



August 2026

President's Message - Chris Yates, President

As another great summer in Stone Harbor draws to a close, we look forward to a quiet fall. The ocean is warm, the days are getting shorter, and it's easier to get a dinner reservation!



Our fall meeting is on Saturday morning of Labor Day weekend. We will start the meeting with a forum for the three candidates for two seats on the Stone Harbor Council. The financial and governing challenges our town faces remain formidable, making the choice of the men and women we elect to Borough Council especially important.

We will also elect trustees and officers for SHPOA, announce the winners of the annual photo contest, and recognize SHPOA's Citizen of the Year. Please join us if you are in town.

Shortly, we will begin planning for next year. Please let us know if you have questions or concerns you would like us to address and include on our agenda.

We hope to see you at the Harbor Square Theater on September 5th at 9:00 am.

SHPOA Fall Membership Meeting - Join Us and Bring a Neighbor! - Heather Stambaugh, Trustee; Chair, Community Engagement Committee



SHPOA will hold its fall General Membership Meeting on Saturday, September 5, 2026, starting promptly at 9:00 am at the Harbor Square Theater. All Stone Harbor property owners are invited to attend. Bring a friend or neighbor along and join us to learn more about what's happening in our community, ask questions, meet the candidates for Borough Council, and get involved in the future of Stone Harbor.



Agenda Highlights:

- **Meet the Borough Council Candidates:** Join us for a Q&A with candidates Ken Biddick, Wendi Powers, and Geoff Woolery. Hear their perspectives and plans for the future of Stone Harbor.
- **Donation Presentation:** A SHPOA donation check will be presented to *Shells of Hope*, an organization dedicated to providing support, compassion, and hope to children battling cancer.
- **2026 Citizen of the Year:** Find out who has been selected as SHPOA's 2026 Citizen of the Year.
- **Photo Contest:** Celebrate the winners of SHPOA's photo contest and enjoy their outstanding entries.
- **Trustee Ratification & Swearing-In:** New and returning SHPOA trustees will be formally ratified and

sworn in.

Shifting Sands: The Story Behind Beach Replenishment - Susan Barrett, Trustee; Chair, Sustainability Committee

Don't miss our recent publication, *Shifting Sands... The History of Beach Replenishment on Seven Mile Island*. [Click here](#) for a compelling read on this important subject. We are proud to present this vital research to our members.



11th Annual 2026 SHPOA Amateur Photo Contest is Open until 8/31st! - Scott Jarden, CIO and Chair, Communications & Technology Committee



The 11th Annual 2026 SHPOA Amateur Photo Contest is open for entries. Stone Harbor homeowners, guests, and visitors are invited to submit up to **three** photographs taken in Stone Harbor during 2026.

Capture the beauty and spirit of our community, from beaches, the ocean, and the bay to gardens, birds and wildlife, people, and local landmarks. **All entries must be photographed within the Borough of Stone Harbor.**

For complete contest rules and submission details, [click here](#).

SHPOA's Bicycle Infrastructure Support Project- Heather Stambaugh, Trustee: Chair, Community Engagement Committee



With the support of the Borough's Department of Public Works, four new bike racks were installed at the 95th, 99th, 109th, and 123rd Street beach entrances, along with two bike repair stations at the 95th and 123rd Street entrances. This project was made possible through a \$12,000 donation from SHPOA to the Borough of Stone Harbor.



This project is another example of SHPOA working in partnership with the Borough to support improvements that benefit residents and visitors alike.



Historical Stone Harbor - Courtesy of Harlan B. Radford, Jr.

Each month, we bring you a memory from the past, courtesy of Harlan B. Radford, Jr.

BACK IN TIME - New Stone Harbor: Watch it Grow, 1907-1910





The first photo is a rather elusive postcard depicting an artist's rendering of how the Risley brothers envisioned their resort called Stone Harbor. Although somewhat difficult to see, the upper right-hand corner is titled "New Stone Harbor" and the phrase "Watch It Grow" appears in the lower left portion of this German published postcard. Having examined this image very carefully with a magnifying glass, I can attest that the following features are visible: the Harbor Inn, a boardwalk along the beach, many private homes, and a roadway with a bridge for vehicles to get onto the southern part of the island from Cape May Court House and the mainland. However, a lighthouse overlooking the Great Channel, a large Ferris wheel on First Avenue and a long amusement pier jutting out into the ocean were attractions that were never actually realized.

The Stone Harbor of 1907 was confined to 83rd Street and included half a dozen cottages, built and occupied, too, by summer sojourners and a family or two of permanent residents, who, with the true pioneer spirit, had established the nucleus of a settlement on the beach. An abandoned excursion house and a deserted hotel (namely the Abbotsford Inn built in 1892), together with the arrival and departure of an occasional train at the little railroad station buried away among the picturesque sandhills of Second Avenue served only to accentuate the fact that the tide of human interest had reached a low water mark on that portion of Seven Mile Beach in the summer of 1907. But as we shall soon see, that was all about to change!

At the time the South Jersey Realty Company made its purchase of Stone Harbor, it took title to a section of land extending from 80th Street to beyond 127th Street and Hereford Inlet. Except for a few scattered lots that had previously been sold, the property was intact and the boundaries, including over 2 1/2 miles of beachfront and 2 1/2 miles of channel front, made up nearly six miles of magnificent water-front in all.

It was to the transformation of this expanse of sand hills and salt meadows into a modern seaside resort that the South Jersey Realty Company pledged itself, and it was upon the foundation that had been laid during three years of unremitting effort, and through the expenditure of upward of one million dollars that the Risley's "New" Stone Harbor began taking shape.



This second photo image has been altered and "colorized" thanks to an AI program. This scene is fitting to the overall theme of this account showing a construction crew digging trenches for the purpose of laying sewer pipes underground along First Avenue. Some of the structures in the background from left to right include the Rummels Store and Post Office, the Reese Risley cottage named "Hydrangea", the Harbor Inn with its distinctive windmill for water and finally the William Schuck boarding house on the far right.





The third and final image has also been colorized for your enjoyment. It is another scene showing a 1909 view of road construction and laborers installing cement curbing preparatory to the leveling and gravelling of a street. The worker bending over in the foreground has a trowel in his hand and is putting the finishing touches to the newly poured cement curb along what we believe is Pennsylvania Avenue. A Pennsylvania Railroad train is also visible and apparently is preparing to depart northward from the Stone Harbor railway depot. Perhaps I might pose a rhetorical question at this point. Shall we pause and end this account now with the iconic phrase that was shouted by train conductors to signal passengers that a train is departing and that it is time to get on the train for the continuation of OUR journey? There is much more for all of us to learn about the fascinating story of our favorite seashore resort known as Stone Harbor. So, "ALL ABOARD!"

*The Stone Harbor Museum is located 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/harlanshistory/> 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.





No Shoes Required

Media Buzz

Below is the latest update from *The Herald* on the 96th Street Bridge Replacement.

For copyright reasons, we are only providing links to the introductory part of each article. Access to the full text of the articles requires a subscription to the Cape May County Herald, which can be obtained at [digital subscription](#).

NEWS | AUGUST 6, 2026

The Latest on Stone Harbor's 96th Street Bridge Replacement

The existing bridge span will be removed next year.

 **Vince Conti**
Senior Reporter



The 96th Street Bridge replacement project will begin next year with the removal of the bridge span, which connects the island to the mainland.

https://www.capemaycountyherald.com/news/country-supplies-lot...adjustments&trn_term=0_8f5c2d9b7f1-36a7687a7f1-130222761 8/7/26, 7:52 AM
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STONE HARBOR - At the Stone Harbor council meeting on August 4, Mayor Tim Carney gave an update on the replacement of the 96th Street Bridge, which connects the island to the Middle Township mainland.

The existing span, he said, will be removed in the fall of 2027. A temporary span will not be put in place until sometime close to the start of the peak summer season in 2028. This means there will be several months during which no traffic will be able to cross where the current bridge stands.

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 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 any 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.



SHPOA's Beach Cams and other local 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 Baycam](#)
- [Stone Harbor Fire Department's 96th Street Webcam](#)
- [The Reeds at Stone Harbor Webcam](#), courtesy of Fox29

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.



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Phyllis Moore, and Heidi Tacker.
