

Longport Town Topics

Mayor Nicholas M. Russo, Ed.D
Commissioner James P. Leeds, Sr.
Commissioner Daniel J. Lawler

www.longport-nj.us

June 2010

Longport's Beaches Opening for the Summer Season

The Longport Beach Patrol is gearing up for another wonderful summer season. Various sections of the beach will begin to open on June 18. Please note that all Guarded Bathing Beaches are open from 10 am until 6 pm on each day of operation.

Beach patrons are reminded to swim only near a lifeguard during guarded bathing beaches hours of operation. Please follow the direction of your lifeguards. They are trained professionals and have experience and are knowledgeable of the ocean water conditions. Pay close attention to the "Beach Warning Flags" atop the lifeguard stands. They are posted as a guidance system based on the current ocean water conditions: Green – Safe, Yellow – Caution, Red – Hazardous, and Red with No Swimming Sign – Bathing Restricted – No Swimming. Please feel free to ask the lifeguards about the flag system so you have a better understanding of ocean conditions. Also posted are message boards and "Rip Current" signs on the back of lifeguard stands, please pay close attention to posted messages as they are ever changing.

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Longport's Annual Memorial Day parade is the start of the upcoming summer season. The parade was led by the Longport Police Department's motorcycle patrol unit.

The following beaches will open and close as indicated:

13th Avenue – June 26th until September 6th
16th Avenue – June 18th until September 12th
19th Avenue – June 19th until September 6th
21st Avenue – July 1st until September 6th
25th Avenue – July 1st until September 6th
26th Avenue – June 18th until September 12th
Pelham Avenue – July 1st until September 6th
30th Avenue – June 18th until September 12th
31st Avenue – June 26th until September 6th
33rd Avenue – June 18th until September 12th
35th Avenue – June 26th until September 6th

On the weekends of 5/29 – 5/31, 6/5, 6/12, 9/18 and 9/25 the beaches at 16th, 26th, 30th, and 33rd Avenues will be open for pre/post season, weather permitting.

Donations Needed for Annual Labor Day Fireworks Display

Celebrating Labor Day 2009 was a real blast thanks to the generosity of Longport resident, Steve O'Leary, who coordinated a donation campaign.

There was a large turnout of residents and guests as they positioned themselves on the beach to watch the colorful array of fireworks. What a great way to end the summer season.

If you would like to see the fireworks display again, contributions would be gladly accepted at Borough Hall. Please make checks payable to the Longport Volunteer Fire Dept and enter "FIREWORKS" in the memo section of the check. Thank you in advance!

Please call the Municipal Clerk's office (609) 823-2731 (x100) if you have any questions.



HEROES

We all have them. I'll sing the praises of my heroes. They are the men and women of the Longport and Margate fire, rescue and police departments. I am honored to also call them my friends. My heroes are out there every day dedicated to making a difference in our community. They embody everything that is great in America.

Many individuals assisted in my sudden collapse after responding as a Longport firefighter to a fire at 29th and Atlantic avenues late in the morning on March 13, 2010. Words cannot possibly reflect my gratefulness for the superb team effort of the dedicated members of the Longport and Margate, fire, rescue and police departments.

The members show us that a hero is someone like us, citizens of our community. The difference is they risk their lives every day to rescue and care for their fellow citizens. In doing so, they set aside their own immediate safety to serve a higher good, the community's good.

These heroes, by their actions have always set a community standard of excellent service. It is a real standard because real people did real things that really did save my life. This is a standard that we all should be particularly grateful to have in our own community.

Respectfully submitted:

Richard B. Hirsch, Jr.

Captain of the Longport Volunteer Fire Department
Survivor 03/13/2010

Commended for Saving a Life in Longport

The following individuals of the Longport Volunteer Fire Department, Longport Police Department and Margate City Fire Department were commended for saving the life of Longport Volunteer Firefighter Captain Richard Hirsch, Jr., on March 13, 2010. Capt. Hirsch suffered cardiac arrest while fighting a fire in the Borough of Longport.

A life saving medal was presented to: Ptl. Christopher Ricciotti (LPPD), Firefighter Michael Simmons and Firefighter Christopher Maher (MCFD).

The following individuals were awarded Unit Citations: Assistant Fire Chief Bruce Funk, Assistant Fire Chief Dan Adams, Capt. Anthony Vicchiarelli, Lt. Dan Greenberg, Firefighter Thomas Flynn, EMT Howard Axel, PST Joseph Bongiovanni, Firefighter Salvatore Provenzano, Capt. Thomas Shields (MCFD), Lt. Tim Wainwright (MCFD), and Lt. William Hewitt (LPPD).

PEDESTRIAN SAFETY

As the summer season approaches, we think of warm weather and the time we'll be outside walking. Whether we are taking a walk through town, going to church, or for many of us, going to enjoy the beautiful Longport beach, chances are we are going to cross a roadway. This brings up the very important subject of Pedestrian Safety. As we know this has generated a lot of discussion over the years.

First, let's review the law as it relates to pedestrians:

- It's a pedestrian's responsibility to exercise DUE CARE when crossing a roadway. That means a pedestrian should never suddenly leave a curb or other place of safety and walk or run into the roadway, where it is impossible for a motorist to stop.
- A pedestrian must obey all traffic control signals and instruction by police who may be regulating traffic flow.
- Pedestrians must use marked crosswalks when provided for. (You can be ticketed for this.)
- If a pedestrian enters the roadway at any point other than within a marked crosswalk or an unmarked crosswalk at an intersection, that pedestrian must yield the right-of-way to all motor vehicles. (A \$54.00 fine.)

Second, let's review what the law states for motorists:

- On April 1st the law changed for motorists. It now states that when motorists approach a pedestrian in a marked crosswalk – OR an unmarked crosswalk that is at an intersection – **THEY MUST STOP AND REMAIN STOPPED** to allow the pedestrian to cross safely. Motorists who violate this law are subject to a \$ 200 fine, two points on their license, and may be required to perform 15 days of community service and pay insurance surcharges.
- The statute also makes it unlawful for a vehicle to overtake or pass another vehicle that is stopped to allow a pedestrian to cross.

So what does all of this mean? Its simple, **PEDESTRIAN SAFETY IS A SHARED RESPONSIBILITY** for both motorists and pedestrians.

SAVE THE DATE

Upcoming Events in Longport

July 2010

- 3RD & 4TH Picnicking and barbecuing permitted on public beaches 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.
Charcoal grills only, no larger than 36 inches in diameter. No alcoholic
beverages permitted. Call Borough Hall at 823-2731 for more information.
- 4TH POLICE/FIRE OPEN HOUSE - 10 am to noon
followed by the Fire Dept All American Mile Run at 6:30pm
- 6th LONGPORT WOMEN'S LIFEGUARD INVITATIONAL - 6:30 pm
33rd Avenue and the beach
- 9th LONGPORT MEMORIALS - 6:30 pm
33rd Avenue and the beach
- 10th LIFEGUARD REUNION - 5 to 8 pm
Centennial Room located on the second floor of Borough Hall
- 29th SWIMMING SAFETY CLINIC - 10:30am
33rd Avenue and the beach
sponsored by the Longport Beach Patrol

August 2010

- 5th SURFING SAFETY CLINIC - 10:30 am
32nd Avenue and the beach
sponsored by the Longport Beach Patrol
Participants must bring surf/boogie board.
- 14th FREE IRISH CONCERT - 7 pm
behind Borough Hall
sponsored by the Longport Historical Society

September 2010

- 4TH & 5TH Picnicking and barbecuing permitted on public beaches 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.
Charcoal grills only, no larger than 36 inches in diameter. No alcoholic
beverages permitted. Call Borough Hall at 823-2731 for more information.
- 5th ART SHOW sponsored by the Longport Historical Society
8 am to 1 pm on the lawn by the Longport Historical Museum
- 11th ANNUAL BEACH PATROL MASCOT RACES
for children up to age 13
sponsored by the Longport Beach Patrol
Sign up at 33rd Ave and the beach at 10:30am. Race will begin at 11 am.

October 2010

- 31st HALLOWEEN TREATS - 5 to 7 pm
at Borough Hall, Police Department, Fire Department, and
Longport Historical Museum

November 2010

- 11th VETERAN'S DAY CEREMONY - 11 am
at the Krechmer Pavilion located at 28th and Ventnor avenues
sponsored by John A. Kuzmann Memorial American Legion Post

December 2010

- 5th ANNUAL HOLIDAY CONCERT - 7 pm
at the Church of the Redeemer
sponsored by the Longport Historical Society

Honoring and Remembering the Best of the Borough of Longport

Mayor Nicholas Russo, Commissioner James Leeds, Sr., and Commissioner Daniel Lawler present proclamations of thanks and remembrance to Longport's many wonderful citizens, volunteers and employees.



(Above left) Mayor Russo, Commissioner Leeds and Lawler, and Longport Volunteer Fire Chief Levon "Lefty" Clayton present Winnie Adams with a proclamation in remembrance of her husband and former LPVFD Chief William Adams. (Above right) Former Mayor, Commissioner and member of the LPVFD William Fiore is presented with a plaque and proclamation for his 50 years of service to the borough's volunteer fire department.



(Above) Mayor Russo and Commissioners Leeds and Lawler present a proclamation honoring former Commissioner of Revenue and Finance Thomas Reed for his 28 years of service to the borough. The Krechmer Pavilion and American Legion Memorial are located in the "Thomas B. Reed Park" named in remembrance of Mr. Reed. His portrait will be hung in borough hall.

(Above) Mayor Russo, and Commissioners Leeds and Lawler present James Fehrenbach of the Longport Public Works Department for his dedicated service working weekends and holidays to ensure the safety and cleanliness of Longport's beaches and playgrounds.



(Above) Mayor Russo, Commissioners Leeds and Lawler, and Fire Chief Clayton, present LPVFD Capt. Anthony Vicchiarelli with a proclamation for his 40 years of service to the borough volunteer fire department. (Left) Deputy Municipal Clerk Emilia Strawder was presented with a plaque and proclamation for being recently selected for a Special Recognition for Safety Efforts by the Atlantic County Municipal Joint Insurance Fund.

Longport Mayor's Corner

By now the wonderful Longport summer weather is here and we have quickly forgotten the brutal winter of 2010! It is always exciting to see our town slowly awakened from its winter hibernation. Our houses are spruced up and washed, the new plantings are taking root, the birds have rejoined us, the lifeguards are preparing their boats and equipment, and our beautiful beaches are ready for our visitors and residents. Your Borough Commissioners Dan Lawler and Jim Leeds are working hard to provide the municipal services that make Longport such a wonderful place to live full time or just to vacation part time.



This year the State of New Jersey's new pedestrian crosswalk law goes into effect. Be sure to let your children and grandchildren know that they must always use extreme diligence when crossing the streets to go to the beach. Remember the main onus is on the pedestrian to look both ways before entering the crosswalk. Once they are in the crosswalk, the drivers must stop; this is a change from the "yield" requirement of previous years. I am also advising Police Chief Scott Porter to prudently enforce the "no talking on handheld cell phones" and "no text messaging while driving" laws.

And, in case you have not heard, as part of the federal government cost saving measures, our Longport Post Office is only going to be open during the morning hours. This is good news in a way because we still have our own post office and we didn't have to consolidate with another community. Naturally, we fought to keep the all-day hours that we previously had, but the amount of revenue generated from the post office just didn't justify that decision.

As we all know, the greatest attribute of Longport is its people. Time and time again our residents come forward to support our community activities and not only donate their time, but their financial resources as well. For example, last year our Borough, and her neighboring communities enjoyed a wonderful fireworks display over Labor Day weekend. There was no taxpayer cost for the display because the expenses were deferred by contributions from a group of our Longport residents. This year we plan on having a fireworks display again. Any resident who wishes to contribute to this great annual event only needs to write a check to the Longport Volunteer Fire Department and write the word, "fireworks" in the memo section. The entire cost, including insurance, is approximately \$11,600, so please write your checks now so we can lock in the fireworks vendor. This venture is just another example of our commitment to the community and of our deep rooted tradition of "Longport Pride."

The summer season is the best time of the year to enjoy the outdoors here in Longport; therefore, let's all be good neighbors and respect the privacy and quiet enjoyment that our residents have come to expect. I respectfully request that we all be sensitized and considerate to one another so that this year becomes our best summer ever!

-Dr. Nicholas Russo, Mayor



Mayor Nicholas Russo celebrates "Read Across America Day" by reading to a class at the Union Avenue Elementary School in Margate.

Before you pick up that hammer or hire that contractor . . .



The Longport Building Department would like to remind everyone that a borough-issued building permit is required for any repairs, alterations or changes that deviate from the original building plans.

This includes security systems, garage alterations, air conditioning units, water heaters, pools or pool heaters, concrete, decks, patios, pavers, sheds, fences, structural or any modification to electrical systems.


If you are unsure about needing a permit, please call the building department at 822-0569 ext. 109 or 114.

Please report information to the building department if you see a home undergoing construction or alterations that does not have a yellow building permit placard in the front window.

Are You Ready?

Before the Hurricane Season

- ✓ Determine safe evacuation routes in land.
- ✓ Learn location of official shelters.
- ✓ Make emergency plans for pets.
- ✓ Check emergency equipment, such as flashlights, generators and battery-powered NOAA Weather Radio-All Hazards and cell phones.
- ✓ Buy food that will keep and store drinking water.
- ✓ Buy plywood or other material to protect your home.
- ✓ Clear loose and clogged rain gutters and downspouts.
- ✓ Trim trees and shrubbery.
- ✓ Decide where to move your boat in an emergency.
- ✓ Determine where to move your boat in an emergency.
- ✓ Review your insurance policy.



7/24/11

During the Storm

When in a Watch Area...

- ✓ Frequently listen to radio, TV or NOAA Weather Radio for official bulletins of the storm's progress.
- ✓ Fuel and service family vehicles.
- ✓ Inspect and secure mobile home tie downs.
- ✓ Have extra cash on hand.
- ✓ Prepare to cover all windows and doors with shutters or other shielding materials.
- ✓ Check batteries and stock up on canned food, first-aid supplies, drinking water and medications.
- ✓ Bring in light-weight objects such as garbage cans, garden tools, toys and lawn furniture.

Plan to leave if you...

- ✓ Live in a mobile home. They are unsafe in high winds no matter how well fastened to the ground.
- ✓ Live on the coastline, an offshore island, or near a river or a flood plain.
- ✓ Live in a high-rise building. Hurricane winds are stronger at higher elevations.

Terms to Know

Hurricane Watch: Hurricane conditions are possible in the specified area of the watch, usually within 36 hours.

Hurricane Warning: Hurricane conditions are expected in the specified area of the warning, usually within 24 hours.

Tropical Storm Watches and Warnings: Take these alerts seriously. Although Tropical Storms have lower wind speeds than hurricanes, they often bring life-threatening flooding and dangerous winds. Take precautions!

Borough Employees Sponsor Last Senior Luncheon

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Jenna Kelly, Chief Financial Officer; Andrea Brady, Court Administrator; Winnie Adams, Deputy Court Administrator; Mrs. Anne Leeds; and Emilia Strawder, Deputy Municipal Clerk assist in serving lunch to Longport's seniors at the last luncheon of the season.

The Longport Beach Patrol will be once again running the Lifeguard Explorer Program. This Program will run for four weeks, three days per week and is open to all Longport residents ages 12 – 15. If anyone is interested in this program please contact Beach Patrol Headquarters on or after May 29, 2010.

Please don't forget your beach badges. Badges are required for all beach patrons over the age of 12. Beach inspectors are required to check everyone for beach badges, please have them with you when you come to the beach.

Please help keep Longport's beaches as beautiful as they have always been, place all trash and recyclables in appropriate receptacles. Longport's Public Works Department takes great pride in keeping our beaches clean and well groomed, please help to do the same.

The Longport Beach Patrol is looking forward to the Summer of 2010 and seeing everybody once again. Remember to always swim at guarded beaches during beach hours of operation. Safe Beaches are Happy Beaches!

Borough of Longport
Borough Hall
2305 Atlantic Ave.
Longport, NJ 08403

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Town Topics

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