

CAPE MAY COUNTY COAST GUARD COMMUNITY EVENTS

APRIL 23 - MAY 7, 2022



APRIL 23
Southern NJ Coast Guard Ball
 at The Wildwoods Convention Center
 6:00 pm - 11:00 pm



Tickets available at: coastguardcommunity.org



APRIL 29
Coast Guard Salute

at Mudhen Brewing Co.
 6:00 pm - 10:00 pm
 127 W. Rio Grand Ave.
 Wildwood, NJ 08260



MAY 7
Coast Guard Community Festival

at TRACEN (Training Center Cape May)
 10:00 am - 4:00 pm
 1 Munro Ave., Cape May, NJ 08204



This is a **FREE** event.
 Photo ID will be required for all adults. Bags are subject to search.

CoastGuardCommunity.org

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City looking to recover costs associated with special events

By **JACK FICHTER**
 Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY — City Council has changed the rules regarding special events in hopes of recouping some of the money the city spends to provide first aid, security and cleanup.

A new ordinance was approved during its meeting April 5.

Organizers of special events such as concert, races, walkathons, fairs and festivals held on public grounds now must obtain a permit. The ordinance notes such events are likely to require expenditure of city resources from the police and fire departments, public works and emergency medical services, for which the organizers now will be responsible.

The ordinance does not apply to small gatherings on public property that do not substantially affect other members of the public, hinder pedestrian or vehicular traffic or otherwise require the expenditure of city resources. Not does it apply to Convention Hall events.

Permit applicants must provide a description of the event and a sketch of the area or route to be used along with proposed structures, tents, barricades, signs, fencing and restroom facilities. Confirmation of tax-exempt status must be provided

where applicable.

Applications should include the number of participants or spectators anticipated with a detailed description of city resources or services that would be required. All applications must be submitted 45 days prior to an event.

An application fee of \$25 is required for nonprofit organizations and a \$50 fee for all others. Any application submitted fewer than 45 days before an event would have an additional \$50 fee.

Event organizers are responsible for any costs incurred for extra police officers, emergency medical services or public works employees. A deposit of 100 percent of costs must be paid five days before the event.

The applicant must submit a hold harmless agreement to the Department of Civic Affairs/Recreation and submit evidence of liability insurance. The city manager or police chief has the authority to revoke the permit.

The city may levy fines for events held without a permit. City-sponsored events are exempt from the ordinance regulations.

Dennis Crowley, chairman of the city's Municipal Taxation and Revenue Advisory Committee (MTRAC), which advised the city on the ordinance, said during public com-

ment that the ordinance is one of a series of initiatives the committee is working on to make sure the expenditure of public resources for private interests was compensated.

Crowley called it a question of cost recovery.

He said MTRAC is concerned the cost of providing police services to West Cape May was not properly calculated in the current contract.

Police Chief Dekon Fashaw said the Cape May Police Department has a great relationship with West Cape May and Cape May Point.

"We do support the MTRAC's conversation as long as it's fair and equitable to the municipalities' residents and visitors," he said.

Crowley said MTRAC wants to make sure fees paid by groups that use city services are covered.

He acknowledged police would be paid \$100 per hour for their presence at events held by outside organizations but the city has no way to recoup the cost of trash, ambulance service and maintenance vehicles. Crowley said the city has been giving away such services.

MTRAC has been working with Chief Financial Officer Neil Young on a process by which all the various costs of municipal services could be determined.

Eagle project beautifies Wilbraham Park

WEST CAPE MAY — The northwest corner of Wilbraham Park at the intersection of Broadway and Myrtle Avenue was upgraded and landscaped by Life Scout Luke Maxwell of Haddon Heights.

With the help of fellow Boy Scouts and family, Maxwell worked in the park the past two weekends, clearing ivy and underbrush, relocating plants, installing a weed barrier, mulching the area and planting native species.

This project had the support of the borough Shade Tree Commission and Friends of Wilbraham Park, which assisted with installing the irrigation.

The project was part of Maxwell earning Eagle Scout rank, which requires creating and executing a project that benefits the community.

Maxwell had several meetings with the Friends of Wilbraham Park to discuss landscape plans.

"We have agreed on a plan that includes native plants, shrubs and trees that will provide a colorful garden on the corner of Broadway and Myrtle Avenue," Maxwell said. "The plantings will also create a natural fence shielding the street from the park."

Mayor Carol Sabo, Deputy Mayor Peter Burke and Commissioner Dan Kurkowski visited Maxwell and his team at Wilbraham Park on April 2.

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