



July 2014

# Hospitality Hotline

Connecting the industry through  
Advocacy, Education and Partnerships

News from...

SUSAN JONES, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

## Wallops Island...America's First Space Coast

As NASA's Wallops Island continues to increase rocket launches, we continue to work with surrounding marketing partners to develop tourism initiatives. There is a market for this type of visitor and we believe this has the potential to bring new visitors. With Chincoteague continuing to fill its rooms during the launches, it's only natural that we receive overflow. There is a **Antares launch** scheduled for **July 10 at 2:02pm** and a new launch viewing site will be set up at the inlet's OC Lifesaving Station Museum. Wallops will have a docent there along with a countdown clock. They've also developed an app, "What's up at Wallops," which allows users to have mission info and a compass pointing them in the direction to see the rocket. We have added this launch to our Weekly Activity Calendar which is emailed out for your front desks. Additionally, OceanCity.com is developing a website, [www.wallopsisland.org](http://www.wallopsisland.org), and more info is forthcoming.

## J1 Facebook Page Launched

A new page has been developed on Facebook, OCMD Seasonal Workforce, which provides a wealth of information for J1-Visa Summer Work Travel students. On the page, they can find out about free meals, cultural events and English classes. If you have these students working in your business, please make sure they know about the page.

## EARN Grant Funded

The MD Department of Labor and Licensing has funded the EARN Hospitality grant. This grant will support training for hospitality workers in the OC area. We are working with the Greater OC Chamber and Wor-Wic Community College's Hotel & Restaurant Management team to develop a hospitality boot camp. Currently, we are in the collaboration and development stages of the training, and will provide greater detail in the coming months.



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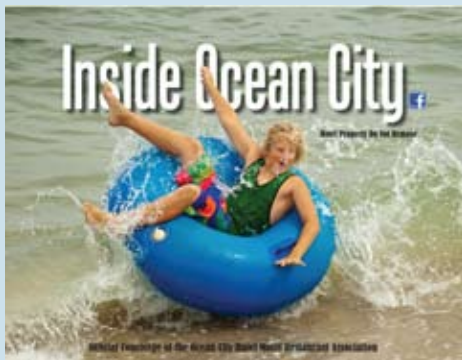


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Welcome to **Teron Lewis**, Outback Steakhouse, who is replacing Michael Noeller who went to Annapolis. Congratulations to **Buddy Dykes**, Doodle Design, and **Marcia Rigsby** on their marriage. A welcome to **Allison Newton** and **Ally Allen**, new team members at King Charles Hotel & Crystal Sands. Congratulations to **Buddy Jenkins** on the 50th Anniversary of Jolly Roger. Another 50 year congratulation goes to **Chris Trimper and the Trimper** family for Trimper's Haunted House. Welcome **Tracey McGarry** to Harrison Group Sales office. Another congratulations to the **Touch of Italy** team on their opening! Congratulations to **Drew Pangborn**, APPI Energy, on earning the Association of Energy Engineers Certified Energy Procurement Professional designation.



## Inside Ocean City 2015

Now that season is in full swing, the team at Inside Ocean City is busy planning for our 2015 edition. We have photo shoots scheduled, articles in the works and renewals already underway. Remember now is the time to plan for some amazing photography, while your business is at its peak. A photo of your nice empty tables is just not as enticing to visitors as images of a bustling restaurant accompanied by mouth-watering food shots.

Move over bartenders the chefs are in the house for 2015! With the continued success of our Mixology we are working to create a new section just for our chefs. We already have a few on board and creative shots in the works. This section will be available at no cost in 2015 to our sponsors, so be sure to claim your space in that section before they are gone. This year we will be limiting this special to 6-8 gourmets. Of course Mixology will continue and we hope to push you just a little more outside of the box again this year.

Attention surf shops or restaurants that still have your art work from the '70s or '80s t-shirts. The team is scouting for a throwback article that visitors will love reminiscing about. Old tees will work too. Call Sandy Phillips at 410-726-7334 for the finer points of how you can be a part of that story.

Lastly we should offer you an "Inside" tip. The team of Inside Ocean City announces the release of Vanishing Ocean City by local author Bunk Mann. A history book that is over seven years in the making and offering over 400 unpublished images of the resort. First run is limited. The books will be available at select locations throughout town. Look for them to arrive early this fall.



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## BOARD MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: *Will Lynch*

Will Lynch is the 4th generation of the Lynch Family to oversee the family operation, The Commander Hotel, located at 14th Street on the Boardwalk. The original structure opened in 1930 and was rebuilt in 1997-1998. The Lynch family roots can be traced to Worcester County and Ocean City before 1785, and in over 200 years they have moved less than a mile from where their forefathers called home. A graduate of Worcester Preparatory School, Will has been an active member of the Ocean City Volunteer Fire Company for over 25 years. He formerly served as the former Assistant Fire Chief and currently is a Captain in the OCVFC. He is also a member of the Masonic Evergreen Lodge #153. In an effort to find business to fill a weak

business time, Will founded the Ocean City Jeep Week which is held in late August.

In his spare time, Will is truly eastern shore at heart through his passions for fishing, hunting and offroading. He was also an offshore powerboat aficionado having raced the boat, LynchMob, for a number of years. Will and his wife Mandy have two young sons Jack and John, entering the 2nd grade and Pre-K this fall.

## J-1's Cultural Engagement



Safety Night with Fire Department,  
Beach Patrol & Police Department

Meet and Greet with  
Mayor Meehan



Trip to a Shorebirds game

