

Lower promotes police, honors volunteer firefighters



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Werner Muller, left, receives a certificate and ring from Erma Fire Chief David Lepor for 25 years of volunteer service.



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Eileen Jennings with her father, Bill, who said his daughter was the first female to stay 25 years in the department.



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Mayor Erik Simonsen congratulates William Priole on his promotion to captain in the Lower Township Police Department.

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

VILLAS — Three Lower Township police officers received promotions and two new officers were sworn in during a Township Council meeting June 17. In addition, four Erma Volunteer Fire Company members were honored for 25 years of service.

Mayor Erik Simonsen administered the oath of office for their promotions to Capt. William Priole, Lt. Kevin Lewis, Lt. Douglas Whitten and Sgt. Brian McEwing.

Eric Campbell and Austin Parker received their oaths from Simonsen as new officers.

Council honored four members of the Erma Volunteer Fire Company for 25 years of service. Simonsen presented Erma Volunteer Fire Company member Warner Muller with a certificate of appreciation for his quarter century of service.

"I would not give up this soot-stained gear

For I am honored and proud to be a volunteer

Fueled by fire, driven by courage," read Simonsen.

Erma Fire Chief David Lepor presented Muller with a plaque and a gold ring for his 25 years of volunteer service.

The mayor presented a certificate to firefighter Mike Marriner and Lepor presented him with a plaque and gold ring. Lepor said the 25 years of service represented more than half of Marriner's life spent serving the residents of the township.

The mayor presented Eileen Jennings with a certificate for her 25 years of dedicated service to the fire company.

"In addition to that, I'm sure she has more time than the 25 years of service because her father, Bill, is a longtime member of the fire company at 34 years," Lepor said. "I'm sure as a young girl she saw him go out to emergencies, return safely, and Eileen continued the tradition..."

Bill Jennings said his daughter was the first female that stayed 25 years in the department and the fifth generation firefighter in his family.

Firefighter Floyd Hughes was honored for his quarter

century of service. Simonsen said Hughes also provided 40 years of service to the township as a volunteer coach. Lepor said Hughes came to the fire company a little bit older in life and arrived with

stability and maturity.

"I wouldn't trade it for anything," Hughes said.

Lepor noted both of Hughes' sons also had earned their 25 year rings in the fire company.

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Lower roads closed July 3 for fireworks, amusements

NORTH CAPE MAY — Lower Township police will close Beach Drive and Shore Road to all street parking from 8 a.m. until the conclusion of the fireworks at about 11 p.m. Wednesday, July 3.

Additionally, due to the large volume of pedestrians on the bayfront, this area will be closed to all vehicular, bicycle and skateboard traffic from Town Bank Road to

Lincoln Boulevard in North Cape May from 3 p.m. until the conclusion of the event. David C. Douglass Park will be closed at 10 p.m. July 2 and reopen July 4.

The last block of Washington Boulevard, from Atlantic Avenue to Beach Drive, will be posted "no parking" from 10 a.m. July 2 until July 4 to allow for the set up and breakdown of amusement

rides. Vendors and amusement rides will stay open until about 10 p.m.

Motorists are warned not to block driveways, fire hydrants or intersections. Illegally parked vehicles may be ticketed and towed. There will be ample parking throughout North Cape May. Handicapped parking will be available on Holmes Avenue and

Beach Drive, and also Town Bank Road, between Fairview Road and Beach Drive.

In the event there are lost children, parents or guardians are directed to report to the nearest police officer, who will advise the Police Command Center at Lincoln and Beach Drive. In the event of rain, the event will be rescheduled for July 5 with the same time schedule.

Van Drew

Continued from Page A1

pieces of wood into the sand that lasted for only one tide. DeSatnick suggested compiling news stories on sand loss prior to the city's meeting with the Army Corps.

Cape May Beach Patrol Capt. Geoff Rife said the city would be meeting with sound engineers July 9 regarding Phase Two of the public address (P.A.) system along the beachfront. He said the beach patrol has been using Phase One of the P.A. system, which stretches from the Cove to Convention Hall.

"It's great, we've gotten compliments for the clarity," Rife said. "We've tested it by going down to the water's edge, so everything in Phase One is working great."

Public Works Superintendent Joe Picard said he has received both beach safety information signs and signs stating no alcohol or smoking are permitted on beaches. He said his department has 4-foot by 4-foot posts for 30-inch and 36-inch signs.

Picard said 90 posts had to be installed and he hoped to have all signs in place by July 4.

Committee member Jack Wichterman asked if any problems had been encountered due to the new ban on smoking on the beach. Rife said he has spoken with only one beachgoer, who apologized for smoking on the beach.

Committee member Ed Zebrowski said speaking as a representative of the U.S.

Lifesaving Association, he had concerns lifeguards would now leave the beach at 5 p.m.

"That is sort of counter to what the national trend is," he said. "The national trend is to have lifeguards on extended hours."

Zebrowski said he is not in favor of lifeguards going off duty at 5 p.m. Inderwies said the change in hours was a recommendation by the chief of the beach patrol for staffing and policy reasons.

In southern New Jersey, Cape May will be the only city with guards leaving at 5 p.m., Zebrowski said. Inderwies said lifeguards previously had paid hours from 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Inderwies said that gave the beach patrol administration 15 minutes or less to brief and train guards while they were on the clock. He said guards will report at 9 a.m., which will give administration an extra 45 minutes to train and brief guards.

After hours lifeguard service will start at 5 p.m.,

Inderwies said. Rife said one lieutenant and two to three guards would be on duty after 5 p.m. He said a truck is left on the beach 24 hours a day for a lieutenant as well as Polaris vehicles at headquarters.

Backup guards are available after hours on the fire department's call and pager system, Rife said. Zebrowski said Cape May's after-hours beach patrol is "second to none." Bathers are told to leave the water at 5 p.m.

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thru SUNDAY, JUNE 30TH

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thru SATURDAY, JUNE 29TH

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JULY 4, 2019

The Wednesday collection route will be collected on Thursday July 5, 2019

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