

Important Dates

Ocean Park Civic League Meeting

Nov 7
Thursday
7:30 p.m.
Ocean Park
Rescue Squad

BAC Meeting

Nov 27
Dec 19
3:30 p.m.
Location Varies

SDCC Meeting

Nov 25
Dec 30
7:30 p.m.
Ocean Park
Rescue Squad

Ocean Park- Pre- Hibernation & Holiday Party

Dec 13
Friday
7:00-9:00 p.m.
Froggies

Ocean Park Holiday Lights Contest Judging

Dec 17
All evening

Ocean Park Echo

NOVEMBER 2013

Pre-Hibernation and Holiday Party

Friday, December 13

7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Froggie's Cantina by the Bay

Come out and spend an evening with your Ocean Park neighbors before the holidays and the cold weather arrive!

Refreshments and hors d'oeuvres provided

Christmas Tree Raffle

Proceeds donated to

the Foodbank of Southeastern Virginia
to help other families enjoy the holidays

Visit www.opcl.org and the Ocean Park Facebook page for more event details.
RSVP on the OPCL Facebook page or to laurenbenis@gmail.com

Ocean Park Holiday Lights Contest

Judging: December 17
Turn on those lights!

Categories:

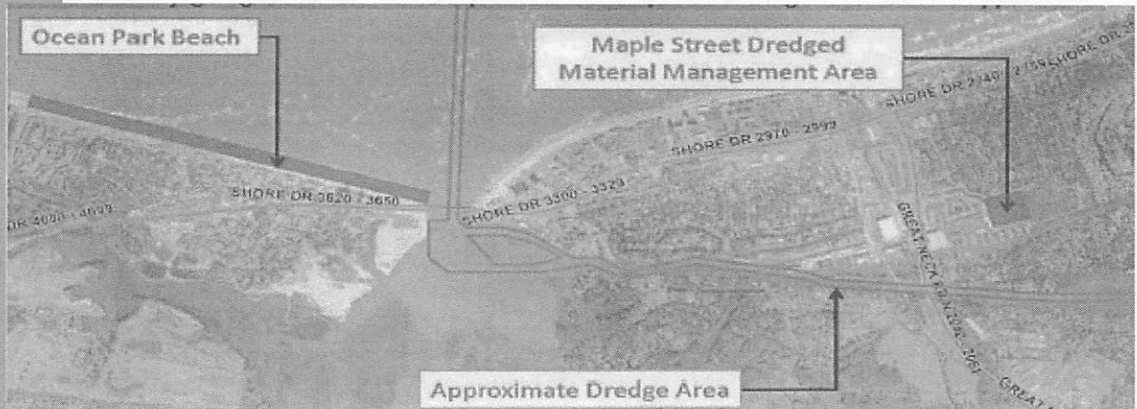
Best overall Display
Best Use of Lights
Best Balcony
Best Door / Entryway
Charlie Brown

Gift cards awarded for winners on December 18.

Results posted on www.opcl.org and the Ocean Park Facebook page for more event details.

Maintenance dredge project

All information provided by the Lynnhaven Inlet Maintenance Dredging Project Preconstruction Notification put out by the city of Virginia Beach.



The Army Corps of Engineers' contractor, Southwind Construction Corporation, will dredge from Lynnhaven Inlet to Broad Bay from the end of October through the end of February.

The project includes hydraulically placing approximately 80,000 to 100,000 cubic yards of dredged sand onto Ocean Park Beach and approximately 5,000 cubic yards of beach sand materials onto the Maple Street Dredged Material Management Area.



Dredge spoils deposited on Ocean Park Beach —Margaret Allen Inge

The city asks that residents remove all catamarans and other personal items, such as volleyball posts. The city will tow boats left on the beach to the city garage at the owner's expense.

During the project, sections of Ocean Park Beach will temporarily close and work areas will move westward from Lesner Bridge towards Rookery Way. Due to the danger of heavy equipment, please adhere to signs or instructions to ensure your safety and enjoyment of the beach, as well as allowing the contractor to complete his work.

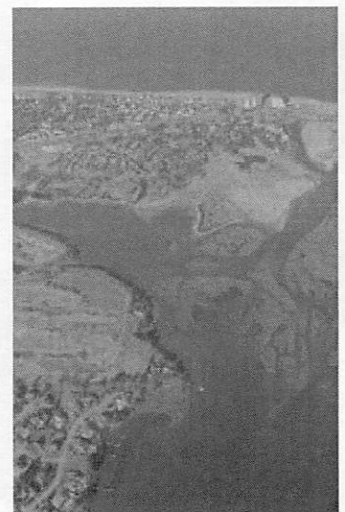
Direct questions to Rommel B. Tamayo at 385-4131 or rtamayo@vb.gov.

A unique partnership between the city, private donors and non-profit entities preserved the last remaining large tract of land on the Lynnhaven River.

Parks & Recreation award

Virginia Recreation and Park Society (VRPS) presented the "Best New Environmental Sustainability Award" to Virginia Beach Parks and Recreation September 9, at the VRPS Awards Banquet recognizing the preservation of Pleasure House Point (PHP) Natural Area. The city, through a forward-thinking partnership with the Trust for Public Land

(TPL), in collaboration with the Chesapeake Bay Foundation (CBF) acquired and preserved PHP in July 2012. This 118-acre legacy acquisition contains a mile of shoreline on the Lynnhaven River and Pleasure House Creek. Successfully preserving one of the last undeveloped parcels of land on the Lynnhaven River.



Comings, Goings & General OP Info

Goodbye to Salty C's restaurant on Shore Drive. A good neighbor and popular hangout, the business has shut its doors permanently. A new restaurant facility has plans to open in the same spot in December.

Goodbye to the old Taste Unlimited building. The Shore Drive location has closed for demolition. The new facility at the same location will reopen in early December. At that time, the new computer system will allow all Taste rewards points to connect from all

locations. Christmas tree sales cannot occur at the site this year due to the overlap in construction dates. Taste Unlimited says Christmas Tree vendor will sell this year at the Ocean Park Volunteer Fire and Rescue Squad but they hope to have them back at Taste Unlimited next year.

Please submit any comings, goings and community-pertinent information or events to www.opclnews@aol.com. If you just moved into the neighborhood, please introduce yourself and give us your location. Returns will be printed, but, for obvious reasons, those leaving (unless permanently leaving and saying goodbye) will not.

OP PHP site clean up

September 19 volunteers spent three hours picking up 102 pounds of trash from Pleasure House Point. Volunteers said it seems cleaner each time they come. We had help from neighbors and students from Great Neck Middle School (who are required to do community service as part of their AVID program).

Volunteers found some drug paraphernalia, so I have informed PO Marcus Johnson and Michael Moore, Parks and Recreation supervisor of the site. A large political sign and a dead animal carcass completed the list of out-of-the-ordinary items found. As usual cigarette butts, glass, plastic, metal cans and dog poop were picked up. It is really apparent that many users are picking up trash while there.

— Susie Walston



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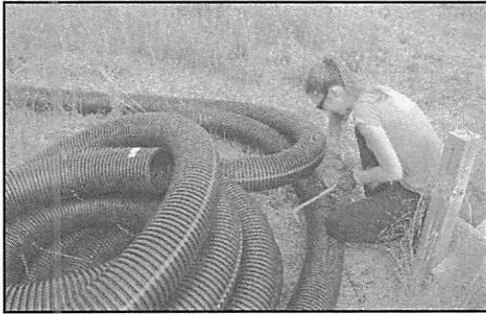
Or visit www.crawlspacedoors.com

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Chesapeake Bay Foundation/Ocean Park partnership

Work at CBF's Brock Environmental Center on PHP

Construction of Chesapeake Bay Foundation's (CBF's) Brock Environmental Center began at Pleasure House Point. Hourigan Construction broke ground on August 30, and poured concrete footers and columns during the months of September and October.



Before construction began, CBF and volunteers last spring installed a small but effective barrier around the building site to keep nesting diamondback terrapins at Pleasure House Point out of harm's way. Diamondback terrapins, a species of turtle native to the Atlantic coastal regions, usually nest close to the water's edge. The Brock Environmental Center site lies 200 feet inland but in possible range for the terrapins. The barrier ensured no terrapins wandered into the construction zone over the summer when they normally lay eggs. CBF and volunteers assembled the 1,100-foot-long barrier, made of six-inch corrugated black tubing, around the construction zone. The United States Fish and Wildlife Service has successfully used barriers of this type to keep diamondback terrapins away from areas of human activity.

In September, CBF staff and volunteers transplanted native grasses away from the Brock Environmental Center construction zone. Transplanting the grasses to nearby areas will maximize their potential to grow and serve as valuable natural buffers and filters for adjacent Crab Creek and Lynnhaven River. Native grasses are a vital part of the area's

habitat as they enhance the absorption and filtration of polluted runoff, protecting nearby waterways and wildlife habitats. Volunteers collected native grass seeds for future planting after the Brock Environmental Center completion.

Volunteers and CBF staff also worked to remove plants deemed invasive species by the Native Plant Society. Removing invasive plants will help rebalance the area's natural habitat by allowing native species to thrive. At the end of September, CBF and many Ocean Park and community volunteers removed eight mimosa trees from the Pleasure House Point

property. The non-native trees grew on the eastern side of the property, near a path recently cut by the city of Virginia Beach. After removal, the mimosas were taken away by trailer. Mimosa trees originate in tropical Asia and the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation lists them as an invasive



species. The department maintains that "invasive exotic plants threaten native species and natural communities by altering ecosystem processes and interfering with [vegetation] communities."

CBF Scientist Chris Moore said that the need to be vigilant for more mimosas remains, but the removal of these eight trees represents a significant start



to supporting the site's native species. CBF is improving the site at Pleasure House Point by fostering the growth of native plant species to populate the habitat.

The expected building completion of June-July 2014, will allow move-in in late summer. For more details, go to cbf.org/brock or contact CBF Hampton Roads office at 622-1964 or hamp-tonroads@cbf.org.

—Christy Everett,
director Hampton Roads
Chesapeake Bay Foundation



Tips to prepare your Ocean Park home for winter

In the last year your home experienced record heat, a brush with hurricane Sandy, an earthquake and smoke from the southern fires. Now winter is settling in with more possible extreme conditions. Follow these tips to keeping the repairman away.

1. Shut off all valves to outdoor showers and hose faucets. Usually they are under the nearest sink.

2. Have your furnace checked. A broken furnace on a cold day can cause water pipes to freeze and burst. If you have a gas heater or water heater, request you HVAC company look at the exhaust vents (B vents) exiting the roof to make sure wind hasn't damaged these vents causing a CO2 problem.

3. Have the fireplace cleaned and inspected. Most fireplaces in Ocean Park are zero-clearance metal fireboxes inside of a wood framed chimney. Inspect to make sure tree limbs didn't grow over the flue this summer.

4. Having plenty of attic insulation helps, but your fold-down staircase may be why your cold or your emergency heat turns on. Adding a foam weather-stripping and adding barrel locks to push the stair cover against the weather-strip outweighs 20 minutes of work. Total material cost five dollars. Build a foam box over top of the fold down staircase too. Total material cost (one sheet of polyisocyanurate foam) \$30.



5. Check the outside dryer vent and range vent to make sure they are not only clean preventing fire but to also make sure none of the flaps are stuck open allowing cold air in the house.

6. A new carbon monoxide problem has surfaced with the use of high CFM range hood fans and whole house fans. If you have gas water heater or heat that has the balanced damper that you see above the appliance within the conditioned area of the house, be cautious that using these high CFM fans can backdraft the appliance at that damper causing CO2 to enter the house.

7. Vinyl railings, fences and windows have become very popular in the last two decades in Ocean Park. Be cautious during extreme cold days with these vinyl products as they easily crack. Replacement is the only repair for vinyl.

8. Entry swinging doors and sliding doors that have uneven gaps around them when closed are probably leaking air. All doors can be adjusted to be square and close tight.

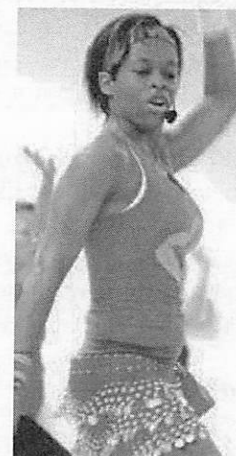
—Andrew R. Broyles *Va Class A contractor since 1978 specializing in remodeling and renovation, residing in the Shore Drive corridor for 19 years*

Crime Update

September: One crime reported for September. A fraud case on Dupont.

—Captain Dennis A. Hebert
Virginia Beach Police Department
Third Precinct

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It's time to think Ocean Park Membership again. Why not get a jump on 2014? Pay now and get credit all the way through 2014! You can use the form on page 8, or join/pay on-line at www.opcl.org. Your Civic League is always hard at work, supporting the Pleasure House Point acquisition, working to block a permanent Dredged Material Transfer Station at Crab Creek and keeping a close eye on variances and rezonings, and hard at play, putting together great social events to bring our neighbors together. Plus you get great discounts and offers by showing your membership card to local merchants listed on page 8. Membership is only \$15/year/family. The best bargain in town!

Join now and get credit for 14 months.

Please volunteer with OPCL**Volunteer Positions****(Annual Hourly Needs)**

- Newsletter Graphic Designer (30)
- Fireworks Committee (10-50)
- Scholarship Committee (5)
- Audit Committee (3)
- Safety and Traffic Committee Member (5)
- Meeting Coordinator (6)
- Social Committee Member (5)
- Door Prize Coordinator (6)
- Business Liaison (10)
- Membership Committee Member (5)
- Membership Committee Chair

We desperately need newsletter distribution volunteers, especially on the south side of Shore Drive. The current routes for newsletter delivery are being restructured to account for several large delivery areas. The commitment carries a five hour requirement per year. In addition, we could use some backup delivery people for when some of the regulars cannot distribute. If you are interested, please email opcnews@aol.com.

OPCL Sponsors

- The UPS Store Shore Drive: 10 percent off all services except United States Postal Service postage and UPS shipping.
- Tidewater Insulators: 10 percent off any attic or crawlspace insulation package.
- The Royal Chocolate: 10 percent off product purchases. Does not apply to gift cards, shipping or delivery. One per person, per visit.
- Lend a Hand Massage Therapy Free half hour reflexology added onto your 60-minute massage. Not valid with other discounts.
- Froggie's Cantina by the Bay: five percent discount for all OPCL members. Not valid with other discounts/coupons.
- Ampmor Electric Corporation: Buy a one year Energy Saving Maintenance Agreement and get a year free. (\$140 value). Receive \$30 off service calls. Receive \$350 off a HVAC system replacement, home generator or tankless water heater installation.
- Happy at Home Professional Pet Care: 50% off pet care and dog walking services. Not valid with other offers.
- Salon De Bella: 25 percent to first-time customers and a 15 percent on subsequent visits. See coupon ad for more.
- Complete Automotive, Inc.: Ten percent off any work up to \$100.

Consider becoming a business sponsor. Contact Terry Gearhart at tgearpsu@gmail.com. You may need to show your OPCL membership card to receive discounts.



PROTECT THE BAYFRONT SAFETY FIRST PLEASURE HOUSE POINT

Now is the time to join - or renew your membership in - the Ocean Park Civic League. Pay now and get credit for all of 2014!!
Dues are just \$15 a year per family. If you are not a member, become one now. Just fill in the Membership Application and mail to the P.O. Box listed below. Or join on-line at www.opcl.org. You will be helping your community and keeping yourself informed.

Name: _____

Street Address
(and
City/State/Zip if
not 23455) _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

H: _____

C: _____

Do You Own or
Rent?
☐ Own
☐ Rent

Areas Of Interest (Check all that apply):

- ☐ Newsletter (contributions/distribution/solicitation for ads)
- ☐ Traffic Committee
- ☐ Shore Drive Community Coalition Liaison
- ☐ Zoning
- ☐ Social Committee

Mail this application and your dues of \$15.00 (check made to OPCL) for calendar year 2014 to:

Ocean Park Civic League
P.O. Box 55385
Virginia Beach, VA 23471

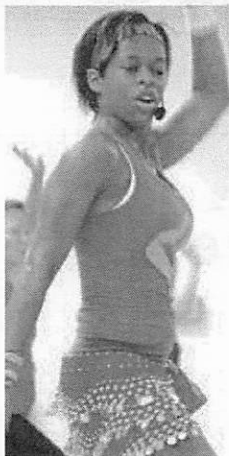
As seen on Facebook

- A long, rambling thread regarding the new ownership of the Salty C's location, former Corner Market's nacho chips, Chesapeake rays on restaurant menu items.
- **Plenty of discussion about neighborhood garbage dumping on the streets, particularly Marlin Bay Drive. If you put out trash for special pickup, please remember to call the city and inform them. Also, be a considerate neighbor and put large, messy loads out closer to the pickup date.**
- Plenty of discussion about the dredge project for the Lynnhaven Inlet and the resulting gain for Ocean Park beaches. Most residents can't wait for summer to use the new beach.
- **Discussion of the term Ocean Park and the media and general public's misuse of the term Chic's Beach. If you receive this newsletter, you reside in Ocean Park, not Chesapeake Beach or Baylake Pines.**
- The overall Facebook opinion of Ocean Park for Halloween: "Our neighborhood rocks for Halloween!"

Posting to the OPCL Facebook page requires joining the site. Valuable real-time information about OP residents. These are summarizations of posts.

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OPCL official business

OPCL Finance Committee Update:

The Robbins Legacy account held investments valued at approximately \$210,000 as of September 31. The portfolio is allocated 65 percent fixed income/cash and 35 percent equity/balanced funds. In addition to appreciation from the original \$180,000

investment, the account generates approximately \$6000 per year in interest and dividends.

If you have ideas for funding of community projects and improvements in Ocean Park, please contact any officer of OPCL listed in the newsletter.

OPCL Zoning Committee Update:

At the November meeting, a motion will be presented to reaffirm membership support for the OPCL Government Affairs and Zoning

Committee as previously established by the OPCL Executive Board.

The Zoning Committee has no active zoning projects.

OPCL News:

Rick Mercadante has agreed to act as Shore Drive Community Coalition liaison for Ocean Park.

A proposal during the executive committee/board meeting would amend the scholarship name. Lauren Harrington has agreed to take the position of scholarship committee

chairperson replacing Grace Moran. Thank you for your many years of dedication and hard work.

The OPCL board unanimously approved Chris Beale to serve as at large representative replacing Grace Moran.



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## The BAC Meeting Wrap Up

The Bayfront Advisory Committee met in September and discussed the following topics.

Kal Kassir summarized a meeting he attended with Virginia Beach councilmen regarding Shore Drive initiatives.

The communications committee will continue to follow the renaming of the Lesner Bridge.

The Public Safety and Transit Strategies Committee will review bicycle access in the Shore Drive area.

A Fire Department grand opening will take place with the completion of the newest station at Shore Drive and Greenwell Road that will replace the old Pleasure House Road Station.

Barbara Duke of Parks and Recreation gave an update on Pleasure House Point.

## Grand Illumination Event


Historic  
Cape Henry  
Lighthouse

December 6  
5:30 p.m.

General public  
Welcome

Illuminated night climbs.  
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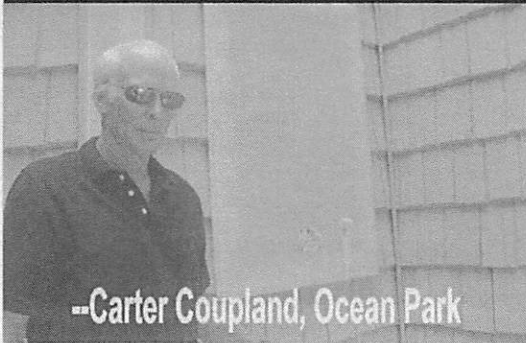
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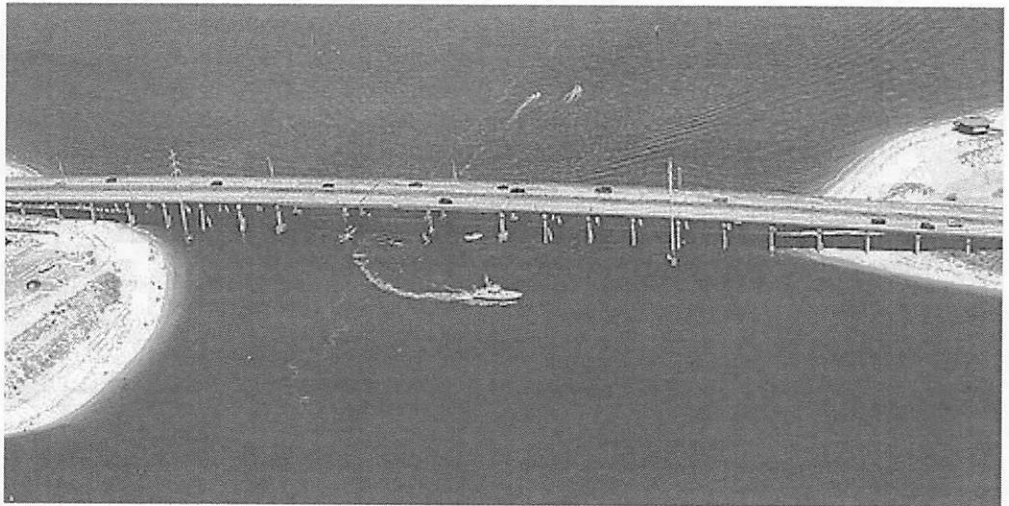
**The UPS Store**



# What in Ocean Park is that?

## Lesner Bridge

The original draw-bridge dates back to 1928, but the Lesner Bridge we know dates to 1958. That newer bridge comprises the current east-bound lanes of a dual span. The Westbound lanes emerged in 1967.



Lesner Bridge — Hampton Roads.com

The Virginia General Assembly proposed naming the bridge for John A. Lesner, a Democratic Virginia State Senator who had earlier represented Norfolk County and the city of Norfolk beginning in 1908, to recognize his service on the State Highway Commission. Lesner had championed better roads and bridges and had served as the head of the Tidewater Automobile Association.

test the name, and the County Board of Supervisors went on record as preferring a Princess Anne name, such as "Lynnhaven."

According to information in "Princess Anne County and Virginia Beach a Pictorial History" the original drawbridge was the first spanning of the inlet since its opening in the 18th century by Adam Keeling and other residents, who desired a cut into the bay at the point. The cut into the bay provided a better mode of transportation of goods and people in and out of the bay properties.

The drawbridge openings caused frequent traffic backups on both sides prompting the construction of the fixed bridge we use today.

Due to the excessive use and marine environment, both current spans have reached the end of their useful lives. The new spans will have far fewer pilings underneath and will have a slightly higher mid-section to accommodate taller sailboat masts. The current plan calls for the new bridge to receive a new name.

## Fast Facts

**Type:** Concrete and steel.

**Location:** From Vista Circle to East Stratford Road crossing the Lynnhaven Inlet

**Average life span:** In the 1950's and 1960's engineers expected bridges to last roughly 50 years.

**Size:** 1,530 feet long with 28 spans each side. The highest span under the bridge reaches almost 25 feet high.

**Did you know?** The Lesner Bridge rates as one of the most highly used bridges in the state. Roughly 43,000 vehicles cross daily.

Residents of Princess Anne County opposed the decision, however. They held a rally at the Ocean Park Casino to pro-



—Virginia Beach Convention and Tourism Bureau

—Jill Dozzi

Construction of the new bridge will start in spring of 2014 and will last for roughly three years. All four lanes will remain open. As a new span opens, each matching span will close.



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CAC: JP Cormier  
CCO: Susie Walston  
SDCC: Rick Mercadante

WWW.OPCL.ORG

# Message from the president

It was good to see those of you who attended the September meeting. I hope to see more OPers at the November 7 meeting. Non-members are welcome to attend, but only members have a vote at these meetings.

I have heard it said that renters cannot become OPCL members. That perception is incorrect. According to our by-laws, membership is open residents and property owners in Ocean Park. (Ocean Park lies between the Lynnhaven Inlet, the Chesapeake Bay and Pleasure House Creek.) Please consider joining the civic league and/or encouraging your neighbors to join.

Fall has arrived with changing colors. Good happenings continue in Ocean Park. After careful preparation and communication, the Chesapeake Bay Foundation began construction of its green Environmental Center at Pleasure House Point (PHP). Stay tuned for updates.

OPCL could not function without volunteers and we opportunities available. Thanks to the volunteers who helped with another PHP clean up in September (102 pounds collected). The Third Annual Ocean Park Fall Festival was a success with diverse local artists and craftsmen, the Rescue Squad open house and informational tables including one for the civic league. Eight new members joined that day.

See you on November 7 and mark your calendars for our holiday social on December 13.

*Susie Walston, president*

## September 5 OPCL meeting

### AGENDA

Call Meeting to Order

Pledge of Allegiance

**Presentation**—Update on OP History Project – Nadine Costenbader  
President's Remarks

Minutes of September 5, 2013 Meeting (Kristie Zeiler) - Approval  
Treasurer's Report (Todd Parker)

**Old Business**—Governmental Affairs & Zoning (Mike Wills) - Vote

**New Business**—Committee & Liaison Reports -As Needed

Finance (Mike Wills)

Fireworks (Jill Doczi)

Governmental Affairs & Zoning (Mike Wills)

Membership (Terry Gearhart)

Scholarship (Lauren Harrington)

Social Activities (Lauren Bennis)

BAC (Martin Thomas)

CAC (JP Cormier)

CCO (Susie Walston)

SDCC (Rick Mercadante)

Web site (Randy Hall) *Will respond if questions asked*

### Announcements

Pre-Hibernation & Holiday Party — December 13, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Froggies

First Meeting of 2014 - January 9

Need Volunteers – Membership, Historian, etc.

Adjourn Meeting