

# —Greetings from Commissioner Virginia E. Haines



On behalf of the Ocean County Board of Commissioners, I welcome you to the summer 2023 issue of *Ocean County: Out & About, A Free Newsguide to Arts & Heritage Events*. You will notice a new, larger layout starting with this issue that will be offered in the summer and fall of each year. The pages of this 2023 summer issue are graced with artwork received in response to a call for contributions from the Ocean County Artists Guild.

Please take special note of our exciting palette of summer cultural opportunities in the event listings and for updated events check: <http://www.oceancountytourism.com/frmEvents>.

Many of our towns and boroughs provide wonderful outdoor concerts including the Ocean County Department of Parks & Recreation's *Carousel of Music Concert Series*. The Carousel concerts will be offered at a variety of locations including the Ocean County Library in Toms River. Please check

inside for time and locations of all offerings.

The Ocean County Board of Commissioners has purchased a traveling 250th anniversary of the American Revolution in Ocean County exhibit trailer. For arrangements to bring the trailer to your public event in Ocean County call 732-929-4779.

This year, forty-six art and nineteen history organizations will receive a total of \$268,000 in support through the Ocean County Board of Commissioners funded by the New Jersey State Council on the Arts and the New Jersey Historical Commission.

The 2024 grant cycle for Ocean County non-profits will begin with an informational workshop on August 9, the mandatory notice of intent is due August 23, and the application is due September 11. Local Arts Program grants will total \$150,000, the County History Partnership Program will total \$88,000, and a Special Funding Initiative will provide an additional \$30,000 in funding.

The Ocean County Board of Commissioners is proud to announce that Harry Bower of Island Heights received the

2023 Ocean County Lifetime Achievement in the Arts Award. Gretchen Coyle of Beach Haven received the 2023 Pauline S. Miller Ocean County Lifetime History Award. The Long Beach Island Historical Association received the 2023 Historic Preservation Award for their restoration of the Fisherman's Cottage. Paul Hartelius of Stafford Township received the Special Award of Merit for art promotion. Ralph Bertini of Lacey Township received a Special Award of Merit for his contribution to development of media. The Ocean County Tourism Advisory Board gave the 2023 Joseph H. Vicari Tourism Award to Emery's Farm in New Egypt and the 2023 Lifetime Achievement in Tourism Award to Commissioner Joseph H. Vicari.

Nomination forms for future awardees and lists of past awardees are at <http://www.co.ocean.nj.us/ch/frmSaluteAwards.aspx>.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Virginia E. Haines". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being the most prominent.

Commissioner Virginia E. Haines  
Chairwoman of Ocean County Cultural & Heritage Commission  
Division of Ocean County Department of Parks & Recreation