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## Prelude to Summer

By *Katie Huber, Editor*

Welcome to the latest issue of the CMPTA Newsletter! Thank you for all the positive feedback on the launch of our digital era - our editorial team is in a groove with our new format now. Don't forget to click on the links throughout the articles to access additional online content.

After this brutal winter, I know we all earned every bit of spring beauty at The Point. My countdown to the end of the school year and start of beach days is officially on. Please stop by my beach tag duty spot to say hello or recommend a good book! Learn more about why beach tags matter on page 17.

Enjoy the issue!



# Message from the President

By *Andy Rusnak, President, CMPTA*



Hello fellow Pointers! I am happy to report that winter is officially over and we are looking forward to a year filled with great events and community building.

First, what a winter it was. The Point suffered through two serious storms. The first brought snow that seemed like it would never melt. The Delaware Bay froze and the winds howled for days. The second storm brought high winds and heavy, wet snow. The Borough estimated that 30-40% of our trees were damaged during this second storm. Kudos to the Borough's Public Works team for their plowing and clean up efforts. The sound of the woodchipper was the theme song for February and March of this year on the Point.

We at the Taxpayers' Association are looking forward to a full slate of events for this coming year. You can see the dates for our events later in this newsletter, but there are a few changes and improvements worth mentioning.

First, we will be teaming with the Veterans Memorial Committee to dedicate the new Veterans Memorial Park on Memorial Day. This event will include a reading of the names of our neighbors who have served our country, patriotic speeches and music. It will be a great opportunity to honor the bequest of Marc Wrotny and its impact on our community.

Second, we will be introducing a new country band for our Summer Solstice Concert. Wear your cowboy boots and polish up your line dancing moves for a fun celebration of summer in the Pavilion Circle on June 20.

Point Fest on August 29 will also undergo several changes and improvements. This year we will be launching paperless ticketing and online payment to make signing up and entering the event more efficient. We'll also be selling tee shirts with this year's custom Point Fest logo design. To improve service at the event, we are adding an additional food service line. Lastly, for more fun for the kids, we will introduce special activities centering around our fire department. I hope we will have over 500 attendees this year for this annual fundraising event benefiting the Cape May Point Volunteer Fire Department.

The Board of the Taxpayers' Association and I are laser focused on building our community by hosting great events, teaming with other organizations like the Civic Club, Friends of Lake Lily and the Fire Department. We hope to expand the involvement of community volunteers in all of our events and continue to give all of our members the opportunity to connect with each other and celebrate the special place that is Cape May Point. I look forward to seeing you this spring and summer!

# A Spring Message from the Mayor

By Anita vanHeeswyk, Mayor, Commissioner of Revenue & Finance

As the days grow longer and the air softens with the promise of spring, I extend my warmest greetings to each of you. Springtime in Cape May Point is always a special season - one of renewal, preparation, and quiet beauty before the vibrant energy of summer arrives.

Our community is unique, not only for its natural surroundings but for the care and pride each of you bring to your homes and properties. As we transition into this new season, I encourage everyone to take a moment to assess winter's impact - whether it be tending to landscaping, addressing maintenance needs, or preparing your property for the months ahead. These efforts, both large and small, help preserve the charm and integrity that define our town.

Spring is also an important time for community awareness. With increased activity, please be mindful of local guidelines regarding property upkeep, waste disposal, and construction projects. Adhering to these helps ensure a safe, clean, and harmonious environment for residents and visitors alike.

We are fortunate to be stewards of a place where natural beauty and community spirit coexist so gracefully. Whether you are a year-round resident or a seasonal visitor, your presence contributes to the character of Cape May Point.

On behalf of our local leadership, I thank you for your continued commitment to our community. I look forward to the season ahead and all that it brings.

I look forward to seeing all of you this summer and, as always I can be reached to address questions or concerns by texting my personal cell number: 609-425-0829.



CAPE MAY POINT TAXPAYERS' ASSN. PRESENTS

## ICE CREAM SOCIAL

SATURDAY  
MAY 23, 2026  
4-6 PM  
Pavilion Circle

CMP TAXPAYERS' ASSN. MEMBERS  
WILL RECEIVE ICE CREAM  
TICKETS AT THE EVENT:  
2 TICKETS PER SINGLE MEMBERSHIP  
4 TICKETS PER FAMILY MEMBERSHIP  
ADDITIONAL TICKETS FOR MEMBERS'  
GUESTS ARE AVAILABLE  
FOR \$5 EACH.

RAIN OR SHINE

The poster features a large illustration of an ice cream cone with three scoops: pink, green, and brown, topped with a cherry and colorful sprinkles. The background is light yellow with scattered colorful dots. The text is in various colors: pink for the presenter and date, blue for the event title, and red for the ticket information.

# Safety First!

By Elise Geiger, Deputy Mayor, Commissioner of Public Safety & Affairs

## Safety Open House

On April 17, the Borough hosted a Safety Open House with Police, Fire, Enforcement, Public Works/OEM staff available to provide an overview of what we do and answer questions. The Borough places a high priority on safety - it is the lens used for planning and decision making.

### Highlights as follows:

- The Open House was an opportunity to become re-acquainted with OUR Police Force. Officers and staff were present to meet with attendees. The relationship with our Police is more than a “contract”. It is evolving into a collaborative relationship with open two-way communication. The patrol cars may say Cape May but they are OUR Police as well.
- Code Enforcement is separate and attendees had the opportunity to meet with Brady Schoenrock, our Code Enforcement Officer. (Note that Zoning Enforcement is separate) The Point is frequently patrolled; there are enforcement goals and special enforcement projects which are communicated to the Public. Fortunately, Cape May Point homeowners generally respond well to Enforcement “Reminders”.

- **Who do I call?** Attendees received a Points for Pointers card (see below) with key numbers on who to call and for what. Cards can be obtained at the Municipal Building. The non-emergency Police number is an important one to have. 609-884-9500 Prompt 4.

### Points for Pointers

*Who do I call?*

#### In Case of Emergency call 911

Call 911 immediately for life-threatening situations including severe medical emergencies, crimes in progress, or fires. Call 911 for car accidents with injuries.

#### Non-Emergency Police/Dispatch

Call 609-884-9500 to contact the Police Department. Prompt 4 will bring you directly to dispatch. Non-Emergency ambulance can also be accessed through this number. Prompt 1 Police Records, Prompt 2 Detective Division, Prompt 3 Police Administration.

#### Public Works and Water/Sewer

The Public Works Department can be reached at 609-884-1454. In case of a water emergency *only* call 609-224-7015.

#### Animal Control

For issues with stray domestic animal or sick or injured wildlife call 609-861-2886. This does not include animals in residential attics and crawl spaces.

#### Code Enforcement

For code enforcement (excluding zoning) call the code enforcement officer at 609-884-8468 Ext 21.

#### Cape May Point Borough

Borough staff is available to assist with inquiries during the hours of 9am to 2pm Monday through Friday. Call 609-884-8468 Ext 10.

Borough of Cape May Point 2026



# Safety First! cont.

By *Elise Geiger, Deputy Mayor, Commissioner of Public Safety & Affairs*

## Next Steps

It is VERY important for the people of Cape May Point to receive critical and timely communications for both emergencies and non-emergencies. Please review and sign up for the communications below so we can reach you.

### **Borough of CMP**

- Sign-up for email alerts [here](#). Please give the Borough approval to send you general information by checking that box. We saw the value of that during the Blizzard of 2026.
- Please fill out the Emergency Management Contact file [here](#). We need to be able to contact you in an emergency as well as to be able to shut off water if you have a leak! Please fill in Emergency Contacts and if there are special evacuation needs register for Register Ready. If anyone needs help, contact the Borough.

### **Cape May Police**

- Sign-up for Nixle [here](#). This is a “reverse 911” system that sends outbound messages and is the front-line alert system used by Cape May and Cape May Point. This is where you will hear it first!
- The Police offer a Reassurance Program for residents who are elderly, disabled, live alone or face challenges. Members call a designated phone number to check-in. If that call is not received, Officers will be dispatched to conduct a wellness check. Call the Police Department or pick up registration forms at the Municipal Building.

Come to the Municipal Building for your “Points for Pointers” cards and maybe buy a Beach Tag!

May everyone have a SAFE and awesome summer!

**Come and be a part of our vibrant community by participating or volunteering at our many events! Learn more [here](#).**



# Update from the Field: Cape May Springwatch

Tom Reed,  
NJ Audubon's Cape May Bird Observatory



Since 2016, Cape May Point has been home to CMBO's Springwatch, one of the only projects of its kind in North America. From March 1 to May 31, highly skilled observers watch sea and sky from the dune crossover at Coral Avenue, recording each migrating bird that wings past. These standardized, daily surveys result in over 500 hours of observation time each spring, with close to a quarter-million birds spanning 200 species typically documented by season's end.

Spring still holds a number of discoveries for the Cape May ornithologist, which is saying something for a place that boasts one of the longest and most storied histories of bird study the world over. But it's true: the vast majority of migration monitoring, focused research, and just general birding has traditionally occurred here during fall. Our relatively new spring monitoring work helps us understand the "other" migration, along with its similarities to and differences from the famous autumn flights.

**So, what about spring 2026?** Well, it's been different, to say the least! Following the first truly cold winter in many years, we started with more of a blank slate than we've grown accustomed to over the past decade. Sustained ice coverage on Delaware Bay and prolonged below-freezing temps in February forced many ducks, geese, and other waterbirds to our south, allowing us to record more of them on the return flight than we might following a milder winter.

More recently, a few surges of abnormally warm temperatures have seemingly helped migration "get back on track," and various April migrants have been showing up on or even before their expected arrival dates. This includes the first few long-distance migrants - such as **sandpipers, warblers, flycatchers, and swallows** - that have flown here from the Caribbean, Central or even South America. They'll soon be joined by many others, and the amount of bird song and bird color will increase by the day all around Cape May Point.

The Springwatch is an important tool for monitoring the volume and timing of the northbound migration, but it also helps showcase all the things that make Cape May Point such a crucial place for a wide variety of wildlife. Folks travel from around the world to see the spectacles that unfold in our skies, but for us it's just a short drive, bicycle ride, or walk down the street! So, please do **consider stopping by and saying hello this spring**. Our team is present every morning, rain or shine, and we've even got a few spare sets of binoculars to let you see the action up close. Birds, dolphins, butterflies, maybe even a whale...it's different each day (and each hour!). Don't miss the chance; spring will be summer before we know it.

*The bird observatory thanks the Borough of Cape May Point for its continued support of the Springwatch project, especially as we celebrate CMBO's 50th anniversary in 2026!*



CAPE MAY POINT  
TAXPAYERS  
ASSOCIATION

# Cape May Point Beach Patrol

By Chief Ben Swan,  
CMPBP

The Cape May Point Beach Patrol is gearing up for another summer and we want to make you aware of important dates and events planned for this season. Lifeguards will be on duty starting June 20th through September 7th, from 10am to 5pm every day. Cape May Point Beach Patrol will cover six lifeguard stands during peak season stretching from Lehigh Avenue to Brainard Avenue.

**CMPBP is looking for qualified candidates to join our patrol lifeguards.** Lifeguard candidates must be able to complete a 1 mile run in under 7:30 minutes and swim 500 meters in under 10:00 minutes. Interested applicants must attend tryouts for consideration.

- **Tryout Date:** Saturday June 13th 9:00am (Headquarters behind CMP Municipal Building)
- **Details:** Tryouts will consist of a 500m ocean swim, 1 mile run, soft sand sprints, run-swim-run, surfdash, and interviews.
- **Contact:** Email [bswan@capemaypoint.org](mailto:bswan@capemaypoint.org) if interested

The **Junior Lifeguard Program** will run from June 30th- July 23<sup>rd</sup> - every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday - from 10 am to 12 pm. This program is available for all children ages 7-15 and is a great way to make friends and be active, while learning water safety and rescue techniques. Cost and more information can be found on the [Cape May Point Borough website](#). **Learn more about the program on the following pages!**

## Other dates to remember

- Junior Lifeguard Car Wash - Wednesday July 15th 10 am -12 pm at Lifeguard Headquarters
- Mascot Races - Saturday July 18th 6 pm at St. Pete's Beach - open to all children (not only junior guards)
- CMP Women's Challenge- Wednesday July 22nd at St. Pete's Beach - race starts at 6:30 pm
- Junior Lifeguard Last Day and Pizza Party - July 23rd 6pm Pizza Party at State Park pavilion

It is never recommended to swim without the presence of a Lifeguard. Please use caution when entering the water, consider all the risks that may be present, seen or unseen. Most importantly, remember to never swim alone, and **if you are in doubt, don't go out.**



Follow [@capemaypointbeachpatrol](#) on Instagram for more news and updates!



CAPE MAY POINT  
TAXPAYERS  
ASSOCIATION

# Junior Lifeguarding

By Chief Ben Swan, CMPBP

Junior Lifeguarding is a fun and exciting way for children to learn valuable water safety skills, and those who have been a part of it will tell you it is much more than just that.

## How did Junior Lifeguard programs start?

In 1919, the first “Junior Lifeguards” were seen being used in Chicago, Illinois due to a personnel shortage during WWI and the influenza epidemic. Boys were recruited to watch the beaches to alert lifeguards of any danger, and in return they were rewarded with a uniform and allowed to train with the equipment. Junior Lifeguard programs expanded into California where, by the 1960’s, they became structured exercise and water skill programs for boys ages 10-14. Around the same time, beaches in Florida and Australia also started programs as a need for teaching aquatic safety to the youth was realized. These programs become more inclusive and spread to New York and New Jersey beaches in the late 1980’s.

## How did Junior Lifeguards come to Cape May Point?

**Kristen Moorby**, former Lieutenant and the longest standing active lifeguard on the Beach Patrol provides the history.



From what I understand early on we had “mascots” or kids that hung around the CMPBP lifeguard stands. The Mascot Races were started first in 1989 or 1990 as an activity for all those kids. From there, came the idea of Junior Lifeguards. I believe Pete Pietras started the Junior Lifeguards in 1993 using funding from the Lower Cape May Municipal Alliance. It started off free for participant’s, then the fees began in later years (1994 or 1995). Pete ran the Junior Lifeguards by himself until he became Captain in 1996, then he got additional guards to help and the program grew from there. In 2005 Lieutenant Mark Phelan and myself (as a Lieutenant at that time), were overseeing the program and decided to revamp the program pulling structure and lesson plans from Junior Lifeguards Programs throughout the USA as far reaching as California and Florida. The goal was always to present and educate on age appropriate lifeguard and safety skills, beach life lessons, physical activity and team/community camaraderie.

# Junior Lifeguarding cont.

By Chief Ben Swan, CMPBP

Since then, hundreds of children have gone through the program and many have gone on to become lifeguards here in The Point.

Our Junior Lifeguard program meets every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 10 am – 12 pm for 4 weeks in July. On these days a Junior Guard will put on their official Junior Lifeguard uniform and head down to St. Pete’s Beach for roll call, making sure not to forget a water, sunscreen, and a towel. Junior Guards are split into three age groups (7-9, 10-12, 13-15) and every day begins with a light jog and a stretch. After that, the lesson plans vary from swimming, paddling, calisthenics, water safety, and first aid, to fun games meant to build friendship, and surf lessons if the waves allow. All of these activities are meant equip young participants with the knowledge, skills, and confidence to safely enjoy and respect the beach.

Many Junior Lifeguards take these skills a step further to become Lifeguards on the patrol. Currently, **9 core members of the CMPBP were once junior lifeguards**, including myself. I joined the program at 7 years old in 1996 under Captain Pete.

For myself and those who have been lucky enough to be a part of the Junior Lifeguard program, it is not just a camp, but rather a community of beach lovers that experience the summers in Cape May Point like no one else.



# Environmental Commission

By Paula Massanari, Chair

## Our Continued Commitment to the Mayors' Monarch Pledge

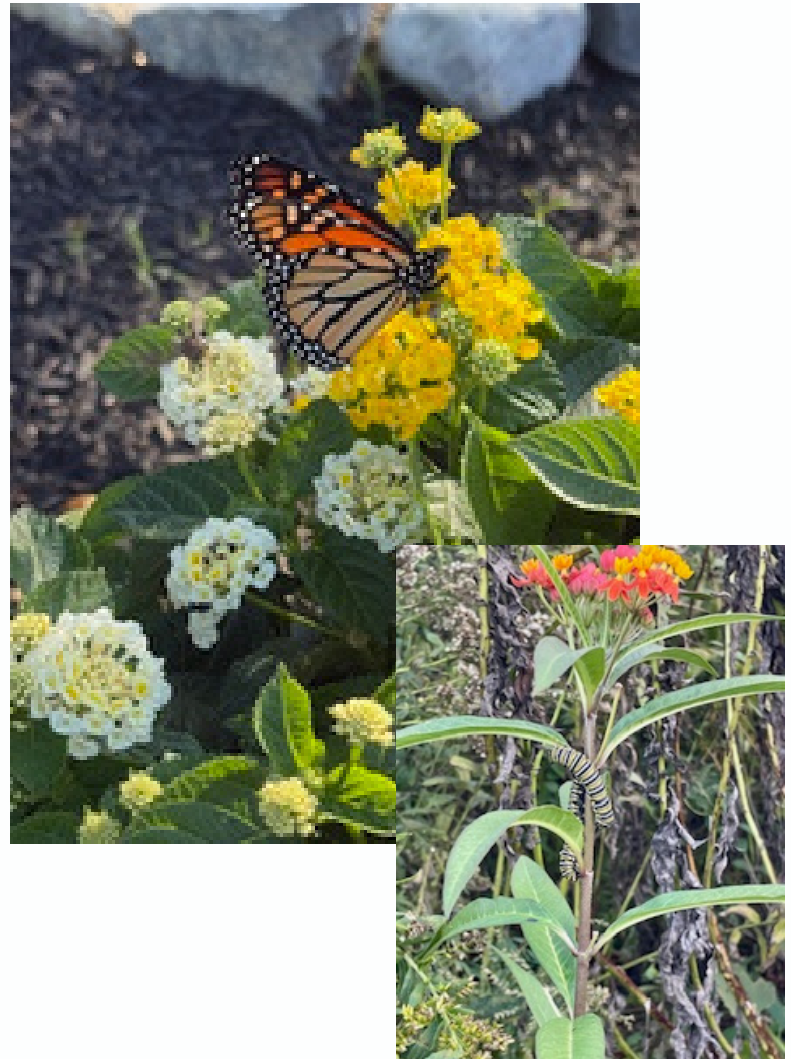
This year marks the 6th year that our community has participated in the National Wildlife Foundation's Mayors' Monarch Pledge. As you may recall in 2025, for the first time, we were awarded "Leadership" status by completing more than the required three action items. (We actually completed nine action items.)

The Environmental Commission (EC) intends to once again earn Leadership status in 2026. We have set a goal of completing at least ten action items, and we will need your help to achieve this objective. In the coming months, the EC will send out emails asking you to:

- Plant nectar-rich, fall blooming plants that aid Monarchs during their fall migration to Mexico. Specifically, we ask you to add any goldenrod (*Solidago* spp) that is native in coastal New Jersey, aster (*Symphyotrichum novae-angliae*), Joe-pye weed (*Eutrochium* spp), and Ironweed (*Veronica* spp).
- Plant **milkweed**, which is the only food source for Monarch caterpillars, making it essential to the survival of Monarchs.
- Avoid adding any seeds or plants that have been treated with **neonicotinoid** pesticides (neonics) to your gardens.

While the future of the eastern Monarch has been a cause for great concern in the past several years, in March 2026, the World Wildlife Federation announced a 64 percent increase in the number of eastern migratory Monarch butterflies (the species that passes through our Borough every fall) that overwintered in Mexico!

This is fantastic news, and is clear evidence that the work being done to support these treasured butterflies is making a positive impact. We urge you to thoughtfully consider committing to one or more of the actions listed above.



# Cape May Point Civic Club

By *Sandy Brethwaite*,  
Civic Club President

The CMP Civic Club now has its own website at [www.cmpcivicclub.org](http://www.cmpcivicclub.org), so be sure to visit!

Our first meeting of 2026 took place on March 13th at the Firehouse, where we caught up and discussed all the winter happenings.

For our first event of the year, we co-sponsored with the Volunteer Firefighters, the Annual Easter Egg Hunt on April 4<sup>th</sup> at Pavillion Circle. It was a fun event enjoyed by participants of every age.

**This year marks our 70th Annual Bazaar!** A bit of history - at the very first bazaar, members baked, boxed, and sold molasses cookies, hoping to raise money to replace the rustic bridge over Lake Lily. They raised \$133! Over time, the Bazaar has evolved. In 1977, the book sale was added, and the Silent Auction began with items like a kayak, gas grill, and dollhouse. There was a Craft Committee that donated handmade creations for sale. Today's bazaar has grown tremendously; the Club's original ten members would be proud.

Save the Date! **The 70th CMP Civic Club Annual Bazaar will take place Saturday, July 11th** from 9am to 1pm at the Cape May Point Arts and Science Center (101 Lehigh Ave). As always, proceeds benefit local charities, the CMP Fire Company, and the CMP Arts and Science Center.

Join us for: Silent Auction, Basket Raffles, Restaurant Raffles, 50/50, White Elephant Sale, Book Sale, Baked Goods, Food, and Kids Games. Cape May Point merchandise featuring unique designs (for adults and children) will also be available. Updates and more information will be posted on our website.

Thinking about joining the CMP Civic Club? Our membership includes both full-time and part-time residents, and we warmly welcome newcomers at any time. The Club is a fantastic way to meet neighbors, participate in exciting events, and support local causes. We hold monthly meetings with a variety of programs and opportunities to socialize.



## Upcoming Civic Club Events

**What: 70th Annual Bazaar**

**When:** Saturday, July 11, 9:00 am to 1:00 pm

**Where:** Cape May Point Arts and Science Center

**What: Civic Club Meetings**

**When:** Second Thursday of the month\*, 12:00 pm

**Where:** Cape May Point Firehouse

\*March-June, September-December



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# Cape May Point Volunteer Fire Company

By Lance Lipset

Cape May Point Volunteer Fire Company responded to a variety of incidents over the Fall and Winter months, and continued training to ensure preparedness when called. The month of February was particularly busy due to a burst of calls relating to a severe winter storm.

After much planning, the Fire Company will receive its new fire engine this summer. The new engine, currently in the final phases of assembly at the manufacturer's plant in South Dakota, will replace a nearly 30-year-old apparatus.



As we prepare for spring and summer, we kindly ask residents to confirm their smoke detectors are functional and unexpired. We also wish to remind residents of the safety concerns in storing electric scooters, bikes and golf carts. Please consider your equipment's condition, the location it is stored, and refer to the manufacturer for safety tips.

The following officers were appointed by Cape May Point Fire for 2026:

- **Chief:** Bill Gibson
- **Deputy Chief:** Jeffrey Martin
- **Captain:** Anthony Famiano Jr.
- **Lieutenant:** Joshua Andrewson
- **Safety Officer:** Rich Degener
- **President:** Lance Lipset
- **Vice President:** Rich Degener
- **Secretary:** Jeff Martin
- **Assistant Secretary:** Bill Patton
- **Treasurer:** Lu Ann Daniels

We are happy to announce the recent addition of **two new members** to the Fire Company; Max Souder (EMT) and Ryan DiRenzo (Firefighter). Ryan is currently completing her firefighter certifications at the Cape May County Fire Academy. The Fire Company is also happy to welcome back long-time member Tom Larkin to Cape May Point.

As an all-volunteer organization, the Fire Company is a true community effort. If you are interested in learning about volunteer opportunities with the Fire Company, please reach out to us at [info@capemaypointfire.org](mailto:info@capemaypointfire.org).

Please visit our website, [www.capemaypointfire.org](http://www.capemaypointfire.org), for our 2026 calendar of events and donations page. Your donations are a critical component of our operations. We are grateful for your ongoing support.

Cape May Point Volunteer Fire Company

# Friends of Lake Lily

By Tom Reilly, FOLL President

If you've visited Lake Lily recently, you've probably noticed that there is a lot happening. Friends of Lake Lily has been working closely with the Borough of Cape May Point in honoring our mission to protect the health and wellbeing of the lake.

**Controlling the muck.** Over the past several years an extensive amount of muck has settled on the floor of the lake. The density of the muck is periodically measured to determine if it is getting deeper or subsiding. In some cases, the muck is several inches deep. Muck is caused by several factors including wood waste, animal droppings, stormwater runoff and the residue caused by invasive vegetation. If left untreated, muck can lead to water contamination and increased levels of phosphorous which can lead to algae outbreaks called Harmful Algae Blooms (HABs). HABs often appear as a bright green slime on the surface of the water and are highly toxic and dangerous to humans and animals.



CMP Borough has renewed an agreement with Clean-flo to periodically measure the water quality of Lake Lily, conduct sonar measurements of the muck on the lake bottom, and to apply non-chemical enzyme treatments of the water.

These treatments are in the form of pellets which are applied 4-5 times per year including a "Winter Warrior" treatment in the cold weather months. Clean-flo also provides periodic maintenance of the bubblers placed in 11 locations around the lake. The bubblers play an important role in distributing the enzymes not only on the surface of the lake but also pushing the enzymes down to the lake bottom so they can do their work of "eating" the muck.

*Lake Lily is a stormwater basin that protects Cape May Point in the event of a severe flood. Most of the stormwater drains in the Point flow to the lake. The lake is a historic gem which has been a fixture for hundreds of years.*

**Lake Mats.** Over the past several years, there has been explosive growth of invasive vegetation on the surface of the water at the south end of the lake. This vegetation goes dormant in the winter months but explodes during the warm weather. The roots for most of this invasive vegetation reside in the muck of the floor of the lake. The Borough recognized the need to address this invasive problem and sought an environmentally friendly non-chemical treatment. After extensive research, it was decided to conduct a trial by placing 36 "muck mats" on the bottom of the south end of the lake and these mats have already been installed. The mats are laid over the dormant roots of the invasive vegetation preventing the sun from reaching the roots and thereby halting growth to the surface.



# FOLL continued

Other lake communities have had much success with the muck mats and we are hoping for a successful trial at Lake Lily. If successful, the mats will be laid in other locations throughout the lake. The mats were funded in a partnership between Friends of Lake Lily and the Cape May Point Taxpayers Association.

*Did you know? In 1992, there was a similar restoration of Lake Lily island and the lake's water and shoreline. The entire Point community was involved in the planning and restoration project which included beautifying shorelines, focusing on pristine lake water quality and a freshly landscaped island.*



**Island Restoration.** The overgrowth of invasive vegetation has been a problem for years. Besides being very unsightly, the thickness of the underbrush made it nearly impossible for wildlife access. The vegetation eventually falls into the water and adds to the muck buildup.

Initially the plan was to thin out the overgrowth by removing the invasives and leaving the native plants. Upon inspection, it was determined that 90% of the island vegetation was invasive and needed to be removed. The New Jersey Forestry Service was scheduled to do a controlled burn of the island in March but the damp conditions caused by a long and wet winter made the island vegetation impossible to ignite.

Alternatively, the Borough identified another resource in early April, with funding from Friends of Lake Lily and the Cape May Point Taxpayers Association, to cut down all the vegetation at the ground level. The next steps will be removal of the cuttings and invasive roots.

Once this initial island prep work is finished, we will have a blank canvas and will embark on a 3-phased rejuvenation of the island. A project team is being assembled and we will keep the community updated in the coming months. You can also visit [www.friendsoflakelily.org](http://www.friendsoflakelily.org) for updates.

*We want your ideas! Ideas about the island restoration are welcome! Please send your thoughts to [tomreilly@friendsoflakelily.org](mailto:tomreilly@friendsoflakelily.org).*

Management of the lake is a dynamic process impacted by weather, climate changes, drought conditions, stormwater runoff, wildlife and pet excrement and aquatic weed overgrowth. Friends of Lake Lily will continue to work in a partnership with CMP Borough and the Cape May Point Taxpayers Association to ensure the lake is continually monitored and managed for years to come. As an aside, representatives from all three of these Point organizations have taken a Rutgers course on lake management in order to become educated about the issues facing Lake Lily. With this knowledge under our belts, we were better prepared to research alternatives for non-chemical solutions. Annual water quality data will continue to guide future endeavors.



*Your continued financial support is greatly appreciated and vital to our future projects and ongoing maintenance. Donations can be made [here](#) or by scanning the QR code. Thank you!*



# Cape May Point Veterans Memorial Park

The first phase of the Veterans Memorial was completed last fall. We hope you come to visit and reflect during your next visit to Cape May Point.

The impetus for establishing a veteran's memorial at the north end of Lake Lily came from the late Marc Wrotny, a former veteran and resident of Cape May Point. Marc appreciated the need to recognize the dedicated service and sacrifices made by our many CMP Veterans. A committee of local veterans and residents was subsequently formed to plan the memorial.

Using the \$50,000 bequest made by the Wrotny estate, the CMP Veterans Memorial Park Committee, working under the supervision of the Borough of CMP, was able to complete the initial features of the memorial this past fall.

**The formal dedication of this first phase of work will be held at the site on Memorial Day (5/25 at 10:00 am).**

We hope you will join us as we honor our Veterans.

The present fundraising effort has been initiated to complete the master plan of creating a fully accessible and welcoming community asset. Walking paths will be constructed to connect all three adjacent streets to the memorial while also providing a continuous walking loop around the north end of Lake Lily.

Adjacent to the granite inscription stones and flagpole of the memorial, the existing benches will be re-situated within new wooden pergolas, set on a hardscaped terrace, overlooking the lake.

The fundraising campaign for the completion of the Cape May Point Veterans Memorial Park has now passed the halfway mark toward reaching its \$50,000 goal. The campaign, begun in late December by the CMP Veterans Memorial Park Committee, has thus far raised \$27,040 from 100 private donations.

The committee is continuing to work closely with the Borough, both to raise the needed funding, as well as finalize the construction details and process. The CMPTA has generously set aside \$33,000 to add above the \$50,000 CMP private donations goal.

The intention of the Veterans Memorial Park committee is to apply for a Cape May County Open Space matching grant to complete the project. If county funds are received, the borough engineer anticipates that the full project cost will be approximately \$200,000. In addition to the current pledges received, the Veterans Memorial Park Committee is continuing to seek further financial and in-kind support from other sources to enable the full vision of the project to be realized.



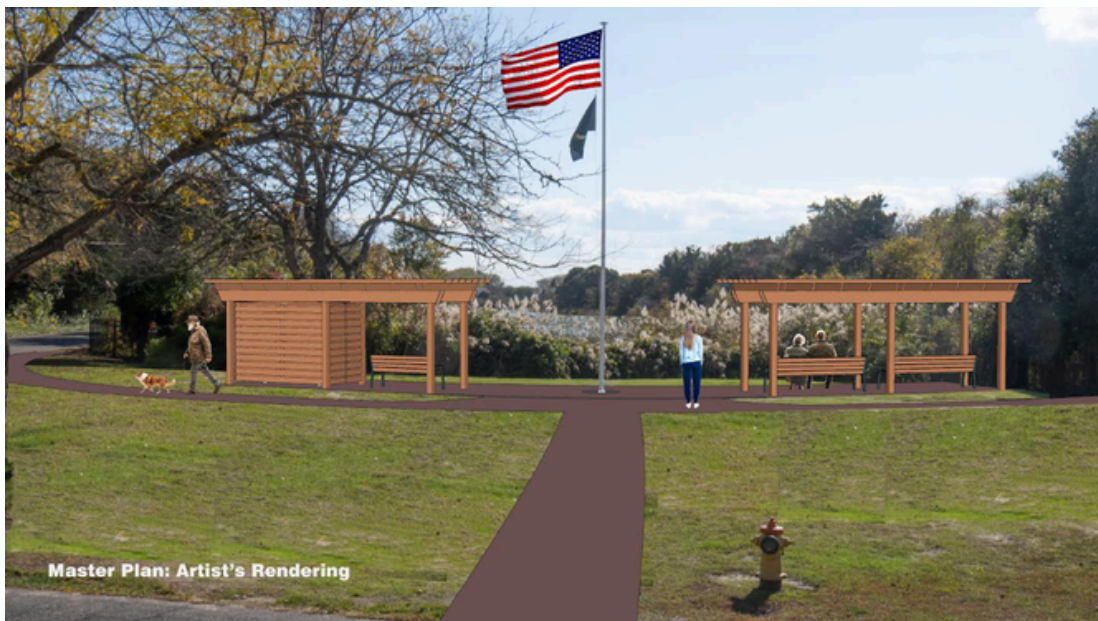
# Veterans Memorial Park cont.

If you would like to support the completion of Veterans Memorial Park, you can write a check to the Borough of CMP, with the provision that the monies be earmarked for the Veterans Memorial Park in a dedicated trust account. To do this YOU MUST WRITE "VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK" IN THE MEMO LINE OF THE CHECK.

Donations can be sent to:  
Borough of Cape May Point  
Attn: Veterans Memorial Park  
PO Box 490  
Cape May Point, NJ 08212

On behalf of the Veterans Memorial Park Committee, we thank everyone for their generous support.

*Ed Barnhart, Cathy Stambaugh, Sandy Allison, Lynn Smith, Anne Marie Patton, Jim Fraatz, Dennis Urffer*



# 2026 Seasonal Beach Tags Now Available

It's time to purchase seasonal beach tags, which means beach days are on the horizon!

**Where:** Inside Borough Hall

**When:** May 1 through May 31 (excluding Memorial Day, May 25) between the hours of 9 am and 12 pm daily

**Price:**

- Seasonal Tags are discounted at \$40 throughout month of May
- Seasonal Tags are \$50 beginning June 1
- Commercial Tags for rental properties are \$100
- CASH OR CHECK ONLY

Beach tag sales generate most of the revenue for management of our beaches. To provide the best coverages and services and to minimize the impact on everyone's taxes, we ask that if you are renting your property, you do not provide beach tags as an amenity.

Having our visitors pay for weekly and daily tags maximizes the revenue we collect. If you do provide tags as an amenity, you are reminded that you are required to purchase Commercial Tags at a cost of \$100 each.

Further details can be found on the Borough Website here: [Ord. No. 07-2022, 12-8-2022](#)

*"Any holder of a rental permit that purchases personal seasonal beach tags for distribution to its customers shall be subject to possible suspension or revocation of its rental permit."*

**HELP KEEP OUR BEACHES SAFE + BEAUTIFUL**

**SEASONAL TAG**  
\$40

**WEEKLY TAG**  
\$25 x 11 weeks = \$235

**vs.**

When a rental property buys a seasonal tag for renter use, **WE LOSE \$235 PER TAG**

**BEACH TAGS DIRECTLY FUND CAPE MAY POINT:**

Lifeguards

Maintenance

Inspection

Renter purchases of daily, weekly and seasonal beach tags are essential to keeping The Point special.

Thanks for doing your part, neighbors!

# Mulch and More Day

Thank you to all the volunteers who came out to support the Pavilion Circle Bedfellows and Triangle Park on Mulch and More Day (May 2)! Over 35 volunteers worked hard weeding, mulching and planting. Stop by and see the freshly mulched beds in the Circle and “The Boat” planted in all its Spring glory. Thanks to Bill Gibson and the Public Works team for supplying us with plenty of mulch and to Barb and Jeff Grassie for hosting the pizza party afterwards. It was a fun day filled with community spirit!

If you have caught the gardening bug, please join us in Triangle Park each Wednesday from 9:00-10:00 for “**Weeding Wednesdays**” beginning June 3. Hope to see you there!



Photo credits: Gail Rusnak, Wendy Paggioli

# Snapshots Around The Point



# Upcoming Events at The Point

Event	Date/Time	Location	Sponsor
Pancake Breakfast	5/23, 8-11 AM	Firehouse	Fire Company
Ice Cream Social	5/23, 4-6 PM	Pavilion Circle	CMPTA
Veterans Memorial Dedication	5/25, 10 AM	Veterans Memorial	CMPTA
2 and 5 Mile Run	6/20, 7:30 AM	Firehouse	Fire Company
Summer Solstice Concert	6/20, 4-7 PM	Pavilion Circle	CMPTA
Bike Parade	7/4, 10 AM	Firehouse/Circle	Fire Company
Bazaar	7/11, 9 AM-1 PM	Science Center	Civic Club
Women's Lifeguard Challenge	7/22, 6:30 PM	St. Pete's Beach	CMPBP
Beach Party	7/25, 5:30-8 PM	Coral Beach	CMPTA
Point Fest	8/29, 5-8 PM	Firehouse	Fire Company/CMPTA /Civic Club
Annual Meeting	9/18, 5-7 PM	Science Center	CMPTA
Dunes and More Day	10/10, 10 AM-12 PM	Dunes/Triangle Park	CMPTA
Trunk or Treat	10/24, 5-6 PM	Pavilion Circle	Civic Club
Light the Point	11/28, 10AM	Pavilion Circle	CMPTA/Bedfellows
Lights and Libations	12/12, 6:30-8:30 PM	Pavilion Circle/Firehouse	Civic Club
Santa's Run	12/24, Dusk		Fire Company
Ball Drop	12/31, 11:45 PM	Firehouse	Fire Company