

TOWN OF OCEAN VIEW

A Message from Mayor John Reddington

As we begin a new fiscal year (FY2026) it is my pleasure to continue to serve as your Mayor. April marked the start of my second term and I can share that all of the committed individuals serving on our committees and boards, our employees and my fellow members of council make me realize just how fortunate our community is. It's rewarding to witness so many individuals working together respectfully to do what's best for Ocean View! I'm very proud to call Ocean View my home! In recent years we have celebrated the Town turning 135, we've taken a strong look at our financial forecast, boosted our sense of community with special events, purchased open space for increased recreational opportunities, navigated the planning of the remaining few new developments, and funded over \$2 million in infrastructure projects for street and stormwater maintenance. (continued on page 5)

Below- 135th Anniversary Celebration & Parade Memories - June 2024!



Spring 2025

**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.
& if needed the
4th Tuesday
@ 3 p.m.
32 West Ave.
Subject to
change.
See our website
for monthly
postings.



Stay safe.
Find your evacuation zone today!



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

Visit our website at www.OceanViewDe.Gov

Ocean View Property Tax Information:

Your **2025 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, 2025. The final tax due date is **August 31, 2025** 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 reduction 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 **2025 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 Town Clerk 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 6% Gross Receipts tax.

Building permits are required for all construction projects, repairs, additions, etc. and should be acquired 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 our Town employees with questions.
See page 10 for contact information & keep 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 and 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.

The swearing in of two returning members of Council took place at the organizational meeting of April 22, 2025. We congratulate Councilwoman Colleen Twardzik and Councilman Steve Cobbs who ran unopposed in seeking their second terms. Please join us in thanking them for their commitment to serve our community for another 3 years! Councilman Walsh was reappointed as Mayor Pro Tem for the coming year by his fellow members of Council.

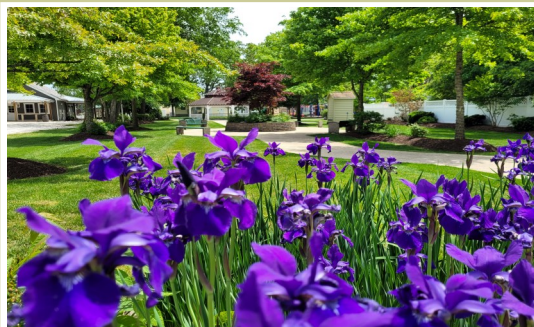
Below left, District 1 Councilman Steve Cobb and right, Councilwoman Colleen Twardzik were sworn in by Town Solicitor Faust.



Mayor Reddington and Town Manager Houck 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."



Ocean View Delaware:
***"A vibrant coastal community,
nestled between the beach and the bay."***

Visit our website at www.OceanViewDe.Gov



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 (available to rent for private events) and the Coastal Towns' Museum with its historic barn, three-seater outhouse, woodshed and more!

Visit www.hvov.org/membership to become a member, to make a donation or for additional information.

Call 302.593.8814 for information, to set up a private tour, or inquire about Hall's Store event rentals.



The beautiful Historic Village during the January 2025 snow event.



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:

As we realize the reduction of a prime revenue stream due to reaching full Town buildout (that of transfer tax revenue) we will likely be addressing this new normal by making some adjustments to how we fund larger, long-life projects and the maintenance of our reserves. These moves, with the guidance of local government financial consultants, will be made proactively to **ensure Ocean View remains competitive and able to continue to deliver desired services.**

This year will see the Town finalize the design and likely begin construction of the *Berzins Natural Area*. We will also launch two necessary reviews, one related to police compensation and the other a risk analysis related to providing public safety services outside of our Town limits when dispatched by the State. The outcome of each will help to guide future operational decisions.

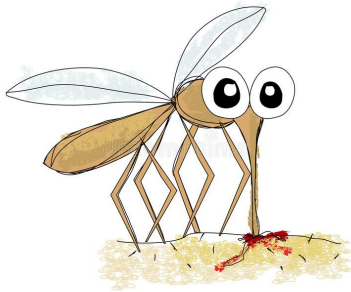
Earlier this year we **completed the sale of our water distribution system** (we only owned the pipes in the ground and the hydrants) that served a small portion of the Town under a contractual relationship with Tidewater Utilities for water supply, treatment and operations. Tidewater has now taken ownership of the system through the sale with customers seeing little change. Soon we will begin a **public discussion of how best to utilize retained funds following the sale.** Your participation in this discussion would be appreciated as we focus on what options are in the best interest of the Town as whole

All my very best! *John Reddington, Mayor*

Mosquito Season Is Here!

Our mosquito control plan is comprised of two distinct operations including DNREC and the Town Public Works staff, offering a comprehensive treatment program. 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.



OVPD School Resource Officer (SRO) Program

Lord Baltimore Elementary School

The Town's SRO program will soon complete its 3rd full school year offering age appropriate lessons, improved school safety and fostering positive relationships with students, parents and staff. Programs offered include Eddie the Eagle gun safety, bike safety rodeo, the DEA drug awareness and prevention program, and presentations on topics such as peer pressure, managing disappointment, the dangers of over the counter medicines, alcohol, nicotine and more!

The program is only partially funded by the Indian River School District. Individual contributions to help support our SRO program at Lord Baltimore can be made by mailing a check to: FOP Lodge 16 OVPD/SRO

PO Box 966, Bethany Beach, DE 19930



School Resource Officer - A compassionate and dedicated guardian who ensures the safety of the school community, building trust with students while providing guidance, security, and a reassuring presence to help young minds thrive.

Infrastructure Projects Funded, Completed or Underway in our Community!

Drainage Improvements in Country Estates were completed earlier this year.

Design of Drainage Improvements in Woodland Park have been completed. This project **will address drainage concerns** on Maple Way, Maple Lane, and Holly Lane.

Design of the culvert replacement in the Deep Hole Tax ditch Prong 4 under Eastgate Boulevard in Avon Park has been completed. This project is **scheduled for construction in December of 2025.**

Sidewalk and drainage improvements along Woodland Avenue, from Daisey Avenue to south of Betts Avenue were completed in May 2025. This work improved drainage along Woodland Avenue and **created a safe walkable environment from Woodland Avenue to the Assawoman Canal.**

Design of sidewalk and drainage improvements along Woodland Avenue from South of Betts to Hudson Avenue have been completed. This project will commence in March of 2026 and **will complete our sidewalk connectivity program from State Route 26 to the Assawoman Canal!**

Design of sidewalk and drainage improvements along West Avenue from Osprey Lane to the Assawoman Canal have been completed. This project will **complete sidewalk connectivity from State Route 26 to the Assawoman Canal.**

Design of drainage Improvements for Betts Avenue, between Central Avenue and West Avenue have been completed. This project is awaiting grant funding from FEMA that is currently on hold.

Design of sidewalks along Oakland Avenue, Central Avenue and Oakwood Avenue is underway. **This project will bring pedestrian connectivity from Woodland Avenue to John West Park as well as pedestrian Connectivity along Central Avenue from State Route 26 to the Assawoman Canal.**

Street paving was completed on Osprey Lane, William Avenue and Canal Court in April 2025.

Semi-annual Street sweeping was completed in Savannah's Landing, Hunters Run, Tidal Walk, Silver Woods, Johnsons Glade, Avon Park, Bear Trap Dunes, and Fairway Village in April 2025.

Repairs for snowplow damage to property and infrastructure due to the January 6, 2025 winter weather event **were completed in April 2025.**

Maintaining our infrastructure and improving walkability is a top priority for Ocean View!

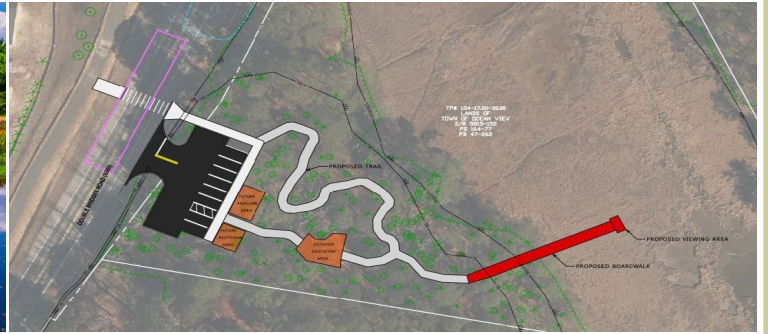
Fact Check - Better understanding your discounted ambulance subscription with the *Millville Volunteer Fire Company*

All improved properties in the Town are billed (along with your property tax bill), for the cost of **discounted ambulance service** provided by the Millville Volunteer Fire Company. For clarity, the fire company is not a Town of Millville operation, it just happens to share the same name. With the subscription fee, your property will receive ambulance services for a full year at no extra cost. This includes guests or tenants as well. Absent the subscription, your property is subject to higher costs for each call, sometimes in excess of \$400 each. When you subscribe at time of paying your property taxes the total value associated with the subscription (\$50) is passed along to the Millville Volunteer Fire Company by the Town to support its ambulance program in our community. If you subscribe you will not receive a bill for ambulance service from Millville Volunteer Fire as they maintain a list of properties that subscribe annually. If you receive a bill in error, contact the fire company at 302-539-7557 so they can confirm your subscription and eliminate the bill or you may also contact our Finance division at 302-539-9797 for assistance.

[Berzins Nature Park](#)

Design of the Berzins Nature Park and trail to be developed at the intersection of Double Bridges Road and Muddy Neck Road is nearly complete and set to include a raised boardwalk, walking trail through the pines, outdoor classroom/meeting area, pavilion, and educational kiosks! Ocean View purchased the property with grant funds to preserve open space! The Town has also secured substantial grant funding for its development from the state DOT *Transportation Alternative Program (TAP)* and from DNREC's *Outdoor Recreation Parks & Trails Program*.

*The **Berzins Nature Park** currently in design has been described as a **Coastal Forest Habitat** - Boasting seagrass meadow areas that serve as critical habitat for many fish and wildlife species and that also play a key role in maintaining water quality in our area. In addition, the planned raised scenic boardwalk over areas of the salt marsh are home to a range of species including fish, crab, and birds including the great blue heron. The salt marsh absorbs rainwater helping to reduce flooding and serves as a "natural" infrastructure protecting our coastal community.*



At right - 2025 State of Delaware Reaccreditation Presentation to the Ocean View Police Department

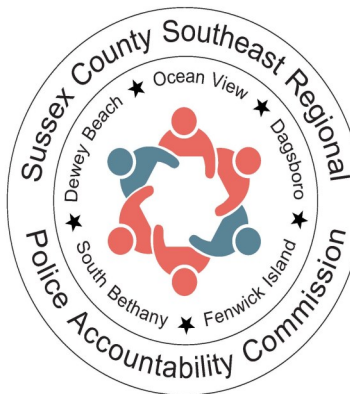
From left - Captain Hall, SCSR-PAC & Accreditation assistant Kendahl Hearn, Chief McLaughlin, DSHS Secretary Joshua Bushweller, POST Executive Director Sean Moriarity, and DPAC Administrator John Feehan.



Ocean View Police Department

**Reaccredited by the
State of Delaware, & awarded the
2021, 2022, 2023, & 2024
Lexipol Gold Level Recognition for
Excellence in Policy Development
& Training!**

**Small Agency -
Results!**



The mission of the PAC is to serve as an advisory board that facilitates constructive dialogue between the community and the police departments of Ocean View, Dewey Beach, South Bethany, and Fenwick Island. The PAC aims to **enhance public safety, promote transparency, and strengthen community trust in law enforcement** by providing recommendations on police practices and policies.

Seasons of Family Fun

at Beautiful John West Park! (32 West Avenue)

Summer Concerts in the Park

6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

June 6 - Hot Sauce Band

June 20 - Love Seed Mama Jump

June 27 - The Funsters

10th Annual Cops and Goblins

Saturday, Oct. 25th, from 1 to 4 p.m. (rain date Oct. 26)

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

Old Town Holiday Market Tree Lighting & Trail of Lights

Saturday, Nov. 29th, from 1 to 5:00 p.m. (rain date Nov. 30)

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

And, a special visitor from the North Pole!

The Town of Ocean View Presents:

Yoga in the Park

Tuesdays & Thursdays

June 3 to Sept. 30 -

8 a.m. to 9 a.m.

Meet at the Gazebo – Free Parking

– Beautiful Setting!

Instructor – Barbara Popiel

A Traveling Yogi

Licensed & Insured

Class Content: Breathwork •

Meditation • Vinyasa Class

Required Equipment: Yoga Mat/Towel,

Water Bottle & an Open mind!

\$10/Class – Cash or Venmo



MEDIACOM CABLE FRANCHISE FACTS !

Mediacom is currently the only cable provider in Ocean View but that is only because no other provider has chosen to offer this service. We can and would negotiate additional cable franchise agreements if another company were interested. Nothing prohibits us from having more than one cable provider, many Towns and Cities in Delaware do. Regarding internet service in our area, it is also correct that currently Mediacom is the only option for most in Ocean View and some surrounding areas. However, internet service is not subject to a franchise agreement with a Town or City. Comcast is now offering residential cable and internet service in Bethany, and South Behtany. We are told they will continue to add communities but have yet to receive a time frame for doing so in Ocean View.

To that end, over the last five years, we have engaged with Comcast regarding their interest in serving our community with residential cable and internet. Their decisions to provide service are economically driven and based on the cost to build and the number of customers they expect to gain. As of now they advise that they continue to evaluate the timing for doing so. For now, any concerns related to internet or cable tv service from Mediacom that Ocean View property owners have can be brought to the attention of the Town. We have successfully worked on issues for property owners with Mediacom representatives.

We provide this information to help address misinformation that's been shared regarding exclusivity!



Helping older adults live independently!

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!**

32 West Avenue - Adjacent John West Park



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

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

[Town Employee Contact Information](#)

Carol Houck	Town Manager	ext. 104	chouck@oceanviewde.gov
Kenneth McLaughlin	Chief of Police	539-1111	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
Matthew Martin	Facilities Operations Manager	302-616-1332	mmartin@oceanviewde.gov
Donna Schwartz	Town Clerk	ext. 101	dschwartz@oceanviewde.gov
Joanne Stosic	Accountant	ext. 102	jstosic@oceanviewde.gov
Greg Durstine	Code Enforcement	ext. 111	gdurstine@oceanviewde.gov
Susie Miller	Licensing Clerk	ext. 115	smiller@oceanviewde.gov
Kristen Powell	Administrative Assistant	ext. 110	kpowell@oceanviewde.gov