ocean Pines Golf Club have also helped to attract new and returning players. That includes lessons led by Beckelman, Ruggiere, and Brian Davis.

"All of them came to us with reputations as good teachers," she said. "However, their willingness to work with the golfers in informal tutorials during our clinics exposed the women to them and their abilities as golf pros and instructors."

"Furthermore, the changes Bob has put in place in the Pro Shop and his approach to managing the operation and interacting with the member groups has resulted in many positive comments from golfers, from both the men's and women's leagues," Horn continued. "This reflects the goodwill toward and positive expectations of our pro and assistant pro."

Women interested in joining either the Putters Club or OPLGA may call OPLGA President Ann Shockley at 410-688-1975 or email rexerann@gmail.com.

The Putters Club is free to join. The OPLGA annual fee is \$60, with \$30 applied to the handicap fee.

For more information on the OPLGA, search "Ocean Pines Ladies Golf Association" on Facebook.

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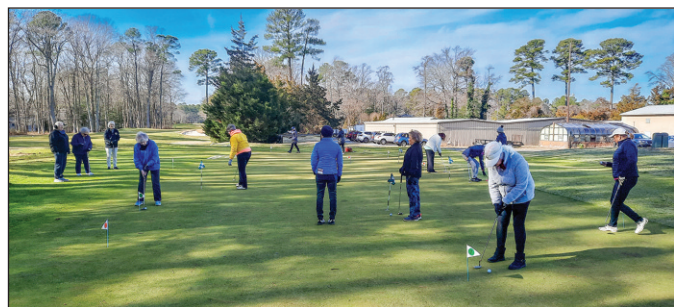
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Ravens Roost announces 2023 scholarship recipients, golf tournament results

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

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

The 2023 scholar/athlete awardees are:

- **Breanne Ferguson**, Stephen Decatur High School / University of Maryland
- **Connor Herr**, Stephen Decatur High School / Virginia Tech
- **Anne Carter**, Worcester Preparatory School / Wake Forest University
- **Morgan Schoch**, Worcester Preparatory School / University of South Carolina
- **Cole Donnelly**, Indian River High School / University of Delaware
- **Scarlett Dunn**, Indian River High School / Stevenson University

Ravens Roost #44 has awarded \$243,900 in scholarships to local students during the last two decades.

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

Ravens Roost #44 held its 26th Annual Scholarship Golf Tournament at the Ocean Pines Golf Club on June 2. Almost 130 golfers participated.

The winning teams and players were:

- First-place team: **Russ Bowen, Joe Ayre, Brian Henry, and Kevin Stover**
- Ravens Roost first-place team: **Ravens Roost #44 Ocean City Paul Fohner, Dennis Fohner, Chuck Eder, Brian Stevens**
- Closest to the pin (Men's): **Mike DeGrandis**
- Closest to the pin (Women's): **Deb Williams**
- Closest to the line (Men's): **Charlie McMichael**
- Closest to the line (Women's): **Patty Lewis**
- Putting contest winner: **Mike Decker**

The Scholarship Committee wishes to thank signature sponsor American Legion Post 166 of Ocean City, and major sponsors District Cannabis, Atlantic General Hospital, Pit n Pub, Mike's Flooring & Design Center, and Matt Ort Companies.

"We would also like to thank our tee sponsors, local golf courses who donated rounds of golf, and businesses who donated gift certificates and prizes," McMullen said.

"In addition, we would like to thank our 128 golfers who played on a beautiful sunny day at the Ocean Pines Golf



Club, and all our Ravens Roost #44 volunteers who made this event another success," he continued. "A special thank you to Ocean Pines Director of Golf Bob Beckelman and his staff and Director of Golf Maintenance Justin Hartshorne and his staff for the excellent course conditions, and Judie and her staff at The Clubhouse Bar and Grille restaurant for an outstanding luncheon."

McMullen said the Scholarship Committee is currently seeking donations for 2024 scholarships.

Donations may be mailed to Ravens Roost #44, P.O. Box 4161, Ocean City, MD 21843.

Ravens Roost #44, Inc. is an IRS 501(7)(c) nonprofit. The federal tax ID is 52-2160753.

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



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OP Golf Members' Council announces 2023 scholarships

The Ocean Pines Golf Members' Council in May awarded six scholarships totaling \$11,400 to local high school seniors.

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

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

He said members have raised more than \$57,200 for scholarships over the last eight years, including \$39,900 during the last three years.

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

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

The 2023 Scholarship recipients are:

- **Collin Bunting** (Stephen Decatur High School). Bunting plans to attend the University of Maryland/College Park. He will receive an award of \$1,000.
- **Kameron Harris** (Stephen Decatur High School) Harris plans to attend Penn State/University Park. He will receive an award of \$1,100.
- **Gavin Stearn** (Stephen Decatur High School) Stearn plans to attend Catholic University. He will receive an award of \$1,000.
- **Harrison Humes** (Worcester Preparatory School) Humes plans to attend Virginia Tech. He will receive an award of \$2,300.



- **Griffin Jones** (Worcester Preparatory School) Jones plans to attend the University of South Carolina. He will receive an award of \$3,000.

- **Cayden Wallace** (Worcester Preparatory School) Wallace plans to attend Catholic University. He will receive the 2023 Scotty Wheatley Scholarship award of \$3,000.

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

This year's scramble is set for Wednesday, July 12 at the Ocean Pines Golf Club.

OMPGA announces Senior Club Championship winners

Forty-five members of the Ocean Pines Men's Golf Association teed up for the Annual Men's Senior Club Championship in May. Cool weather and blustery swirling winds kept many of the scores in check.

At the end of the day, five-time Men's Club champion Bud Humphries collected his second Super Senior (ages 80 and up) title with a gross score of 84. Bill Stafford was just a stroke behind and captured the Super Senior Net Championship with a net score of 74.

In the Senior Championship (ages 50 to 79) five players tied the low score of the day of 84. After going through the tie breaker procedures, 2023 Presidents' Cup champion Tim Williams took home the champion's trophy. Fred Ellis turned in the low net score of the day with a 71.

In the Senior flights, Flight 1 was won by Charlie McMichael, with Mike Mason winning low net. Flight 2 was won by Paul Jankowski; Fritz Lahner was the low net score. In Flight 3, 2022 Senior champion Scott Kimmel had the low gross score, with Charles Stromberg earning the low net honors.

Closest to the Pin winners were Bill Stafford for the Super Seniors on hole 16 (20 feet) and Bob Long for the Seniors on hole 7 (3.5 feet).

Bill Thomson managed the event that included a full lunch, including a variety of beverages served by the Clubhouse Bar and Grille. Thanks go to Thomson, along with the pro shop and maintenance staff that helped make the event run smoothly with exceptional course conditions.



OPA Board candidates provide statements

Candidates for the 2023 Ocean Pines Board election were asked to submit both a brief statement introducing themselves to voters, and answers to three questions created by the Ocean Pines Elections Committee.

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



John Latham

Email:

7512 Yacht Club Drive

Address:

jlatham1595@yahoo.com

Introductory statement

I have been a homeowner in Ocean Pines since 2013. In 2021, my wife and I decided to make Ocean Pines our full-time residence as we love everything about the community. I am from Pasadena, MD. I have been a volunteer for 20+ years and knew I wanted to continue my passion for service in my community. I am the current President of the Marina Village Condominium Association where I focus on safety, aesthetics and value of our properties.

I also serve on the OPA Marine Activities Advisory Committee and assisted in recommending the upgrades at the Mumford's boat ramp last year which resulted in much needed improvements to the ramp pier.

If elected, my goal will be to help make our community even better. I will use my business background in leadership, communications, and financial acumen to help drive the decisions on important issues that are in the best interest of the Ocean Pines community.

I served in the United States Marine Corps Reserve and have a B.S. and M.S. in Business Management Studies from the University of Maryland, University College. Currently, I serve as Vice President at Corcentric, LLC, a Procurement and Financial Automation Consulting Company.

1. What do you think are the most significant issues facing the Association in the next 2 or 3 years and what solutions would you offer?

I believe some of the most significant issues that OPA will face in the next couple years are:

Making sure that we stay aligned with our 5-year strategic plan that includes maintenance of our infrastructure and appearance (roads, drainage, bulkheads, DMA Reserve plan). I would support the current plan as I have spent quite a bit of time reviewing the plans for each of these areas. I believe we are heading in the right direction. I would not want to see the community delay these projects that are so important to our future.

I want to see OPA continue the trend with our financial condition as the last three years have been positive and we have had the opportunity to lower our assessments. It's important to our community and was identified as being important to our homeowners in our recent community survey. Continuing to listen to the owners will be paramount.

We need to stay close to decisions that surround our community (route 90 dualization/ traffic on 589). They both could have significant impact on our community.

Safety is important to our community, and we need to continue to support police and fire/EMS.

2. Outsourcing of our three Food and Beverage operations has been successful. Do you see other areas in which outsourcing might be appropriate?

I have been living in Ocean Pines for over 10 years and I have seen many changes in our food and beverage operations through the years. I believe it was the right decision to outsource an operation where OPA does not have a core competency and expertise to operate.

Our GM does a great job assessing our operations and determines whether to use overtime with current staff, or bring in outside contractors when we have capacity issues. Areas where we are already utilizing outsourcing service are legal services, payroll administration, newsletter and catalog printing and bulkhead repair/replacement. I believe that outsourcing is the right decision for those areas.

From a Public Works/General Maintenance (roads, drainage and maintenance) standpoint as they have a larger team of employees (FTE'S) and account for a higher portion of the budget, they use outsourced contractors as needed. Landscaping and pool maintenance could be potential areas to evaluate for outsourcing if we are not doing that already. I do believe that we should continue to periodically evaluate our expenses to make sure we are fully leveraging expense line items at least on an annual basis.

VOTE AUGUST 8 BY 4 P.M.

Get To Know THE CANDIDATES

3. Boards must make difficult decisions. How will you address differences of opinions between Board members?

I would characterize myself as a strong collaborator. I believe that much can be accomplished by a team when everyone treats each other in a professional manner, and they remain civil to one another. Whenever groups of people come together to come up with solutions, there are always different opinions. I believe different backgrounds and expertise levels are good and can help to create a healthy and productive Board of Directors. My consulting background has required me to work with many different and diverse companies and stakeholders to help drive towards a decision that is in the best interest of the business. I will take a similar approach and make sure everyone is allowed to provide input and respect the opinion of others. Ultimately, the Board works for the community, and we really need to continue making sure that we are listening and driving towards the overall improvement of our community. I would also want to make sure the Board fully utilizes feedback from the committees for decision making. There is an enormous amount of subject matter expertise that resides within the committees, and they all work extremely hard.



Jerry Murphy

Email:
jmurphy5364@comcast.net

Address:
13 Widows Watch Court

Introductory statement

Thank you for this opportunity to be of service to

Ocean Pines, our unique and sought after community! My name is Jerry Murphy, a native of Baltimore and a Mt. St. Joseph graduate. I first arrived in Ocean Pines in the mid 1970's, as a builder of several distinctive Round Houses that still exist today. I later became the General Manager of the McDonalds in Berlin and Ocean City, next becoming an owner of a successful packaging supply company, now currently a realtor with Long and Foster.

My family purchased the Boise Cascade Sales Office, located on Widows Watch Court, which has since been reconstructed. I took sole possession of the house in 1990, where I still reside.

I would like to serve the community that has been such an integral part of my life. Having gratefully

served on a Board of Directors in the Baltimore area, I would like to share this experience with the Ocean Pines community. My ability to debate, listen, remain calm and fair would be an asset to our Board and Community.

1. What do you think are the most significant issues facing the Association in the next 2 or 3 years and what solutions would you offer?

The issues that appear to be of most concern currently, are drainage and bulkheads. While some recent improvements are underway, there is still work and decisions to be made. I would suggest a plan that would take into consideration the environmental and conservation challenges we face today. Safety of the Community, Police Recruitment and The Southside Fire Station Development are issues that must stay on the front burner for funding, both public and private.

2. Outsourcing of our three Food and Beverage operations has been successful. Do you see other areas in which outsourcing might be appropriate?

Regarding outsourcing, I feel that the current path that the Board/ Association is taking with the food and beverage contracts are very good. They are the best that Ocean Pines have had to this date...exceeding all expectations, with profits and participation at an all time high. At this time, I do not see a need for any additional outsourcing. However, I would defer to our general manager, John Viola and the various committees, to suggest any areas that outsourcing might be needed.

3. Boards must make difficult decisions. How will you address differences of opinions between Board members?

Understandably, not all members of the Board will agree all of the time. When different opinions arise, I will listen, weigh all options, and measure the risk versus the rewards. I will vote according to my best vision, educational background and experience.

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



Get To Know THE CANDIDATES



Elaine Brady

Email:
ebrady0919@gmail.com

Address:
812 Yacht Club Drive

Introductory statement

I became familiar with Ocean Pines when my parents purchased a lot in the 70s, retiring here in 1991. Over those years I watched the community grow into a place I wished to live, and I purchased my home here in 2002.

My father served on the OPA Board in the 1990s, and with many others had the opportunity to work closely with the developer and county to provide amenities and services needed for a growing community, which we all enjoy today.

The board's role now is to ensure we maintain our beautiful community and its amenities, keep our community safe by supporting our Police and Fire Departments, protect our property values, and follow the association's governing documents.

With over 8400 property owners I recognize there will always be differing priorities and opinions. I will listen to community members and thoughtfully make decisions on the issues at hand in order to wisely spend your money.

Serving on a variety of Ocean Pines committees, along with being the former owner/publisher of the Bayside Gazette gave me the opportunity to connect to the community. I'm now retired and would love to continue focusing on our wonderful community by serving on the board.

1. What do you think are the most significant issues facing the Association in the next 2 or 3 years and what solutions would you offer?

Our community is now 55 years old and there is a need to expedite the process of run-down properties to protect property values. Neighborhoods which have a secondary HOA have managed to do so with fines. Reasonably enacted, it could help to resolve issues with unkempt properties after warnings are ignored, along with encouraging owners to address needed repairs in a timelier manner.

The Beach Club, which is one of our oldest most valuable assets, is in need of a renovation and to be brought up to current ADA accessible standards so all of our property owners can enjoy this wonderful amenity.

Drainage will always be an on-going issue and we should continue to look for grants through local environmental partners who can help mitigate drainage problems, along with erosion to our shorelines, as we have with the Bainbridge and Jenkins Point projects.

Keeping our community safe by supporting the needs of our Police and Fire Departments.

Working with our county and state representatives for essential needs, including a cell tower capable of providing reliable cell service to areas in the 'dead zone', and ramping up improvements to Rt. 589 as commercial growth continues to expand along that corridor.

2. Outsourcing of our three Food and Beverage operations has been successful. Do you see other areas in which outsourcing might be appropriate?

Outsourcing our Food and Beverage operations certainly proved with the right local management group those facilities could be turned around in a big way. We are fortunate to be located in an area where hospitality is the main industry, making it fairly easy to find a local company who could take on that task to great success.

In our other major revenue generating operations of aquatics and golf there are few local resources with the expertise and manpower needed. An earlier attempt to bring in an out-of-area management group for golf did not go well, and there are few local resources to handle our pools, so I don't see an opportunity at this time.

Currently the General Manager determines when he and his management team feel the need for outsourcing special projects and interim labor shortages. The board can, and should, at any time consider a recommendation by the General Manager for permanent outsourcing for any department due to continued labor shortages that may greatly impact the community, or one that will provide a positive cost/benefit opportunity for the association.

3. Boards must make difficult decisions. How will you address differences of opinions between Board members?

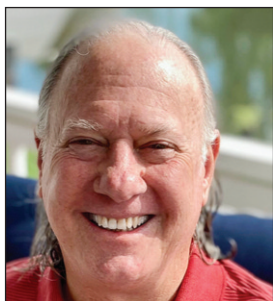
Making difficult decisions is made easier by listening to a variety of viewpoints, suggestions and opinions, as there are rarely perfection solutions to all issues.

I tend to be direct, as I believe a healthy and respectful discussion is the best way to arrive at a practical and well-reasoned result. There will always be times in which any board member may be more

Get To Know THE CANDIDATES

passionate about something than others, and listening respectfully to the opinions of others allows everyone to be heard and have their viewpoint considered. In the process of constructive debate most of us can learn something we may not have thought about, and even realize there may be a better solution than our own to a sticky problem.

Debates on issues are not meant to be personal. Everyone should feel comfortable in expressing their ideas and opinions, and strive to agree to disagree in a civil manner..... and then even enjoy getting together amicably with each other later for a cocktail. Respect and civility can go a long way in providing a productive board and a community which is content feeling sound decisions are being made.



Jeff Heavner

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Address:
415 Ocean Parkway

Introductory statement

My name is Jeff Heavner and I encourage all to cast your vote and consider me as one of your choices. I recently retired from a 31-year career at ExxonMobil in a wide variety of challenging leadership roles. I spent the last 4-years as a member of an 8-person leadership team that safely and successfully directed a \$3 billion lubricants business with an expense budget of \$250 million.

My wife and I celebrated our 40th wedding anniversary and have 2 daughters. I graduated from the US Naval Academy and honorably served our great country on the USS Midway, CV-41, homeported in Japan as an intelligence officer for fighter squadron, VF-151, and then as an instructor at the Navy and Marine Corps Intelligence Training Center in Virginia.

I have been successful by establishing a safety culture, casting a wide collaboration net and valuing the perspective of others, planning and setting goals and working as a team to make good decisions. I will use my proven leadership behaviors and broad experiences to help keep our team's collective direction aligned to execute a plan ensuring we all continue to enjoy the lifestyle and property values where we have chosen to live.

1. What do you think are the most significant issues facing the Association in the next 2 or 3 years and what solutions would you offer?

Ocean Pines is a vibrant community that competes with the best. I call it the "Land of Pleasant Living." The association will always have significant internal and external issues to face to continuously improve our infrastructure (police, fire, roads, bulkheads), amenities, marketing and public relations, public works, and recreation and parks. Improvement is vital to lead this community forward into the next 50-years. Issues like police staffing, aging fire trucks, aging beach club, community aesthetics, road projects outside of the Pines. The list is continuing and is long.

The cornerstone of my success at ExxonMobil was leading departments forward by focusing on the execution of both yearly and longer-range strategic plans. The plans identified the significant issues and their solutions. Departments discussed progress at leadership (board) meetings. Our success was dependent on working together. I recommend that each of the thirteen advisory committees and general manager develop, maintain, and report the progress of strategic plans.

This approach builds teams and transparency. I also recommend adopting the practice of scheduling time during board meetings where one or two committees reviews the highlights of their plans. Get more individuals involved and talking. I believe this would create more community interest.

2. Outsourcing of our three Food and Beverage operations has been successful. Do you see other areas in which outsourcing might be appropriate?

Outsourcing, the practice of hiring a third party for services, is usually a choice by companies to reduce costs. However, it can also be an alternative for organizations that do not possess the sustained core competencies to provide the best customer experience and compete for improved usage, revenue, and profits. It became clear that OPA did not have the core competencies to delight customers at its three wonderful food and beverage venues. The board made a great decision to outsource! Food and beverage absolutely require highly specialized skills and resources.

Every organization has the responsibility to routinely evaluate its operations for opportunities that either significantly reduce costs or improve customer delight and share of wallet. The services and technology

Get To Know THE CANDIDATES

available are ever changing. An advisory committee, Strategic Planning, should undertake this responsibility. I recommend developing a protocol to help accomplish this task with minimum burden.

The board has the advantage from a broad spectrum of thirteen talented advisory committees. These committees are most valuable! I would also recommend that committee members interface directly with the board during meetings versus through their board liaison. It is wonderful to see the strong patronage at the three OP venues.

3. Boards must make difficult decisions. How will you address differences of opinions between Board members?

Big issue decision making is challenging work. This disciplined focus can define character. Board members bring diversified perspective that can be the heartbeat of a well-oiled machine working to improve the needs of our wonderful community. Differing opinions can flush-out facts or knowledge that may strengthen or

even change the opinion of others. It is essential to both choose board members that have demonstrated the ability to collaborate with others and establish a professional environment that encourages open discussion.

I bring the skills required to professionally ask open-ended questions that respect the opinions of others while uncovering the prevailing reasons behind beliefs. I developed this business acumen over decades of leadership positions at ExxonMobil in sales, engineering, marketing, and distribution, built upon a Navy leadership foundation. I truly value the opinions of others and have developed excellent listening skills.

A key aspect of productive teamwork is valuing diverse thinking. Boards should create a culture where individuals share and discuss the foundation of differing opinions. It is easy to erode courage of conviction and halt discussions of why others feel the way they do. Good decisions now will keep Ocean Pines a most valued community for the next 50-years.

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COMMUNITY STORIES

Women's Club sets record donation amount for local students, community

The Women's Club of Ocean Pines on June 1 presented more than \$10,000 in annual scholarships and community donations.

The club, active since 1974 and boasting more than 100 members, offers local women an outlet both to socialize and give back to their community.

To raise money, the club each year hosts game parties, fashion shows, bake sales, restaurant of the month dinners, garage sales, and other social events.

Students receiving scholarships this year were:

- **Julia Carlson**, Stephen Decatur H.S., \$1,500
- **Cadence Hughes**, Stephen Decatur H.S., \$1,500
- **Cayden Wallace**, Worcester Preparatory, \$1,500
- **Rina Dirickson**, Stephen Decatur H.S., \$3,000

Dirickson was the recipient of the Gloria Moyer Memorial Scholarship, which honors Moyer as a vital member of the organization as a former officer, editor, and leader.

"We were so pleased to award this scholarship in Gloria's memory to Rina Dirickson, as a talented young woman who demonstrates, like Gloria, leadership skills," club member Diane McGraw said.

Additional community donations this year included:

- **Ocean Pines Volunteer Fire Department**, \$700
- **Ocean Pines Recreation & Parks**, \$700
- **4 Steps Therapeutic Riding Program**, \$250
- **Coastal Hospice**, \$200
- **Worcester County Veterans Memorial Fdn.**, \$200
- **Sarah's Pantry**, \$200
- **Delmarva Chorus**, \$200
- **Stories Love Music**, \$150
- **Women Supporting Women**, \$150
- **U.S. Kennels**, \$150
- **Town Cats**, \$100

McGraw said the nonprofit organizations were

awarded community donations to benefit Ocean Pines residents and upon the recommendations from members.

The Women's Club is always looking for new members, as well as new donors. Members meet on the first Thursday of each month, except for July and August. Annual dues are \$10.

For more information, contact Club President Karin Benton at 610-730-6706, or email karinhessbenton@gmail.com.



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COMMUNITY STORIES

The Delmarva Chorus to hold annual show – July 15

The Delmarva Chorus, a chapter of Sweet Adelines International, will hold their annual chorus show on Saturday, July 15 at 7 p.m. in the Ocean Pines Community Center.

The theme this year will be the “Roaring Twenties,” in celebration of the group’s 20th anniversary. Carol Ludwig will direct the program.

Join the Delmarva Chorus for an evening of familiar tunes, homemade desserts, door prizes, a 50/50 raffle, and more!

Tickets are \$10. For more information, call Jeanette at 410-726-3279.

OktoberFest in the Pines scheduled for Sept. 24

The Enzian Volkstanzgruppe of Newark, Delaware (a Bavarian Volkstanz and Schuhplattler group founded in 1968 to promote and preserve German folk dancing, German customs and traditions) will host Oktoberfest in the Pines on Sunday, Sept. 24 from 1-6 p.m. in White Horse Park. The festival will feature authentic Bavarian dance and music, food and more. More details to come.

OktoberFest in the Pines



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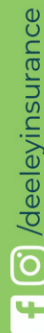
1:00pm – 6:00pm

White Horse Park in Ocean Pines

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Something for everyone this summer at the Market

With more vendors joining each week, there's so much to do, see and taste this summer at the Ocean Pines Farmers and Artisans Market.

That includes a growing list of suppliers of fresh, local produce, meats, seafood and baked goods, along with scores of unique artists and artisans, and nonprofits and community groups.

There are also many vegan and gluten-free options at the marketplace, plus a special Kids' Market Zone filled with activities for children.

Market Manager David Bean said several new merchants entered the market this spring and will stay on through the summer.

One such newcomer is **Roger Dize Seafood** from Westover, Maryland, which offers fresh, locally caught seafood, including live blue crabs.

"With customer lines growing each week, Dize continues to stock plenty of hard- and soft-shell crabs, scallops, and more," Bean said. "The stand also accepts special orders, so customers can guarantee the products they're looking for are ready for pickup at the market on Saturday morning."

Foxhound Farm from Bishopville, Maryland brings locally raised heritage Berkshire pork, lamb, and goat products. Additionally, the stand has a selection of artisan products to go with the meats, including seasoning blends and sauces.

"Owner Dante Locona is a young and energetic farmer who is passionate about what he raises and produces," Bean said. "His love of good food translates into a wonderful experience for those who shop with him. We are so excited to have Dante's Foxhound Farm at the market and are looking forward to seeing how his business grows over the years."

Microgreen grower **Elf Enchanted Garden** also recently arrived and features an ever-changing selection of sprouts.

"Ericka Forsythe and her husband operate their local 23-acre African American owned farm and are at the Ocean Pines market each week," Bean said. "Ericka loves to talk about her sprouts and has a wealth of ideas on how they can be sprinkled into meals. She's got a lot of knowledge to share with her shoppers."

Shroom n' Stead, a gourmet mushroom grower from Mardela Springs, will open a new market stand later this month. Owners Damien and Sam Evens grow multiple varieties of oyster, lion's mane and shitake mushrooms.

"Their gourmet mushrooms can add unique flavors and textures to virtually any dinner plate," Bean said.

Bean said there are also plenty of bakery options at the Ocean Pines marketplace.

"Our newest bakery is the **Ugly Pie** from Salisbury," he said.



"These award-winning bakers offer a wide variety of pies and flavor options. Pies are sold in whole or mini sizes, or by individual slices.

"The bakers also bring their popular pie-crust cookies to the market stand," Bean continued. "And, in case you were wondering, many shoppers have discovered that pie slices make a wonderful breakfast option."

Another new addition, **Vivian's House** offers a selection of baked goods for special dietary requirements, including gluten free, dairy free, and even sweets for those who cannot have eggs in their diet.

"Vivian Manion is a soft-spoken individual who cares deeply about her customers, and she spends hours planning, researching and baking to create the items she sells each Saturday," Bean said. "The apple cider cupcakes are unbelievably delicious, and don't miss the pop tarts too!"

"Vivia's husband, James, often accompanies her to the market and can be seen playing his acoustic guitar at her side, much to the enjoyment of her market customers," Bean added.

For those looking for a snack while shopping, the popular **Pretzel Trolley** will be back at the market this summer.

"The food truck offers a selection of stuffed pretzels for fulfilling breakfast or lunchtime cravings," Bean said. "And, to keep all those knives, tools and gardening items sharp, **Sharper Edge** is back weekly. Both the trolley and sharpening truck can be found on the parking lot next to the administration building."

Bean said selections at the artisan market also continue to flourish.

"We are seeing a lot of new and returning talent coming to the marketplace. Some travel a great distance to participate, while many are from the local community," he said. "The variety of handmade items is astonishing. You can spend hours visiting with the artisans, and then bring home something lovely for yourself and your home."

Macrame artisan Ivana Stuart recently opened the **Beautiful Honua** boutique at the market.

"Her artwork, displayed under a crisp, white canopy, is very attractive," Bean said. "She's looking forward to offering her handmade artwork to shoppers throughout this year."

Other notable artisans include Lisa Chambers of **Delaware Bay Clay**, who designs and creates nautical-themed pottery pieces for her customers. Shoppers can also enroll in hands-on pottery classes at her studio in Lewes, Delaware.

Donna Lloyd, owner of **Artisan's Aroma**, is back at the market with her line of hand-poured candles. Bean said Lloyd has greeted Ocean Pines customers at the marketplace with

FARMERS & ARTISANS MARKET *Saturdays 8am-1pm in White Horse Park*

her candle collections for many years.

For children, a popular face painting vendor will return, starting on Memorial Day weekend.

"Tory Hall, the owner of **Poppytail Art**, will be setting up weekly," Bean said. "Hall has worked as a face painter at Dolly Parton's Dollywood amusement park in Tennessee, and locally at the Rehoboth Sea Witch Festival, Bridgeville's Apple Scrapple, and Dover Days."

Hall will be at the market each Saturday, except when Amberlina's Adventures and Pearl Moon Face Painting are in the Kids' Market Zone.

Many local community and non-profit groups are also represented at the market.

"Our community partners are a big asset and add so much to the Ocean Pines market," Bean said. "Neighbors and friends greeting each other, sharing and building support is part of what makes our Community Corner so special and unique. I could not be prouder of what these organizations add to the market."

On select dates, the new **Marine Corps League of Ocean**

Pines will be at the market Community Corner. The group plans to bring antique military vehicles, including a WWII jeep for market shoppers to view. Organizer John Daddazio said the group's mission is to create awareness, enroll new membership, and supply support for other local organizations.




"We are also always looking for volunteers to help with the day-to-day task at the Ocean Pines market," Bean said. "Hours and participation schedules are flexible. For those that enjoy being outdoors, with people and rubbing elbows with our merchants, this is a fantastic opportunity to become a part of the market team."


"We've got 12 birthday candles on our market anniversary cake this June," Bean continued. "In those 12 years, we have built a marketplace like no other on Delmarva, right here in the heart of Ocean Pines. I can't wait to see what the next twelve years bring - I have a feeling it's going to be great!"

The Ocean Pines Farmers and Artisans Market is open Saturdays from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. in White Horse Park.

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

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FAQS about boating and water sports in Ocean Pines

I don't have a boat slip at my house. Am I allowed to keep a boat on my property?

Yes. Boats and trailers may be stored on developed lots. They are not permitted on vacant lots. According to the Architectural Review Committee Guidelines, section 800.2, motorized watercraft stored on a developed lot are limited to one boat with a trailer and two personal watercraft on trailers. If the watercraft is kept in the water, its empty trailer may be stored on the lot.

If I don't store my boat on my property, does Ocean Pines offer boat slip rentals?

Yes. Boat slip rentals are available at the Ocean Pines Marina (located at the Ocean Pines Yacht Club) and the Swim & Racquet Club Marina. However, there is currently a wait list for slips. Call 410-641-7052 to place your name on the list. Other local marinas not within Ocean Pines may also have slip rentals available.

Where can I launch my boat in Ocean Pines?

There are two boat ramps located within Ocean Pines. One is in White Horse Park and provides access to the St. Martin River. Access to the ramp is via Beauchamp Road. Most boat sizes can be accommodated at this ramp, and limited non-overnight trailer parking is available.

A second ramp provides access to the Isle of Wight Bay and is located in Mumford's Landing, adjacent to the Mumford's Landing Pool. Limited non-overnight trailer parking is available.

Where can I purchase gas and boating supplies in Ocean Pines?

The Ocean Pines Marina, located at the Ocean Pines Yacht Club, has non-ethanol fuel, a pump-out station, fish-cleaning station, ice, soda, fish and crab bait, and more. It is open to the public May 1 to Oct. 31.

Can I bring my boat to visit the Ocean Pines Yacht Club?

Yes. Free boat tie-ups are available while dining at the Yacht Club. Tie-ups are limited to two hours, and spaces are limited.

Does Ocean Pines offer boating classes?

While the Ocean Pines Association does not offer boating classes, area organizations offer classes that meet requirements for a Maryland Boaters License Card, which is required for anyone born after July 1, 1972.

The Ocean City Power Squadron offers an introductory boating class – usually in early spring at the Ocean Pines library – and boating seminars to the public. More information is available at ocusps.org.

The United States Coast Guard Auxiliary teaches the

Recreational Safe Boating Course at the Ocean Pines library several times throughout the year. Online courses are also offered. A schedule and more information are available at www.uscgaux.info/about.php?unit=054-12-05.

Is kayaking or canoeing permitted in the waters around Ocean Pines?

Yes. Ocean Pines has over 10 miles of water trails. An interactive water trails map is available online at oceanpines.org/web/pages/kayaks-canoes-sup.

Where can I launch my kayak or canoe in Ocean Pines?

Launches are available at White Horse Park, the Swim and Racquet Club, Mumford's Landing, Pintail Park, Boston Drive, and at the North and South Gate ponds and Off Shore Lake.

More details about these launch sites are available at www.oceanpines.org/web/pages/kayaks-canoes-sup.

Does Ocean Pines offer kayak storage?




Yes. Limited kayak rack spaces are available at the Swim and Racquet Club. The yearly fee is \$100. For more information, call the Ocean Pines Recreation and Parks Department at 410-641-7052.

Does Ocean Pines offer kayak or canoe rentals?

No. The Ocean Pines Association does not offer rentals for small watercraft. However, several businesses in the area offer hourly, daily, weekend and weekly kayak, SUP (stand up paddleboard) and canoe rentals.


Does Ocean Pines offer a water taxi service?

While the Ocean Pines Association does not operate a water taxi, it has partnered with OC Bay Hopper to offer a taxi and shuttle service at the Ocean Pines Yacht Club to points in and around Ocean City. Other experiences, such as an Assateague Island boat tour, are also available for Ocean Pines passengers. For more information and scheduling, visit www.ocbayhopper.com.

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Check out the breakfast menu being served daily at 8 a.m. at The Clubhouse Bar and Grille.



Beach Club offers new summer menu

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

Enjoy the best ocean view in town, plus family swimming pool, volleyball courts, spacious sundeck, lounge chairs, chair/umbrella rentals, beach wheel chairs, bathroom facilities with showers, locker rooms for storage and two private parking lots.

Book your next big event with us!

Summer has begun and you're probably not thinking about the winter holiday season while you're soaking up the sun at the beach or taking a dip in the pool. But before you know it, summer will be over, school will be back in session and we'll be headlong into the hustle and bustle of the holidays.

Don't wait until November or December to plan a company holiday party or a get-together with friends at The Venues at Ocean Pines. With a limited number of holiday dates available, now is the ideal time to make sure that your party happens when you want.

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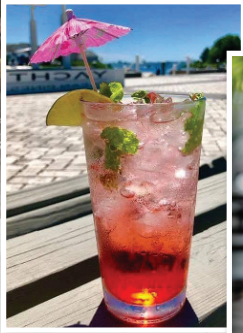
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