

TOWN OF OCEAN VIEW

A Message from Mayor John Reddington

Happy 135th Anniversary

WOW! Ocean View is turning 135 this year! That's something to celebrate and we're planning to on June 15th, in beautiful John West Park. I hope you will consider joining us with your friends, family and neighbors. There will be lots of fun activities and nods to Ocean View then and now.

I have served as the Ocean View Mayor for 4 full years and the years have flown by as the Town has been busy. While I have experienced varied operations from serving in our country's armed forces, and leading special operations and efforts, as well as having traveled extensively to more than 70 countries, residing in 6, it's a pleasure to be here now, living in Ocean View. As Mayor I have had the opportunity to engage with members of our community, fellow members of Council and our Town Staff to address a myriad of issues and initiatives. I have been in the position to meet and work with neighboring Towns to discuss issues that impact us all. But, being here now as Ocean View approaches full build out... knowing if we knew in the past what we know now we likely would have done some things differently, I can confidently say, for the most part, I believe Ocean View has gotten it right. **(continued on page 5).**



A typical crowd enjoying a community event in beautiful John West Park!

Stay safe.
Find your evacuation zone today!



Emergency Preparedness Tool
from PrepareDE.Org
Make a Plan -
Build a Kit - Stay Informed!

Spring 2024

TOWN COUNCIL

Mayor
John
Reddington

District 1
Steve Cobb

District 2
Colleen
Twardzik

District 3
Jay Tyminski

District 4
Donald Walsh

**Town Council
meets monthly
on the 2nd**

**Tuesday
@ 3 p.m.
and if needed
the 4th**

**Tuesday
@ 3 p.m.
32 West Ave.**

Subject to change.
See our website for
monthly postings.



Visit our website at www.OceanViewDe.Gov

Ocean View Property Tax Information:

Your **2024 Ocean View Property Tax Statement** is enclosed with this newsletter. We continue to offer a **1% discount** if you pay your taxes early or by July 31, 2024. The final tax due date is **August 31, 2024** after which a penalty of 1½ % per month will be added to any unpaid taxes. The Millville Fire Company's discounted ambulance subscription included on your bill is not eligible for a discount, but entitles your property to service for a full year at no extra cost. If you have an escrow account for your tax payment this statement is for informational purposes only as your mortgage company should remit your taxes on your behalf. Please confirm with your mortgage company if you are not sure and **notify us of any change of name or mailing address to ensure our ability to contact you.**

Your **2024 property taxes can be paid in the following ways:**

Online payment – visit <http://www.oceanviewde.gov> and click on the online payment Link

24-hour Drop Box –
201 Central Avenue Administrative Offices (located at rear entrance)

By Mail -201 Central Avenue
Ocean View, DE 19970



Taking Care of Business... Reminders!

Voter Registration – you must register with the Town in order to vote in Town elections. Please contact our Administrative Office or simply download the form from our website and send or deliver it with a copy of your valid DE driver's license.

John West Park – Group use of our pavilion is available by registering to hold a picnic, family reunion, birthday celebrations, etc.! Certain dates may not be available in association with Town events and activities.

An Ocean View **Business License** is required if you provide services or do work within the Town Limits. This includes contractors that work at your property.

If you own property in Ocean View that you rent, you are required to apply for a **Rental License**. Rental properties are subject to a 5% Gross Receipts tax.

Building permits are required for all construction projects, repairs, additions, etc. and should be obtained prior to the start of the project.

Property maintenance, including the area between the property line and the roadway is the responsibility of the property owner. This includes grass and debris maintenance.

Pets are required to be on a leash and are not permitted to run at large. Be sure to clean up after your pets when walking them in our neighborhoods or along the walking trail at John West Park! Failure to do so may result in a fine.

Please reach out to the Town staff with any questions.

See page 12 for contact information and keep it for future reference!

OCEAN VIEW TV (OVTV)

PLEASE WATCH OVTV REGULARLY TO STAY
INFORMED & ENGAGED WITH YOUR TOWN!

Found on **MEDIACOM CHANNELS**

78 & 818.

Town Council, Boards & Commission meetings are aired regularly or visit our YouTube Channel & watch live!

Town Council News

The Town of Ocean View operates on a non-partisan basis and therefore conducts its municipal elections for the Mayor and Council in that manner, with no party affiliation but a strong focus on our local community.

We congratulate Councilman Donald Walsh, returning to serve our community as District 4 Councilman for his 2nd term. We hope you will join us in thanking him for his commitment to serve for another 3 years! A swearing in ceremony, conducted by Town Solicitor Veronica Faust was held on April 23rd where Councilman Walsh was also confirmed to serve as Mayor Pro-Tem for another year by his fellow members of Council.



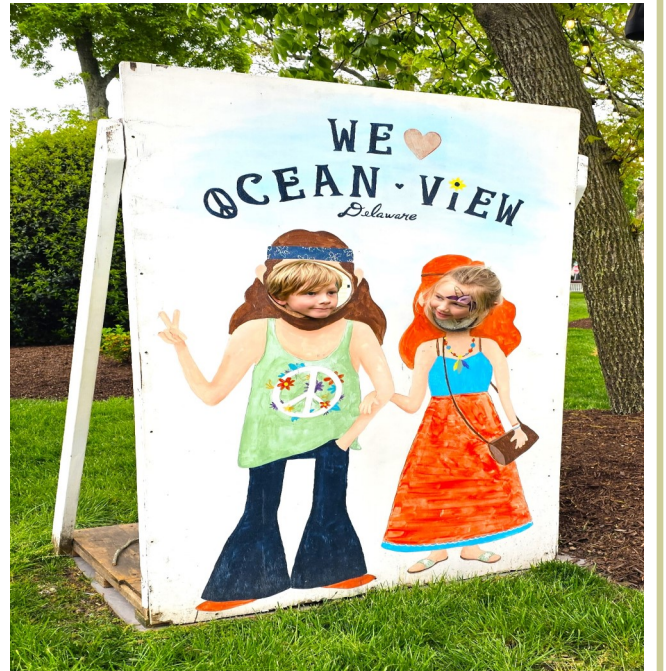
Far left, District 4 Councilman Donald Walsh was sworn in at the Towns Re-organizational meeting by Town Solicitor Veronica Faust with his wife Ruth and Mayor Reddington by his side. Near left, Councilman Walsh addresses members of the Town staff, boards and commissions at a luncheon.

Mayor Reddington and wife Mary participated in the *March for Meals* program hosted by the

CHEER Coastal Leisure Center
30637 Cedar Neck Road Ocean View.

Please visit: www.cheerde.com/ocean-view for this and additional information about the CHEER Center offerings.

CHEER's mission "to promote & maintain the highest quality of life & independence by developing and providing services that meet the continuing needs of senior citizens."



Members of Council assisted with our annual Arbor Day planting during Spring Fling where 8 shrubs were planted to further beautify the far end of John West Park!



32 West Avenue - Adjacent John West Park

Enjoy free summer tours of the Historic Village every Wednesday from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. June through August!

Experience the Civil War era Tunnell-West House, the original 1889 Ocean View Post Office, a replica of Cecile Steele's first chicken house, Hall's Store Visitor and Education Center and the Coastal Towns' Museum with its historic barn, three-seater outhouse, woodshed and more! Exterior façade repairs of the Tunnell-West House were completed recently and a new website was developed to better inform the community of the mission of the HVOV.!

Please visit www.hvov.org/membership to become a member or to donate.

Call 302.593.8814 for information or to set up a private tour.

Our mission is to preserve, interpret, collect, and educate about local history as the area continues to develop and grow! Our all-volunteer 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization needs your support to stay viable. If you are interested in volunteer opportunities, please contact Cheryl Powell at volunteer@hvov.org. Don't forget to check us out on Facebook!



Fundraising & spreading the good word at a local restaurant dine & donate event!



A beautiful day visiting the Historic Village in Ocean View!



Blue Star Memorial and Garden

(Atlantic & Woodland Aves.)

Thank you to our partners from the Salt Air Gardeners for keeping our memorial site beautiful! Dedicated in 2022!

Smart911.com

Sign up today!

Because every second counts!

Your entire household. One account.

Go to Smart911.com and click on "Sign Up". Then, when you call 9-1-1 from a registered phone number, the 9-1-1 system recognizes your phone number and automatically displays your profile on the screen of the call taker who receives your call. The data is secure and is only available to emergency service personnel when you call 911.

Continued from page 1, Mayor's Message:

At 135 years Ocean View has retained some of its old-town charm in our historic areas along Central and West, maintaining our infrastructure has been a strong focus and continues to be more so in recent years, it's faced controversy and differences of opinion head on and remains an attractive locale to own a home, operate a business, visit or attend Lord Baltimore, a Blue Ribbon elementary school. We're striving to continue to address cleanliness, property maintenance, and to consistently be known as one of the safest places to live in the state of Delaware, thanks to our full service, state accredited Ocean View Police Department! Property values remain strong and quality of life is high, and yes, we're nicely nestled between the beach and the bay.

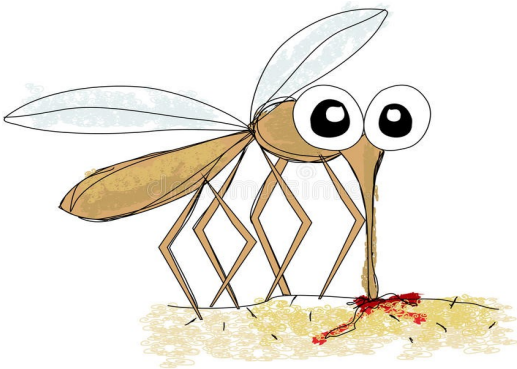
Along with the other members of Town Council, I share a high level of confidence in our future success as we move forward. Working to comfortably address revenue needs will be a high priority in the near term as some revenue streams decline (real estate transfer tax), a result of fewer new home sales. Likewise, a continuation of our work related to identifying and funding quality of life initiatives including connectivity improvements through sidewalks, bike lanes, and hopefully local transit, should remain a focus.

So, its Cheer's to 135 years of the Town of Ocean View! Where one can strive to age well in our community (shout out to the South Coastal Village Volunteer's), embrace family focused community events, build strong partnerships (Scout Troop 281, our local churches, businesses, the Quiet Resorts Chamber of Commerce, Millville Volunteer Fire Company, CHEER, etc.) and take advantage of an abundant number of volunteering, outdoor, recreation and fitness, lifelong learning and dining opportunities, all while being a welcoming and attractive Town to all who follow in our footsteps!

Mosquito Season Is Here!

Our mosquito control plan is comprised of two distinct operations including Delaware Natural Resources & Environmental Control (DNREC) and the Town Public Works staff, offering a comprehensive treatment process. Larvae treatments have already begun, and weekly spraying will begin the end of May and continue through the end of September.

Spraying will take place on Tuesday and Friday mornings between 2:30 & 6:00 a.m., contingent upon acceptable weather.



**Ocean View
Police Department**

**Accredited by the State of Delaware,
& awarded the**

2021, 2022, 2023 & 2024

**Lexipol Gold Level Recognition for
Excellence in Policy
Development & Training!**

Small Agency - Big Results



Community Emergency Response Team!

Our Community Emergency Response Team (**CERT**) members have been busy training and making a difference in our community over the past year. Interested property owners can join and will be offered programs and training regarding disaster preparedness, fire safety, light search and rescue, team organization, and disaster medical operations. The Federal Emergency Management Agency developed the CERT program to encourage a consistent, nationwide approach to volunteer training that professional responders can rely on during disaster situations, allowing them to focus on more complex tasks. **Thank you to our dedicated members!**

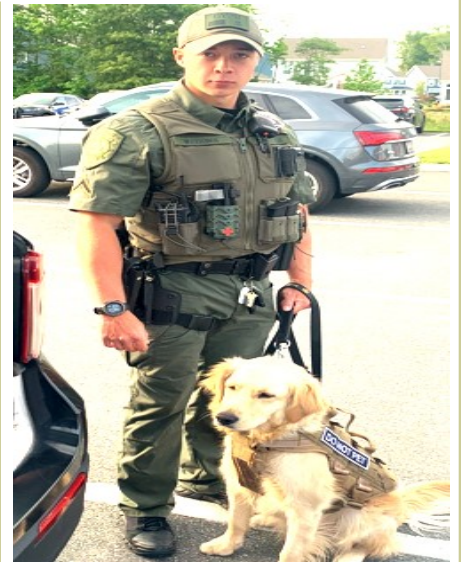
Contact Chief McLaughlin at Kenneth.McLaughlin@cj.state.de.us



Corporal Hopkins and K9 Ori (Left). K9 Ori is trained in narcotics, tracking and patrol.

Officer Watkins and K9 Leo (Right). K9 Leo is trained in narcotics and tracking.

A fundraising event for our K9 Teams will be held on Fri., July 26th during our Classic Movie Night showing of Field of Dreams!



A 2024 Quiet Resorts Chamber of Commerce

Joshua M. Freeman

First Responder

Officer of the Year Award

was presented to

Ocean View Police

Department

Sergeant Mark Burton

Shown here with his wife

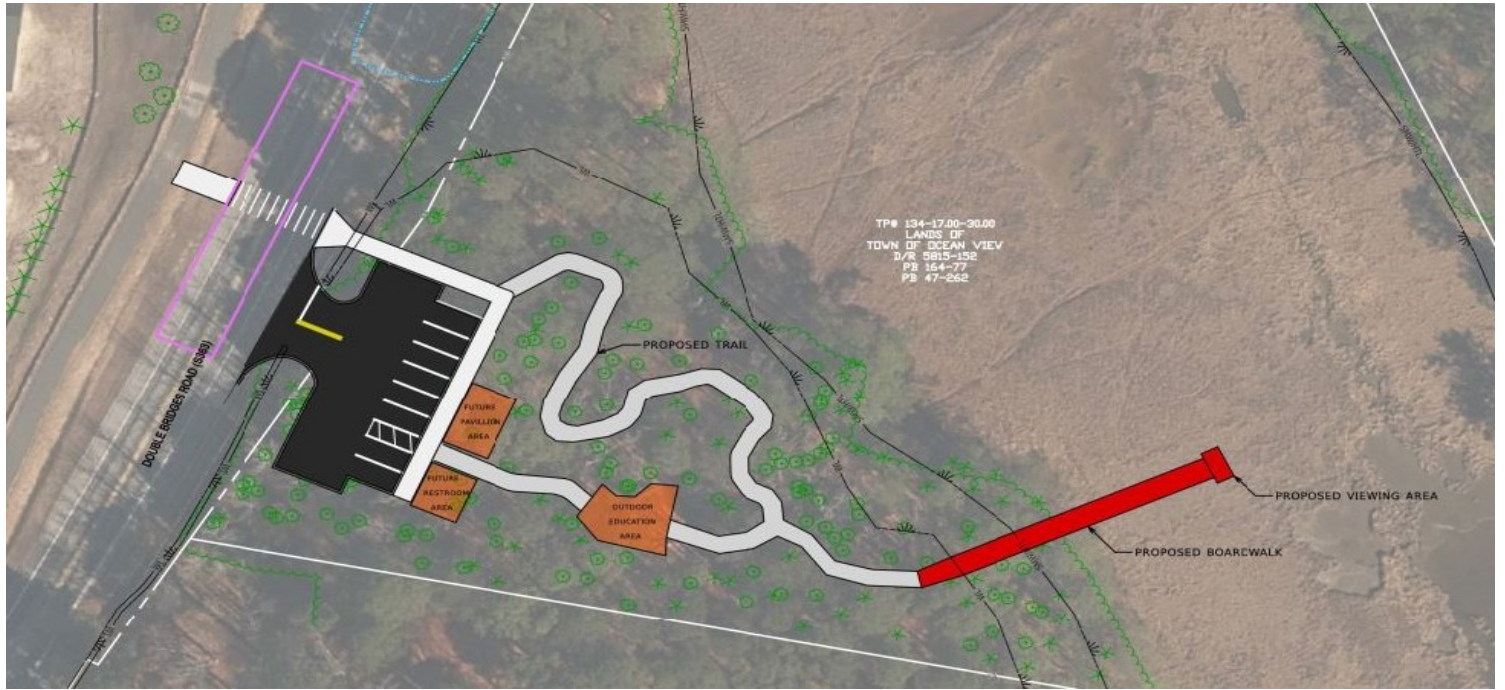
Jennifer.



Visit our website at www.OceanViewDe.Gov

Coming Soon—The Berzins Nature Park and Trail

Design of the Berzins Nature Park and Trail to be developed near the intersection of Double Bridges Road and Muddy Neck Road is underway and set to include a raised boardwalk and observation area, a walking trail through the upland pines, outdoor classroom space and educational kiosks! Ocean View purchased the property to preserve open space, using grant funds not tax dollars to do so! The Town has also secured grant funds from the State's *Transportation Alternative Program* and from the DNREC's *Outdoor Recreation Parks & Trails Program*. A current rendering is shared below:



NEW!!!! Fitness programs now available at
Beautiful John West Park...

Memorial Day through Labor Day!

Functional Fitness Class -Tuesdays & Fridays @ 8a.m.

Geared toward better function when performing everyday tasks, plus total body conditioning!

\$10/Person (paid on site - meet at the gazebo), &

If you just need some instruction to get started on our park equipment?

Outdoor Fitness Equipment Demo Days (FREE)

Every 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the Month @ 8a.m.

Offered **ON SITE AT THE PARK** by **CUSTOM FIT 360 HEALTH AND WELLNESS!**



Visit our website at www.OceanViewDe.Gov

Ocean View Police Department

Promotions & Welcome to our New Recruit



Congratulations Are in Order

Officer Sidney Ballentine, promoted to Lieutenant (far left), Officer Brian Caselli, promoted to Corporal First Class (middle), and Officer Tara Mazza recently graduated the Dover Police Academy, joining the Ocean View Police Department! All are pictured with Chief McLaughlin and Captain Hall.

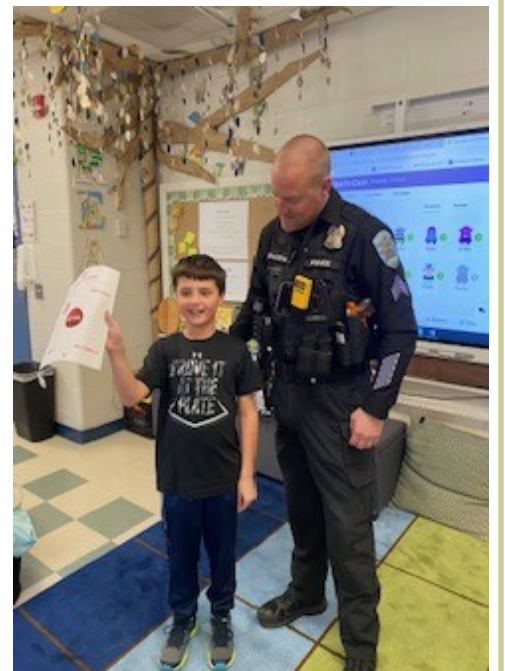
Join us in congratulating all three officers when you see them in our community!

OVPD School Resource Officer (SRO) Program

Lord Baltimore Elementary School

The Town's SRO program will soon complete its second full school year offering improved school safety, and age appropriate health and life lessons, while fostering positive relationships with students, parents and staff. Topics covered include the Eddie the Eagle gun safety program, bike safety rodeos, DEA drug awareness and prevention programs, and presentations on topics such as peer pressure, managing disappointment, the dangers of over the counter medicines, alcohol, nicotine and more!

Our program is only partially funded by the Indian River School District but is being assisted by fundraising efforts of the PTO and the Town. Individual contributions to help maintain the SRO program at Lord Baltimore can be made by mailing a check to: FOP Lodge 16 OVPD/SRO



Recent Projects Completed in Town!

Drainage Projects

The Daisey Avenue Sidewalk Project was completed in May of 2024. This project improved connectivity by constructing sidewalks along Daisey and Central Avenue connecting to the Assawoman Canal. The project also addressed flooding issues at the intersection of Woodland Avenue and Daisey Avenue.

The Country Village/Country Estates Drainage Improvement Project was completed in May of 2023.

The final phase of drainage improvements in Country Estates will commence in June of 2024. This project will address drainage concerns along Winchester Drive and North Horseshoe Drive.

The final phase of drainage improvements in Woodland Park is being designed. Construction is tentatively scheduled for December 2026.

The Cottages Drainage Project was completed in May of 2024. This project addressed drainage concerns along Columbia Avenue, Sally Lane, and Port Royal Road.

Drainage improvements in Savannah's Landing were completed in September 2023.

Drainage improvements in the Hunters Run Community are in design. This project will include replacing deteriorated corrugated metal drainage pipes throughout the community and roadway trench drains.

Drainage improvements for Oakwood Avenue have been designed. This project is attentively scheduled for construction in April 2026.

Drainage improvements for Betts Avenue, between West Avenue and Central Avenue have been designed. This project is tentatively scheduled for construction in May of 2029.

Sidewalk Rehabilitation Projects

The Daisey Avenue Sidewalk Project was completed in May of 2024. This project improved connectivity by constructing sidewalks along Daisey and Central Avenue connecting to the Assawoman Canal. The project also addressed flooding issues at the intersection of Woodland Avenue and Daisey Avenue.

Sidewalk design along Woodland Avenue, from Daisey Avenue and Betts Avenue is completed. This project is scheduled for construction in November of 2024

Pavement Rehabilitation Projects

The communities of Wedgefield and The Cottages were milled and overlaid. Seahawk Lane in the Canal Village Community was also milled and overlaid.

Budget, Real Estate Taxes and Audit Updates:

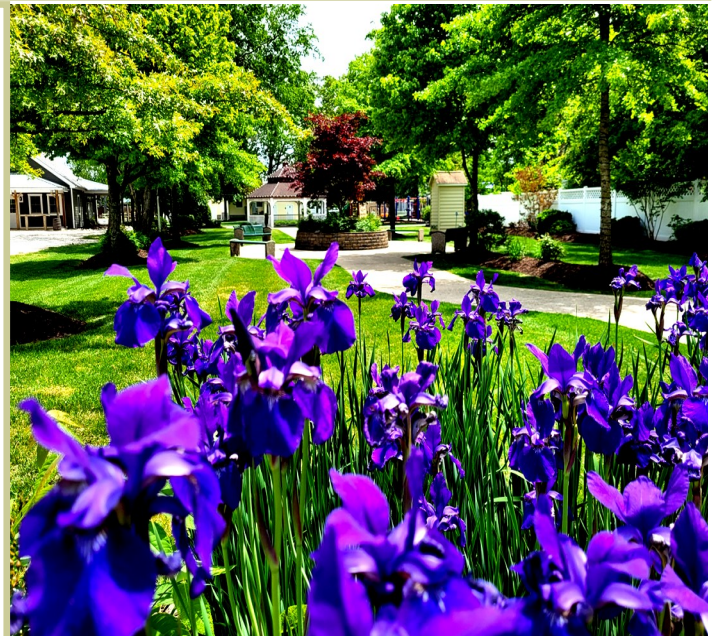
FY2025 Budget - May 1, 2024 through April 30, 2025

The current tax rate of .2378 per \$100 assessed value was maintained for the third year in a row.

The Government Finance Officer's Association (GFOA) awarded the Town of Ocean View a **Distinguished Budget Presentation Award** for our FY2024 Budget!

Independent Audit Outcome

The Town of Ocean View was issued an **Unmodified Audit**, the highest level of opinion we can achieve, as well as no issues of noncompliance or material weaknesses in internal controls were identified!



Seasons of Family Fun

at Beautiful John West Park! (32 West Ave)

Summer Concerts

Friday's 6:30 p.m. start

June 7 - Love Seed Mama Jump

June 21 - Pistol Whipped

135th Anniversary Celebration!

Saturday, June 15 12:30 to 5:30 p.m. (rain date June 16th)

Parade 12:30 p.m. –West Ave.

(with VFW Post 7234 -Millville Fire Co. - OV Police Dept. and more!)

**Ocean View Brewing Company Beer Garden with
135th Commemorative four packs and draft sales.**

Live Music by

Funsters & Overtime Bands

Scout Troop 281, Ocean View Family Restaurant & Bonkey's Food Sales!

Cotton Candy & Celebratory Cupcakes (while supplies last)

Rock Wall & Obstacle Course for Kids!

Historic Village in Ocean View Tours!

Event Sponsors - Quiet Resorts Chamber, Fulton Bank and WSFS! 

Classic Movie Theme Nights

(themed activities prior to movies at 8:30p.m.)

Friday, July 12 - **American Graffiti** 7 p.m.

**51st Anniversary Showing! Plus Live 50's Music by Double Agent &
Classic Car show!**

Friday, July 26 - **Field of Dreams** - 6:00 p.m.

Fundraising event with hitting and pitching activities and a **Beer Garden!**

Proceeds will benefit the OVPD K9 Teams!

Event Sponsors—Ocean View Brewing Co. & Mercantile Processing Inc. 

9th Annual Cops and Goblins

Saturday , Oct. 28, from 1 to 4 p.m.

The areas best Halloween Event! Candy, Music, Food, Amusements, Costumes!

Old Town Holiday Market Tree Lighting & Trail of Lights

Saturday, Nov. 25, from 1 to 5:30 p.m.

Vendors, food, train rides, kids craft, **The Belle Tones** musical performances!

And, a special visitor from the North Pole!

Visit our website at www.OceanViewDe.Gov



Helping older adults live independent-

South Coastal Village Volunteers

Located at the Ocean View

Community Center

32 West Avenue (formerly Town Hall)

Open Monday through Friday 10 AM – 2 PM

South Coastal Village Volunteers (SCVV) is one of the tenants of our Community Center. SCVV is an organization that enables older adults to remain in their homes in Ocean View, Bethany Beach, Millville and South Bethany by providing volunteer help. SCVV, now in its fourth year of operations, offers services to members such as transportation, running errands, help with small household chores, technology, and social visits and calls. The organization currently has 66 members and almost 110 volunteers. SCVV is an affiliate of Village Volunteers, a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization which serves Lewes, Rehoboth, and Milton. For further information on volunteering, membership or donating...

Call 302-500-1281 or go to:

www.southcoastalvillagevolunteers.org.

Visit our partner organizations...
conveniently located at the
Ocean View
Community Center!



DISCOVER YOUR PASSION
through lifelong learning

UNIVERSITY OF
DELAWARE.



Lifelong Learning Opportunities – in Ocean View!

A learning cooperative for adults age 50-plus.

Since 2014, the University of Delaware, Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) has offered classes at the Ocean View Community Center (32 West Avenue). Classes will be held on Mondays and Wednesdays during the fall and spring. The programs include dance classes, learning the Chinese game Mah Jongg, history, watercolor and more!

**For full information on program offerings, contact
OLLI at olli-kent-sussex@udel.edu, or visit olli.udel.edu/kent-sussex.**

Visit our website at www.OceanViewDe.Gov

Town of Ocean View, 201 Central Avenue, Ocean View, DE

Phone 302-539-9797 — Fax 302-537-5306

www.OceanViewDe.Gov - *Ocean View TV* cable channels 78 & 818

[YouTube @ Town of Ocean View](#)

Town Council and Employee Contact Information

[Town Council Contact Information](#)

Mayor John Reddington

jreddington@oceanviewde.gov

District 1 Councilman Steve Cobb

scobb@oceanviewde.gov

District 2 Councilman Colleen Twardzik

ctwardzik@oceanviewde.gov

District 3 Councilman Jay Tyminski

jtyminski@oceanviewde.gov

Mayor Pro-Tem/District 4 Councilman Donald Walsh

dwalsh@oceanviewde.gov

[Employee Contact Information](#)

Carol Houck	Town Manager	ext. 104	chouck@oceanviewde.gov
Kenneth McLaughlin	Chief of Police	539-111	kenneth.mclaughlin@cj.state.de.us
Dawn Parks	Finance Director	ext. 103	dparks@oceanviewde.gov
Ken Cimino	Planning & Development Dir.	ext. 113	kcimino@oceanviewde.gov
Jill Oliver	Planner	ext. 112	joliver@oceanviewde.gov
Donna Schwartz	Town Clerk	ext. 101	dschwartz@oceanviewde.gov
Shawanda Garrison	Accountant	ext. 102	sgarrison@oceanviewde.gov
Greg Durstine	Code Enforcement Officer	ext. 111	gdurstine@oceanviewde.gov
Susie Miller	Licensing Clerk	ext. 115	smiller@oceanviewde.gov
Kristen Powell	Administrative Assistant	ext. 110	Kpowell@oceanviewde.gov