

# TOWN OF OCEAN CITY, MARYLAND

October 2019 to April 2020



## FALL NEWSLETTER



### *Are You Signed up for ENEWS?*

The Town of Ocean City remains committed to providing you with information about programs, services, current news and events. In addition to this publication, the town continually updates residents and visitors through eNews and social media sites. Sign up for eNews at [oceancitymd.gov/enews](http://oceancitymd.gov/enews) or find us on social media

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## *Ocean City Loses a Legend with passing of Longtime City Solicitor Guy Ayres*



After 37 years of dedicated service to the Town of Ocean City, longtime City Solicitor, Guy R. Ayres III, passed away at his home in the early hours of Saturday, August 31. A dedicated and passionate public servant, Ayres served the Town of Ocean City for more than four decades. After being admitted to the bar in 1971, he was later elected to City Council on September 18, 1978. Four years later, on January 4, 1982, Ayres was appointed to City Solicitor, a position he held with integrity and devotion until the day of his death.

"Guy's passing is a tremendous loss for his family, friends and for the Town of Ocean City," commented Mayor Rick Meehan. "His love, compassion and knowledge can never be replaced. Guy was our rock."

With 37 years of service as City Solicitor, Ayres truly was a "rock" in our town government. Nearly memorizing the city code, Ayres could recite ordinances and reflect on past motions with institutional knowledge and experience unlike anyone else. Along with his work with the Town, Ayres also was a partner with the law firm of Ayres, Jenkins, Gordy & Almand. His practice areas included Municipal Law, Administrative Law, Real Estate, and Civil Litigation, which he used to litigate hundreds of cases for the Town of Ocean City.

"As we join Kay, Courtney, Chase and Chip, along with the entire Ayres family, in mourning Guy's passing, we also celebrate the life and fond memories of our beloved City Solicitor and friend," Mayor Meehan continued. "Though he is no longer with us in person, his legacy and enormous spirit will live on in Ocean City forever."



## Immerse Yourself in the Arts this Off Season in Ocean City, MD

Wondering what to do this off-season? We invite you to visit Ocean City's most outstanding cultural amenity — the Ocean City Center for the Arts on 94th St. bayside, open every day of the week, year-round, rain or shine, with free admission.

This waterfront home of the nonprofit Art League of Ocean City features a spacious two-story gallery with major art exhibits that change every month, featuring the original work of local and regional artists. The exhibits kick off with a free opening reception from 5-7 p.m. on the First Friday of each month, and you are invited to meet the artists and enjoy complimentary hors d'oeuvres.

Visit the Art Center's in-house gift shop for holiday gift ideas, and tour our pottery studio, classrooms, art library, and the studios of ten working artists. We also offer perfect indoor activities, including art classes and workshops for all ages, skill levels, and interests, including family activities.

December brings the annual Artisan Fair on December 6th and 7th, where you'll find imaginative gift ideas you won't find anywhere else. Our \$5 Film Nights continue on the 3rd Saturday of every month, culminating in the annual Ocean City Film Festival, March 5-8, 2020. The Festival showcases more than 100 independent films from around the world, and brings together filmmakers and film lovers.

Looking for a rewarding volunteer opportunity? There are many ways you can help out at the Arts Center, have fun, and make new friends. Whether you are an artist or simply an art appreciator, we invite you to visit the Ocean City Center for the Arts and be inspired.

For more information and a complete schedule of events, classes, and volunteer opportunities, please call 410-524-9433 or online at **ArtLeagueOfOceanCity.org**.





## *Ocean City Awarded Sustainable Maryland Certified Status Again*



Councilman Mark Paddack, Environmental Engineer Gail Blazer and Mayor Rick Meehan accept Maryland Certified Award during the Maryland Municipal League award ceremony in October.

The Town of Ocean City recently earned the prestigious Sustainable Maryland Certification by the University of Maryland Environmental Finance Center. The award recognizes Maryland municipalities for implementing cost-effective and strategic ways to protect our natural assets and revitalize the community. The Town earned this award by using best practices in resource areas like water, energy, planning, health, food and economy.

We are very proud to showcase the following innovative projects that made this award possible:

Adopt-Your-Beach and Adopt a Street program  
Bicycle Friendly Community

- Promoting local businesses
- Comprehensive Energy Audit and Implementation
- Pollution Prevention Outreach

To learn more about Sustainable Ocean City  
go to [oceancitymd.gov](http://oceancitymd.gov)

## *Ocean City Performing Arts Center Amazes Audiences*

### **We Will Rock You – The Queen Musical**

November 8, 2019

### **The Ten Tenors – Home for the Holidays**

November 29, 2019

### **Red Doors - Christmas Cabaret**

December 4, 2019

### **The Oak Ridge Boys Christmas Celebration**

December 7, 2019

### **Mid-Atlantic Symphony**

December 8, 2019

### **Brian's Christmas Songbook: Featuring the Mid-Atlantic Symphony**

December 13, 2019

### **The Nutcracker**

December 15, 2019

### **Yakov Smirnoff – Happily Ever After**

December 28-29, 2019

So Much More...Visit: [ocmdperformingartscenter.com](http://ocmdperformingartscenter.com)



The Performing Arts Center is Ocean City's premier entertainment venue. Located in the Roland E. Powell Convention Center, the state-of-the-art theater offers an intimate setting for concerts, musicals, dance performances and more. Whether you choose balcony or orchestra seating, there isn't a bad seat in the house. Check out the theater's upcoming events:

#### **SIGN UP FOR PERFORMING ARTS CENTER E-NEWS:**

**Be among the first to learn about upcoming shows and events by subscribing to e-newsletters at <http://ocmdperformingartscenter.com>.**



## *A Holiday Tradition the Entire Family Can Enjoy*

Celebrating its 27th year as a signature event in Ocean City, Winterfest of Lights returns to Northside Park! With a 50 foot Christmas tree and a new look inside of the Winterfest Pavilion, guests will be treated to a holiday experience like never before. More than one million holiday lights twinkling throughout the town, as Ocean City's Winterfest of Lights creates a long lasting holiday memory for you and your family.

For more information on Winterfest Special Tree Lighting Ceremony & New Years Eve Celebration, visit [oceancitymd.gov](http://oceancitymd.gov).

## Holiday Closing

The Town of Ocean City's administrative offices will be closed on the following observed holidays:

### Veterans Day

November 11

### New Year's Day

January 1

### Thanksgiving

November 28 & 29

### Martin Luther King,

Jr. Day

January 20

### Christmas

December 24 & 25

### Presidents Day

February 17

## Ocean City Transportation Ride the Beach Bus



Ride with us, on Ocean City's municipal buses that travel along Coastal Highway. Our buses are safe, clean, reliable, and convenient. A \$3 Ride-All-Day pass allows you to ride from 6:00 a.m. until 6:00 a.m. the next morning. Our friendly and knowledgeable drivers will be glad to take you do

### WINTER SCHEDULE:

November 11, 2019 - April 2020

#### SUNDAY-THURSDAY:

6 a.m.-12 a.m./Approximately Every 40 minutes

11:40 p.m.-6:15 a.m./NO BUS SERVICE

#### FRIDAY:

6 a.m.-6 a.m./Approximately Every 30 minutes

#### SATURDAY:

6 a.m.-10 a.m./Approximately Every 30 minutes

10 a.m. – 11 p.m. /Approximately Every 15 minutes

1 p.m. – 6 p.m. / Approximately Every 30 minutes

**Remember to track your bus in real time with Ocean City's new bus locator. It's fast, reliable and easy to use! Download the TRANSLOC RIDER APP from your App Store! Or Text your bus stop ID Number to 414-11 when you are at the bus stop!**



As the world's oldest operating municipal skate park, the Ocean Bowl offers skateboarders and inline skaters of all ability levels an exceptional Ocean City experience. The 17,000 square foot concrete-based park takes advantage of every inch of space, with transitions allowing flow from one end of this "carvable" park to the other. The renovated bowl and vert ramp offer smooth riding surfaces and the mini-ramp and bird bath continue to be user favorites!

## OCEAN BOWL WINTER HOURS

### November – March

Weekdays 2 p.m. – dark

CLOSED WEDNESDAYS January - March

Weekends 9:30 a.m. – dark

Weekend Daily Pass \$15

Weekly Pass \$42

Annual Pass \$110

Weekday Daily Pass \$12

Resident Annual Pass \$60



## Solid Waste Schedule:

October 12, 2019 - May 8, 2020

### RESIDENTIAL: (waste wheelers)

Monday – Oceanside (75th Street to 146th Street)

Bayside (75th Street to 135th Street)

Tuesday – All Areas (Inlet to 74th Street)

Bayside (136th Street to 146th Street)

### COMMERCIAL: (Front-end and 300-gallon containers)

Monday/Wednesday/Friday – All Areas

**Reminder:** Bulk Pick-Up is Available: Bulk For more information, please call 410-524-0318.



## What You Need to Know to Protect Your Property From Flooding

### FLOOD PROTECTION INFORMATION

The Town of Ocean City is reminding property owners to understand your vulnerability to flooding and take the proper steps in advance to protect your family and your home. Located on a barrier island, many Ocean City properties are at risk from coastal flooding, storm surge, and high winds. The Town of Ocean City is concerned about repetitive flooding and has an active and ongoing program to help you protect properties from future flooding.

Here are some things you can do:

#### 1. Check with the Planning & Community Development Department

(Building Department) at City Hall for our Map Information Service. Department staff can tell you about the extent of past flooding in your area, the causes of repetitive flooding, how the City manages it, and what would be an appropriate flood protection level. The staff can visit your property to discuss flood protection alternatives, and provide information regarding flood risk zones, base flood elevation, approximate flood depth and copies of elevation certificates on file.

#### 2. Prepare for flooding by doing the following:

- Know how to shut off the electricity and gas to your house when a flood comes.
- Make a list of emergency numbers and identify a safe place to go.
- Make a household inventory, especially of ground level contents.
- Put insurance policies, valuable papers, medicine, etc., in a safe place.
- Collect and put cleaning supplies, camera, waterproof boots, etc., in a handy place.
- Develop a disaster response plan. See the Red Cross's website at [www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org) for information about preparing your home and family for a disaster.
- Get a copy of Repairing Your Flooded Home. We have copies at the Building Department or it can be found on the Red Cross' website, too.

#### 3. Consider permanent flood protection measures:

- Consider elevating your house above flood levels.
- Check your building for water entry points, such as first floor windows and doors, the crawlspace, and dryer vents. These may be protected with low walls or grading for positive drainage away from the structure, however do not block or obstruct required foundation flood vents.
- Mark your fuse or breaker box to show the circuits to the floodable areas. Turning off the power to the lowest levels before a flood can reduce property damage and save lives.
- More information can be found at FEMA's website, [www.ready.gov/floods](http://www.ready.gov/floods).
- Note that some flood protection measures may need a building permit and others may not be safe for your type of building, so be sure to talk to the Building Department first.

#### 4. Talk to the Building Department for information on financial assistance that may be available through FEMA.

- If you are interested in elevating your building above the flood level, a Federal grant may be available to cover 75% of the cost.
- Get a flood insurance policy – it will help pay for repairs after a flood and, in some cases, it will help pay the costs of elevating a substantially damaged building.

#### 5. Get a flood insurance policy.

- Homeowner's insurance policies do not cover damage from floods. Since our community participates in the National Flood Insurance Program, you can purchase a separate flood insurance policy. This insurance is backed by the Federal government and is available to everyone, even properties that have been flooded. Our community participation in the Community Rating System may also qualify your property for a reduction in the insurance premium.
- If your area is no longer mapped as a Special Flood Hazard Area based on the new Flood Insurance Rate Maps (adopted July 16, 2015), you may qualify for a lower-cost Preferred Risk Policy.
- Some people have purchased flood insurance because it was required by the bank when they got a mortgage or home improvement loan. Usually these policies just cover the building's structure and not the contents. During the kind of flooding that happens in Ocean City, there may also be damage to the furniture and contents. Be sure you have contents coverage.
- Don't wait for the next flood to buy insurance protection. In most cases, there is a 30-day waiting period before National Flood Insurance Program coverage takes effect. More information can be found at the NFIP website, [www.floodsmart.gov](http://www.floodsmart.gov).
- Contact your insurance agent for more information on rates and coverage.

### Important Ordinance Reminders:

**RENTAL LICENSE REQUIRED:** If you rent your property to anyone at any time, the law requires you to obtain an Ocean City Rental License and an Ocean City noise control permit ([www.oceancitymd.gov/rentallicense](http://www.oceancitymd.gov/rentallicense)). The purpose of these requirements is to maintain the character of single-family residential districts and assure compliance with the laws, ordinances and regulations applicable to rental housing units within the corporate limits of Ocean City. Further, it is to ensure safe, healthy and habitable housing conditions in rental housing units to prevent deterioration of rental housing units and encourage responsible management, maintenance and use of rental housing by the inspection and licensing of the units.

**Community members are encouraged to report properties that are not in compliance to the Property Review and Enforcement Strategies for Safe-Housing Committee (PRESS) at 410.289.8855.**

- **NOTE: R1 Property Owners:** R1 zoning is defined as low density single family residential development. A condition of having a rental license in an R1 zone, is you cannot rent to more than 4 unrelated people. **Maximum occupancy regulations also apply based on room size.** For more information, or determine if your property is in a R1 area, please visit: [www.oceancitymd.gov/rentallicense](http://www.oceancitymd.gov/rentallicense).

## Enjoy the Winter Wonder at Eagles Landing



Fall and winter are great times of the year to play golf in Ocean City, especially at our very own Eagles Landing Golf Course. Recognized as one of the best golf courses in the State by national publications, Ocean City's Premier Golf course offers a great program for Town of Ocean City residents and property owners to play the best golf for less money. **The Local Rewards Program** offers great rates, rewards points that can be redeemed for free golf and exclusive online reservations. To obtain a Local Rewards Card visit our pro shop and present an Ocean City, MD driver's license or utility bill from your Town of Ocean City property. For information about all of our programs call 410-213-7277. Visit us online at [www.eagleslandinggolf.com](http://www.eagleslandinggolf.com).

Also, grab a foursome and check out the upcoming tournament days:

**Swing for Youth: October 26, 2019**  
**Turkey Trot Open: November 23, 2019**  
**Super Bowl Scramble: February 2, 2020**  
**St. Patrick's Irish Scramble: March 14, 2020**

## What Off Season? The Summer May be Done, But the Fun has Just Begun!

Just because summer is over doesn't mean the fun has to end! Ocean City Recreation & Parks offers more than one hundred classes, programs, and activities, and events for both residents and visitors year-round.

Children of all ages can enjoy a variety of activities from basketball to dodgeball, indoor soccer, archery, dance classes, and programs to express creativity while developing motor skills. Adults and seniors aren't left out with great programs like aerobics, dance classes, yoga, Ageless Grace, as well as league sports like softball, soccer, and volleyball, too!

As the holiday season approaches, Ocean City Recreation and Parks offers plenty of family-friendly events fun programs for you to enjoy throughout the remainder of the year!

**Pizza Party with Santa** on Tuesday, December 3 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the Northside Park Recreation Complex. Activities include arts and crafts, a ride through the spectacular Winterfest of Lights, cookie decorating, visits with Santa, and more!

**Christmas Luncheon**, an annual affair for adults 50 years and over, is being held on Wednesday, December 4 from 10:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Enjoy great musical entertainment, as well as a performance by the talented Ocean City Recreation Dancers.

**Winterfest Soccer Camp** for both boys and girls ages 6 to 14 runs December 30 – 31 at the Northside Park Recreation Complex. Camp begins at 10:00 a.m. and concludes at 3:00 p.m. Sign up for this fun holiday camp and receive a soccer ball, t-shirts, and lots of giveaways!

## OCEAN CITY LIFE SAVING STATION:

The Ocean City Life Saving Museum, located at the inlet, offers unique historical insight into the surrounding area and the U.S. Life Saving Service with engaging and interactive programming for all ages. Stop in and say Hello to the diamondback terrapin turtle, go on a scavenger hunt for Sherlock the shark; and don't forget to look down into a 26-foot surfboat to imagine the heroic surf men who once manned the boat.

### UPCOMING MUSEUM EVENTS:

- We invite you to check out the **Little Learners program!** It is an opportunity for children (ages 1-5) and adults to learn about local history and the natural world through story time, crafts, and interactive activities. The Little Learners will explore exciting topics such as what sleepy animals hibernate in winter and how to grow a flower from a seed. The program runs October-May, and is the 2nd and 4th Monday of the month, excluding holidays. Children 6 and under are free; \$5.00 per adult.
- Saturday, November 9th, 2019 marks the 6th Annual **Storm Warrior 5K Run/Walk**. This 3.1 mile event starts at the museum (south end of the boardwalk) goes up to 15th street and back. Sign-in/register is at 8:00 AM at the museum, the race is from 9:00 AM – 11:00 AM. The entire event will take place on the Boardwalk. For parking, the Inlet parking lot will be available at no cost to participants. Awards will be presented at the conclusion of the event. To register online – [www.ocrunning.com](http://www.ocrunning.com)
- To get into the holiday cheer, the Museum will host a Holiday Open House on Sunday, December 1st, 2019 from 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM. **FREE ADMISSION**. It is a great opportunity to learn about the Museum and also see the old Life-Saving Station decked out in beautiful holiday decorations.
- 2020 is the Year of the Maryland Women! The spring of 2020 the OC Life-Saving Station Museum will feature A Feminine Touch: The Women of Ocean City. This exhibit will offer a glimpse into the trials and triumphs of influential women of Ocean City, Maryland from the 1800s through the 1990s. This exhibit is in support of the Maryland Office of Tourism celebration of the 100th Anniversary of women's right to vote in America.



From more information and a complete schedule of Museum events, please email [christine@ocmuseum.org](mailto:christine@ocmuseum.org) or visit [ocmuseum.org](http://ocmuseum.org).



## Why Not Work Where You Play?

A day at the office is like a day at the beach in the Town of Ocean City! Where else can you work and enjoy the Boardwalk breeze, soft sand, and fresh ocean air! Hundreds of seasonal positions are available so the Human Resources Department wants to know.....WHAT ARE YOU DOING THIS SUMMER?

### SEASONAL JOB OPENINGS:

Remember to sign up for Job Alerts by visiting [oceancitymd.com/enews](http://oceancitymd.com/enews).



**We will have several testing dates for interested candidates.**

**The dates include:**

**November 16/17**

**December 14/15**

**January 4/5**

**January 18/19**

**February 8/9**

#### **Ocean City Police Officers, Dispatchers & Public Safety Aids:**

Seasonal Officers, Dispatchers and Public Safety Aids are temporary employees who supplement the year round police force in its mission to the community. This assignment gives college-level criminal justice and other qualified and interested persons the chance to experience first-hand the duties and responsibilities of a law enforcement. Ocean City Police Officers and Custody Officers will be recruiting at seventy six (76) colleges and universities this fall. They will be recruiting for the Summer 2020 position for Seasonal Police Officer, Seasonal Public Safety Aide and Seasonal Communications Operator. Applicants will be able to apply for full time as well.. For more information on the testing and/or job opportunities, please visit [www.joinocpd.com](http://www.joinocpd.com)



**Bus Drivers & Tram Drivers:** Do you love the sounds and sights of Ocean City? Spend your summer days taking in the beach and Boardwalk views as an employee of the Ocean City Transportation Division. Don't worry, we offer paid training to get you the qualifications you need! Learn more at [oceancitymd.gov](http://oceancitymd.gov).



#### **Lifeguard Testing Locations:**

- Salisbury University March 2020 Exact date TBA
- University of Maryland, College Park March 2020 Exact date TBA
- York College, York PA March 2020 Exact date TBA
- Ocean Pines April 26th
- Ocean City, MD May 30

**Lifeguards (SRT's):** The Ocean City Beach Patrol (OCBP) will hold pre-employment physical skills evaluations at several off-site locations March through April with the last test for the 2020 season in Ocean City on Saturday, May 30th. There are no pre-certification requirements and experience in ocean rescue is not necessary to apply. All training and certifications will be provided during a paid (\$15.25 hr) training course.

**Join the Ocean City Fire Department:  
Be A Volunteer,  
Cadet or Live In!**



#### **What are the benefits of joining the OCFD?**

There are many benefits to becoming part of the Ocean City Fire Department! Not only will you have the privilege to serve your community, but you will also receive tons of fire/ems training with unmatched experience. A combination department of volunteer and career personnel, the OCFD is a full spectrum life safety agency responding to more than 6,000 calls each year. For more information, visit: [www.ocvfc.com](http://www.ocvfc.com)

**Why should I be a Cadet?** The OCFD Cadet Program provides young people from the community an opportunity to experience leadership roles, operational experience and the skills necessary to function efficiently within the fire service. If you are between 14-18 and are anxious to learn and make new friends, all while keeping your community safe, then this program is for you! For more information, visit: [www.ocvfc.com](http://www.ocvfc.com)

**How can I live at the beach...For FREE!** Don't just work at the beach, LIVE at the beach!! The Ocean City Fire Department Live-In Program, available at three out of five fire houses in Ocean City, provides excellent learning and firefighting experience while giving you the opportunity to have free housing for the summer season or year-round.

The Live-In Program is open to any person that is at least 18 years old with previous firefighting experience. Those participating in the program must maintain employment and/or post-secondary student status and dedicate 48 hours a week to answering calls. Seasonal Town of Ocean City employees (Beach Patrol, Police, Communications etc...) are strongly encouraged to apply. Many of our previous live-in personnel have moved on to become successful ranking officers in the Ocean City Fire Department as well as regional departments.

## Save the Date...Ocean City Upcoming Events:

### November

- NOV 9 Storm Warriors 5K Walk/Run – Inlet & Boardwalk  
NOV 21 DEC 31 Winterfest of Lights – Northside Park, 125th Street  
NOV 23 Light-Up Downtown Winter Festival – Boardwalk & Inlet  
FREE!  
NOV 23 Turkey Trot Golf Open – Eagle's Landing Golf Course  
NOV 29 The Ten Tenors – Home for the Holidays – Performing  
Arts Center, 40th St.  
NOV 29-DEC 1 Holiday Shopper's Fair – Convention Center,  
40th Street

### December

- DEC 1-31 Winterfest of Lights – Northside Park, 125th Street  
DEC 1 - Life-Saving Museum Holiday Open House – Life-Saving  
Station Museum FREE  
DEC 3 Pizza with Santa (registration required) – Northside Park,  
125th Street  
DEC 7 Oak Ridge Boys' Christmas Celebration Tour OC  
Performing Arts Center, 40th Street  
DEC 7 OC Christmas Parade – Coastal Hwy from Old Landing  
Rd. to 120th St. FREE  
DEC 8 Mid-Atlantic Symphony "Holiday Joy: A Salute to the  
Music of the Big Band Orchestras" – Performing Arts  
Center, 40th Street

- DEC 13 Brian's Christmas Songbook Featuring Mid-Atlantic  
Symphony Performing Arts Center, 40th Street  
DEC 14 Comic Con – Convention Center, 40th Street  
DEC 15 The Sussex Dance Academy presents, "The Nutcracker"  
Performing Arts Center, 40th Street  
DEC 28-29 Comedian, Yakov Smirnoff's "Happily Ever Laughter" –  
Performing Arts Center, 40th Street  
DEC 31 New Year's Eve Celebration and Fireworks – Northside  
Park, 125th St. FREE  
DEC 31 FREE New Year's Eve Bus Service