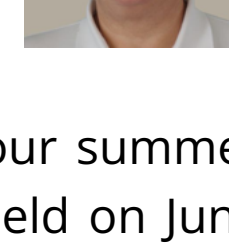




April 2025

President's Message - Chris Yates, President

The countdown is on! Memorial Day is only one month away and then another great summer season at Stone Harbor will be underway.



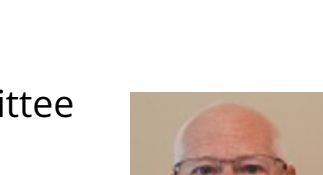
While you are looking at your calendar to verify that countdown, please add two dates to your summer schedule. The first is our spring membership meeting at the Harbor Theater. That will be held on June 14th. The second date is the 3rd Annual Harbor Hustle on June 22nd. Registration for the race is available below, and we look forward to seeing you there.

The agenda and participants for the spring meeting are still under development, and the meeting will primarily feature presentations and discussions on some of the most important issues facing Stone Harbor. We have received a number of emails from you expressing concern and alarm about Stone Harbor's financial condition and related issues. Instead of responding individually, I thought I would take this opportunity to reach out to all of you. We share your concern about the deteriorating financial condition of the Borough and the Borough's commitment to address the immediate problems facing our town and the growing long-term concerns. Our trustees, led by the executive committee and our Borough Engagement Committee, are considering how to best address these concerns.

The Borough's 2025 budget has been introduced. We will review it in detail and send you and the Borough Council the results of that review. But we understand that while that review will be comprehensive, it is only a review and will only influence policy to the extent our elected officials take it to heart, something which has not happened with our previous budget reviews. I encourage you to come to the June 14th membership meeting at the Harbor Square Theater, where we will be discussing what SHPOA can do with respect to these issues.

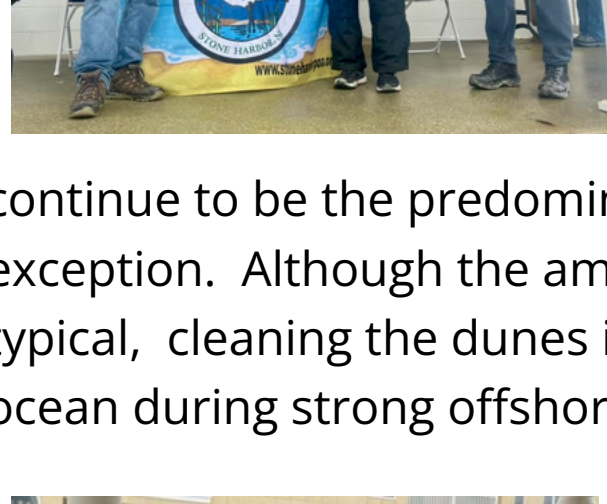
Stone Harbor 2025 Budget Presentation

The 2025 Budget Presentation is now available on the Township's website. You can access it by clicking this link.

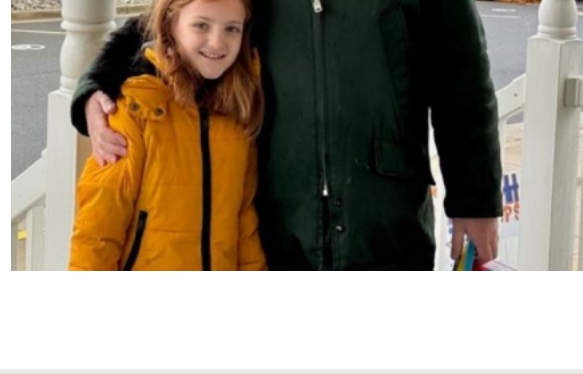


Successful Spring Beach Sweep! - Geoff Woolery, Trustee; Member, Community Engagement Committee

Despite the winter weather, we had a successful "spring" beach sweep on April 12th.



Fourteen dedicated beach sweepers participated in this year's event despite 39°F temperatures, a strong northerly wind, and intermittent rain. Given the not-surprisingly sparse turnout, the focus was on the dunes, which typically contain the majority of the trash, and specifically dunes where beach block construction was in progress. Plastic and construction debris continue to be the predominant trash collected, and this year was no exception. Although the amount of trash removed was lighter than typical, cleaning the dunes is critical to keep the debris from entering the ocean during strong offshore winds.

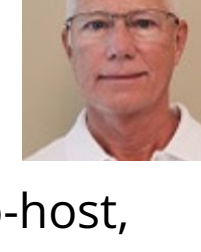


A special thanks to the SH Department of Public Works for providing equipment to help with registration and clean up, to the Wetlands Institute for their ongoing support, and especially the SH Police Department volunteers providing hands-on assistance in the beach sweep.

SHPOA Registration Team

Harbor Hustle - Geoff Woolery, Trustee; Member, Community Engagement Committee

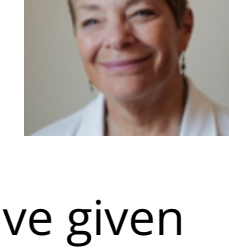
The 3rd Annual Harbor Hustle will be held on Sunday, June 22nd at 7:30 am. Please join us in celebrating the official start of summer on Solstice weekend. All proceeds will benefit our race co-host, Shells of Hope, a local charity supporting pediatric cancer research and South Jersey kids battling cancer. Shells of Hope cofounder Grace Martin will kick off the race with the singing of the National Anthem (see the Cape May County Herald article below). We thank Seashore ACE for once again being our proud premium sponsor.



Donations and registration are now open by clicking here or using this QR code:

SHPOA Trustee - Heidi Yacker, Secretary; Chair, Nominating Committee

Hi! I'm Heidi Yacker, Secretary of SHPOA. I'm coming into the final stretch of my 6th and final year as a SHPOA Trustee and I've loved every minute. It's a terrific Association with a lot of accomplishments under its belt. Those accomplishments are due to the amazing people who have given their time and expertise to help improve our Borough.



I was first intrigued by a talk given by Wally Bishop at SHPOA's Spring Membership Meeting in 2018. He was calling in from California to guide us through a slideshow about issues regarding the beach, bay, flood management, and water usage. I was so impressed! I really wanted to be a part of an organization that would raise our community's awareness of troubles on the horizon and suggest how they could be mitigated. My husband was already on the Board, and I didn't think they'd take both of us, but I asked anyway, and before I knew it, I was in! And to make matters even better, they needed a new Secretary soon, since the current one, Jennifer Gensemer, was about to start her career on the Stone Harbor Borough Council - and they asked me!

So began my life as a Trustee - and an Officer. SHPOA has changed a lot since I started - growing larger in size and focus. We've expanded our outreach both to the Borough and to our membership. We keep the Borough informed of our members' concerns and opinions, and we offer our expertise on sustainability and financial matters. To our members, we provide information on Borough issues and goings-on through enhanced communications, including the ever-popular SHPOA Beach Cam, and provide services and improvements to the community.

For me, the position has entailed a lot more than my basic Secretary responsibilities of taking the meeting minutes and managing the various documents. I've been given opportunities to chair several ad hoc committees and work on various activities and projects, like the street signs on the beach, our participation in events like the Memorial Day Parade, and our newest venture - the Harbor Hustle. Right now, I'm also the Chair of the Nominating Committee, where we identify new Trustees, educate and orient them, and incorporate them into the organization. We also present the Board with a slate of candidates for Citizen of the Year.

It's been a very satisfying six years - a chance to get involved and watch changes taking place in the Borough and in SHPOA. I urge you to consider becoming a Trustee. It's an excellent opportunity to work with dedicated, fun-loving people and to be part of a big effort to keep Stone Harbor the Seashore at Its Best!

Do you love Stone Harbor? Want to help keep our town The Seashore at its Best? Join a team of dedicated neighbors who give their time and ideas to all things Stone Harbor. Consider becoming a SHPOA Trustee. We look forward to hearing from you! StoneHarborPOA.org/nominations

SHPOA Citizen of the Year Award - Nominations are Now Being Accepted!

Nominations are now being accepted for the SHPOA Citizen of the Year Award. The SHPOA Citizen of the Year should be a person of integrity, honesty, and fairness, who demonstrates:

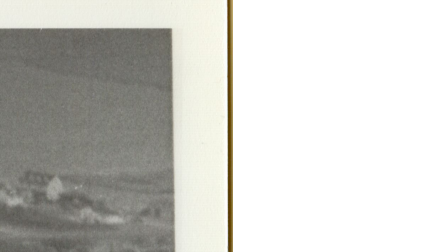
- Leadership
Community Involvement
Having a Positive Impact
A Longtime Commitment to Stone Harbor

Get the Citizen of the Year Nominating Form at:

SHPOA seeks nominations for 2025 COY (Citizen of the Year)

Historical Stone Harbor - Courtesy of Stone Harbor Museum

Each month we bring you a memory from the past, courtesy of the Stone Harbor Museum.

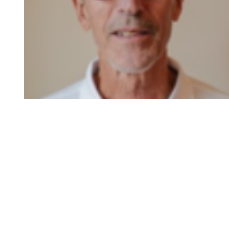


BACK IN TIME - This aerial photo of the Stone Harbor beachfront encompassing the 90th to 93rd Street area was also taken around the year 1950. Once more this scene is without its once popular boardwalk which basically withstood the storms and the test of time for some 28 years between 1916 and 1944. Probably too difficult for many viewers to identify, there are however some distinctive homes that are recognizable to this writer which include: the Franklin Davis home or also known as the Mrs. M. F. Murphy home located at First and 90th; the distinctive Warrington Stucco Cottage at First and 91st; the residence of Chas. A. Farmum also at First and 91st; "The Rustonian Apartments" at 90th and Second; the Ellsworth at 90th near Third; and the Hunsicker Cottage on Second and 91st. Near the upper left portion of this photo one might recognize the Yacht Club basin and the iconic Stone Harbor Yacht Club. Finally, as I have pointed out before, there are still numerous areas of land or lots that remain overgrown with vegetation and have not yet been developed. Clearly those days are long gone!

The Museum is at 9410 2nd Avenue and can be found online at www.stoneharbormuseum.org. Please be sure to see Harlan's History which can be found at https://www.stoneharbormuseum.org/harlanhistory/ and also consider donating to the Stone Harbor Museum at https://stoneharbormuseum.org/donations/.

Contemporary Stone Harbor

- Scott Jarden, CIO and Chair, Communications & Technology Committee



Each month we bring you a recent photo of interest from around Stone Harbor.



Thanks to a not very severe winter, our beaches are in great shape for the summer of 2025.

SHPOA Help Line

As a help line, SHPOA is pleased to provide our members with a Help Line to identify the best person at the Borough to provide assistance with an issue you might be dealing with. As you know, Borough Administration has overall responsibility for operations with oversight by the Borough Council. If you do need assistance, please reach out to us at Help@StoneHarborPOA.org. We look forward to helping our members wherever possible.



Media Buzz

The following article recently appeared in the Cape May County Herald where SHPOA is mentioned. For copyright reasons, we are unable to reproduce the article here. The articles can be accessed with a subscription to the Cape May County Herald by clicking here.

Monday, April 14, 2025. They Can't Rain on Her Parade. Claws Martin performing 'Don't Rain on My Parade' from 'Funny Girl' during a talent show at Radio City Music Hall. The song stands in her journey with cancer. By Karen Knight, April 13, 2025.

18-year-old Performs in Talent Show at Radio City. When Barbara Streisand released "Don't Rain on My Parade" in 1968, little did she know that some 57 years later the song would serve as the rallying cry for an 18-year-old cancer survivor who performed at Radio City Music Hall April 8 in the Gardens of Dreams Foundation's "Dreams of Tomorrow" Talent Show. Stone Harbor summer resident, Camden Catholic High School senior and singer Grace Martin is 38 months out from brain surgery in which a cancerous tumor was removed, followed by proton therapy at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia.

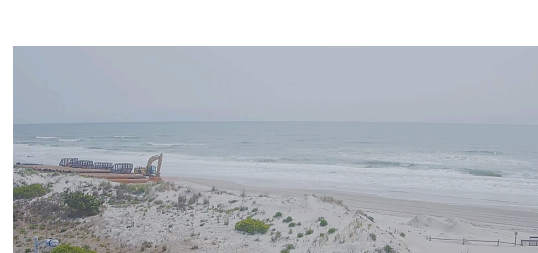
Member's Buzz

In this section we will periodically select some of your comments and perspectives to share with our broader membership. Please feel free to send them for consideration in future issues of The SHPOA Beach Buzz by writing to BeachBuzz@StoneHarborPOA.org.



SHPOA's Beach Cams and other webcams

SHPOA's site with two beach cams and embedded weather, tide, and water temperature information can be found 24 x 7 at StoneHarborPOA.org/beachcams. There is a simple form that needs to be filled out once, after which you can bookmark the site and access the beach cams whenever you'd like.



Other local webcams of interest not being run by SHPOA include: Stone Harbor Yacht Club Webcam, Stone Harbor Fire Department's 96th Street Webcam, Wetlands Institute Osprey Cam looking North

If there are other local webcams that you are aware of and recommend for inclusion on this list, please contact us at Contact@StoneHarborPOA.org.

Calendar of Events

Please go to our website to view our Events Calendar at https://www.stoneharborpoa.org/#calendar, which we will continue to update. If you know of an event that is not listed there, please let us know!



A SHPOA Membership Benefit

We are thrilled to announce a SHPOA member benefit that supports our mission of informing you of what's happening in and around town. Our friends at the Cape May County Herald are offering SHPOA members only an exclusive discount for Herald subscriptions -- 25% OFF with code "SHPOA" -- and they are also providing your association with advertising space in print and online for us to promote the association and the initiatives important to our members. We hope you will consider supporting the Herald and the local journalism which got its start right here on Seven Mile Island. Click here to see recent coverage of Stone Harbor. To subscribe and use the discount, please click on https://capemaycountyherald.com/subscribe/ and use promo code "SHPOA" at checkout to claim your 25% discount. Only valid for new subscribers.



The Beach Buzz editorial team: Janis Oeschger, Homi Kapadia, Scott Jarden, Cynthia Burton, Ted Kestner, and Heidi Yacker.