

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – April 7, 2014

The meeting of the Township Council of the Township of Lower, County of Cape May, State of New Jersey was held on April 7, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. in the meeting room of the Township Hall, 2600 Bayshore Road, Villas, New Jersey.

The Clerk announced that the meeting was being held in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act and that adequate notice of the meeting had been provided according to law.

The following members of Council were present for roll call taken by the Clerk:

Councilmember Thomas Conrad
Councilmember James Neville
Councilmember Erik Simonsen
Deputy Mayor Clark
Mayor Michael Beck

Also present: Michael Voll, Township Manager, Ron Gelzunas, Township Solicitor and Karen Fournier, Clerk's Office

Proclamation - Autism Month

Mayor Beck opened the meeting with a proclamation designating April as Autism Awareness Month in the Township of Lower. He welcomed Lisa Bryant and her 13 year old son, Jacyn Piszczko, both of whom spoke about autism and how it has affected their daily lives. Ms. Bryant encouraged us as a society to educate ourselves and become more aware of this developmental disorder.

Work Session

Lenape Nation - 2014 Rising Nation River Journey & Treaty Signing - Jane Roop and Chief Bob Red Feather

Eileen Kreis introduced Jane Roop and Chief Bob Red Feather of the Lenape Nation. Ms. Roop discussed the history of the Rising Nation River Journey. Chief Bob Red Feather outlined the itinerary for the 2014 River Journey to begin on August 1st in Hancock, NY and end with a Treaty Signing on August 17th in Lower Township, NJ. For more information on the event, please see attached. Eileen Kreis informed that the Delaware River and Bay Authority have donated the Cape May - Lewes Ferry Terminal grounds for the event, and that the Lenape Nation is requesting a donation from the Township of \$5,000 to offset the cost of the event. Mayor Beck and Council agreed to move forward in an effort to preserve the history of our homeland.

Fishing Creek Community Volunteer Program Presentations - David Pacevich

Deputy Mayor Clark introduced David Pacevich, biology teacher at LCMR and a promoter and encourager of the volunteer spirit within our community. Mr. Pacevich discussed the premise of the volunteer board and how it came to fruition. Jamie Ruchser, President of LCMR's Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA), announced the following spotlight volunteers and described their service in the community: Bridget Martin, Ryan Maurer, Kasey Whitten, Mike Laing, Anette Weber, Denise Madden, Tony Genaro, Sue Lotozo, Betsy Sole, and Carlos Pruna. For more information, please see attached.

Consent Agenda

Councilmember Neville motioned to move Resolution #2014-109 to the regular agenda, seconded by Deputy Mayor Clark. Motion carried unanimously.

George Doherty of Erma addressed Council with his concern about selling merchandise on GovDeals.

Approval of NJ State Fireman's Membership Application - Brett A Douglass, Townbank Fire Company
 Approval of Minutes March 17, 2014
 Res. #2014-98 Payment of Vouchers \$2,456,405.25
 Res. #2014-99 A Resolution Requesting Release of Demolition Bond for Block 497.02, Lot 12, 442 Sheridan Blvd, Cape May (\$5,000)
 Res. #2014-100 Resolution for Emergency Temporary Appropriations (\$1,960,294.79)
 Res. #2014-101 Approval for Roadside Solicitation by Villas Volunteer Fire Company, Inc (May 24, June 28 & Aug 30, 2014)
 Res. #2014-102 Authorizing Payment of Second Quarter 2014 County Taxes (\$2,295,657.90)
 Res. #2014-103 Endorsing the Draft Feasibility Report for Hereford Inlet to Cape May Inlet Prepared by the United States Army Corps of Engineers, Philadelphia District, 2013 (requested by the Planning Board)
 Res. #2014-104 Approval of Holy Spirit Lutheran Church's Application to Conduct a Church Bazaar (June 14)
 Res. #2014-105 Authorizing the Sale of Township of Lower Surplus No Longer Needed For Public Use on GovDeals Online Auction Website (2 vehicles/1 truck)
 Res. #2014-106 Authorization to Cancel Uncashed Checks (Court General \$333 Court Bail \$224)
 Res. #2014-107 Authorization for the Payout of Accumulated Compensatory Time (E.Coombs \$5,013.24)
 Res. #2014-108 Click It or Ticket 2014 Mobilization (May 19, 2014 thru June 1, 2014)
 Res. #2014-109 A Resolution Authorizing A Grant Application to the Cape May County Open Space Program for a Beach Drive Pedestrian Access Improvement Project
 Res. #2014-110 Resolution Approving Settlement of Tax Appeal Litigation Known As Cape May County Self Storage, Inc (2012 assessment of \$3,000,000)
 Res. #2014-111 Authorization for Refund of Taxes and Interest Due to Tax Appeal (Town Bank Manor \$14,096.31)
 Res. #2014-112 Renewal of 2014 Campground Licenses (Lake Laurie/Holly Shores/Seashore/Cape Island/Beachomber)
 Res. #2014-113 Renewal of Junk Yard License for Cape May Used Auto Parts for the Year 2014
 Res. #2014-114 Renewal of Trailer Park Licenses for the Year 2014 (Cape Meadow/Broadway Mobile Park/Cape May Mobile Estates/Shawcrest Mobile Home Park/Cape May Crossing)
 Res. #2014-115 Issuance of Ice Cream Peddling and Ice Cream Salesmen Licenses for the Year 2014 (A & T Ice)
 Res. #2014-116 Issuance of 2014 Taxi Operator License (G-Taxi A.Kint)
 Res. #2014-117 Approval of Change Order #2 and Contract Amendment to ADA Upgrades Paul R Wills Recreational Complex (adds \$594.)
 Ord. #2014-05 Ordinance Revising and Restating Chapter 529 Secondhand Merchants And Dealers of Precious Metals of the Code Of the Township of Lower 1st reading - 2nd reading & public hearing April 21st

	MOTION	SECOND	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
CONRAD	X		X			
NEVILLE		X	X			
SIMONSEN			X			
CLARK			X			
BECK			X			

Regular Agenda

Res. #2014-109

A Resolution Authorizing A Grant Application to the Cape May County Open Space Program for a Beach Drive Pedestrian Access Improvement Project

John Sworonski, 607 Arctic Avenue, questioned what the Beach Drive Project entails.

Councilmember Conrad remarked that the project has already been approved. The purpose of this resolution is to authorize the grant application to fund the project. Mayor Beck informed that the project has existed since 2010 and has been before Council and advertised. Mitch Plenn, Recreation Director, requested that all questions be addressed up front and then someone from the Recreation Advisory Board (RAB) will respond. Steve Morey of the RAB gave a description of the project.

John Sworonski, 607 Arctic Avenue, expressed his concerns about sand and limited parking.

Tom Chestnut, Beverly Road, asked what the Army Corps of Engineers says about removing the dunes.

Ann Marie Wax, Folsom Road, inquired about the impact this project will have on the beach, what streets it will encompass, length of construction and how much of a voice do the residents have in this project.

Jay Young, Cape May Beach, asked if there will be a guard rail on the bay side for protection from the drop off.

Jim Rose, 103 Townbank Road, inquired how this will affect the Townbank Property Owners Association's private beach.

Jim Quinn, 613 Lawnside Road, made a statement about the dunes being his last line of defense and his concern about the financial impact of flood insurance.

Linda Blanchette, Brookdale Road, had questions about the cost of the project.

Jessica DeVivo, 1603 Franklin Avenue, expressed her concern with the lack of clarity on the project. She questioned issues including flooding, FEMA maps, insurance, taxes and more, and informed that she has sought information from the DOT and DEP. She questioned the public notice and citizen support requirements and urged Council, on behalf of the 250 people that oppose the project, to hold a public meeting to discuss it further.

Theresa Lapinski, 750 Pacific Avenue, asked if the Recreation Advisory Board has sought alternative ways to solve the problem other than a concrete pavement.

Sharron Coslop, 105 Cliffside Road, asked how the concrete will be supported.

Joe Ganci, 1602 Franklin Avenue, agreed that we need a public meeting about this and voiced his concern about destroying the dunes.

John Sworonski, 607 Arctic Avenue, inquired about a clause in the contract that restricts any changes to the property for a period of time. He also expressed concern about the cost to repair storm damage if it occurs.

Joseph Grund, 707 Beach Drive, voiced his opposition to the project for commercialization reasons.

Bill Greenfield of Villas asked if anyone has checked with Dr. Farrell about this project.

Tom Passalacqua, 1702 Rosehill Parkway, communicated that he is opposed to the project and urged Council to reconsider.

Ed McGeehan, Townbank, addressed his concern about road repairs and his disapproval to making Beach Drive a one-way street.

Steve Morey of the Recreation Advisory Board addressed a number of the above concerns with photographs dating back to 2010. He explained in detail the portion of the project in which the dunes will be impacted and their plan to carry out recommendations from the DEP. He reiterated the intent of the project to improve beach access and public safety. He informed that there was no permit required from the Army Corp of Engineers, but a CAFRA permit was obtained on January 17, 2014. He also informed that Robert Reel, former president of the Townbank Property Owners Association, signed the application to the DEP in April, 2013. In an effort to disprove accusations regarding public notice, Mr. Morey offered a timeline of the project which included a public discussion in 2011. He included a letter from former Police Chief, Brian Marker, supporting the project for public safety reasons. He validated that the Township officials have followed all of the public notice requirements. He assured that no part of this project is taking place below the base flood elevation and the dunes are not being destroyed. He addressed the history of the beach purchase as well as the estimated cost of the project. He informed that the Recreation Advisory Board has worked in conjunction with other boards and departments on this plan over the past four years to make it better and safer for everyone. He offered up the plans to be viewed by any interested party.

John Sworonski commented that public safety is not an issue.

Chief William Mastriana agreed that there have not been any reported accidents along Beach Drive, but foresees it becoming a problem with increased popularity. He addressed questions about crosswalks and stop signs, and enforcing the speed limit. He also dispelled the rumor about making Beach Drive a one-way street.

Mayor Beck addressed a question regarding the cost estimate of the project.

Councilmember Neville assured that the engineer's estimate is usually conservative.

Sharron Coslop commented about the concrete and urged Council to reconsider.

Steve Morey reiterated that 90% of this project is in the public right of way.

Councilmember Conrad consented to move forward with the project under the stipulation that it is funded by grant money.

Councilmember Neville agreed to move forward with the project for public safety reasons as well as road restoration.

Deputy Mayor Clark inquired about a way to apply for the grant and give the people an opportunity to become better informed.

Councilmember Neville offered the opportunity for anyone to view the plans in the Planning Directors office.

Mayor Beck informed that the resolution cannot wait for the next meeting due to the funding stream.

	MOTION	SECOND	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
CONRAD		X	X			
NEVILLE	X		X			
SIMONSEN			X			
CLARK			X			
BECK			X			

Ord. #2014-02

Ordinance Establishing Five Year Tax Exemption for Improvements To and Construction of Commercial and Industrial Structures in the Cape May County Airport Industrial Park - 2nd reading and Public Hearing

	MOTION	SECOND	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
CONRAD			X			
NEVILLE			X			
SIMONSEN		X	X			
CLARK	X		X			
BECK			X			

Administrative Reports

Clerk, Dog, Police, Tax

Council Comments

Councilmember Conrad commented on a bonding issue regarding the public safety complex. In an effort to appease everyone, he suggested a referendum question on the general election ballot to allow the voters to decide.

Councilmember Neville announced progress regarding road repairs to Clubhouse Road and the roads that the MUA is responsible for. He also commented on business at the airport complex.

Councilmember Simonsen complimented the Arts Programs, both LCMR and Lower Township Elementary Schools and talked about recent performances that have taken place at the LCMR performing arts center. He also thanked everyone who contributed to the St. Baldrick's event.

Deputy Mayor Clark spoke about unemployment in Cape May County and how the Economic Development Committee has worked in conjunction with different organization to improve opportunity for jobs in our area.

Mayor Beck announced the following: Rabies Clinic, Health and Wellness Day and Blood Drive, Lower Cape May Little League Opening Day, and a benefit for Cape May County Police Canine Association.

Councilmember Conrad announced that the triathlon will take place on Sunday, June 8, and warned that traffic patterns will be affected.

Communication - Mayor Beck

In an effort to resolve contentious matters that took place at the last meeting, Mayor Beck requested that Council discuss the issues at hand. Deputy Mayor Clark validated his absence at the last meeting and gave Councilmember Simonsen an opportunity to present his case. Councilmember Simonsen discussed the lack of communication that he believes exists between Council and explained his attempt to get clarification for a reimbursement to Deputy Mayor Clark. He assured that his intent was not a personal attack against Deputy Mayor Clark but with the lack of the process. Deputy Mayor Clark spoke of his background and knowledge in communications. He believes the money that was spent toward the townships Facebook will

help spread news, inform the public of upcoming events, and promote local businesses who have donated money toward the Fourth of July fireworks. Deputy Mayor Clark put the purchase for Facebook advertisement on his credit card because the Township does not have one, and was then reimbursed. Deputy Mayor Clark requested an apology from Councilmember Simonson to the residents of Lower Township for taking time away from more important matters. Councilmember Simonsen agreed with a majority of Deputy Mayor Clarks statements but doesn't feel that one person should have total control of spending. Mayor Beck explained that a budget is adopted in the beginning of the year to cover purchases such as this and The Manager has the ability to approve purchases. Council does not discuss in public forum every expenditure of government. Conversation ensued. The Solicitor explained the O& E budgets are totally discretionary under the Managers authorization. The use of a voucher is the usual process; however certain businesses do not accept this form of payment. The Solicitor proceeded to explain there was nothing unethical or illegal with the reimbursement made to Deputy Mayor Clark for the Facebook advertisement purchase. Council can set guidelines for future purchases. Councilmember Conrad did not believe Deputy Mayor Clark did anything wrong but disapproves of the process. All Councilmembers agree that better communication is necessary in the future.

Call to Public

Bill Greenfield of Villas would like to see the potholes on Fulling Mill Road taken care of. Councilmember Conrad informed Mr. Greenfield that Manager Voll has been in contact with the County for them to repair the holes. Mayor Beck agreed that they are in bad shape and the county will be contacted again. Mr. Greenfield also questioned if sand from Diamond Beach would be moved to Wildwood. Mayor Beck told him that possibly a small amount may be moved down toward the end of Diamond Beach but we will be working on building up our own dunes. Mr. Greenfield then wanted to know if there has been any word on getting a dune in the Villas and has there been a formal request sent to the DEP? Mayor Beck Responded that we have reached out to them numerous times, we have an application in for a resiliency grant and he will check tomorrow to see if a formal request has been sent out.

Fred Long, of Cold Spring, says the dune issue has been formally raised to the DEP by the planning board.

John Sworonski, 607 Arctic Ave, instead a sidewalk put in on Beach Drive, he thinks some of our roads need a lot of repair.

Carl Suup, Owner of House of Print Art Gallery, art gallery event raised over three hundred dollars for the school at their event.

Tom Frisoli, Villas/Board Member of MUA, Rumors have been going on about Township taking over MUA. Mayor Beck informed him that decision has not been made.

Adjournment

There being no further business to address, motion to adjourn moved by Councilmember Conrad, seconded by Councilmember Simonsen. Motion to adjourn unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 9:05pm.



Mayor



Township Clerk

Approved: 4-21-14

Lenape Culture Celebration and Treaty Signing **August 17th 2014 10AM-5PM**

History

For over 10,000 years the area now known as Eastern Pennsylvania and New Jersey has been the homelands of the Lenape tribe. The early recorded history of this area is deeply rooted in the relationship between the Lenapes and the Europeans who settled here. There has been a rich exchange in culture, as well as early and continuing conflicts between those ways of life. As with all triumphs and tragedies, it continues to require thoughtful reflection. The Lenape people have survived displacement and upheaval. The very fact that they are still here is significant.

Today the Lenape Nation is active in the revival of tradition and community. For decades the Lenapes have been teaching in the public and private school systems and continue today to offer a very unique and insightful view on the culture and history of their traditional homeland, to all age groups. The Lenape Nation encourages partnerships among people and organizations, in order to foster cultural, historical and environmental education and preservation, and in many cases, a "re-education." Today the Lenape Nations enjoys formal partnerships with many organizations and individuals along the Delaware River and New Jersey Ocean who are committed supporters of the tribe.

We are in a time of renewal, and a time of great change. Our ancestors left many teachings for us to learn by and to share with others. Those teachings often focus on respect and commonality among all living things. It is often said that we cannot know our future if we do not know our history. The history, and story, of our people is a long and winding story that continues into the present day.

Agenda and Budget

<u>Activities</u>	<u>Artisan's Fees (includes traveling expenses)</u>
10AM Storytelling with Bluejay - Lenape stories by Bluejay	\$250 plus lodging
11AM Lenape Games for Children - BlueJay Lenape games for children include spear throwing, antler and rock game, bowl games, corn cob shuttlecocks and more	\$100 plus lodging
12 Noon Children's Circle with Chief Shelley DePaul	\$200 plus lodging

Children will participate in drumming and dancing. Interactive artifact display including many animal skins, with instruction on their importance in Lenape culture. They will make a Lenape toy and do a candy dance.

1PM Treaty Signing

On August 24, 2002 an historic event took place at the Pennsbury Manor, the former estate of William Penn in Morrisville, Bucks County Pennsylvania, that marked a new beginning of friendship between the Lenape Indian Tribe and the people that neighbor the Delaware River. A treaty of renewed friendship was signed by the Lenape and a number of organizations: environmental groups, churches, historical societies, and sincerely committed individuals, who wish actively to support the Lenape culture and to help sustain their people, language, and way of life. The signing was prefaced by an equally historic and monumental three-week canoe journey, which began at the

top of the Delaware River in Hancock, N.Y. and culminated in Cape May, NJ. It was agreed that the re-signing of the Treaty, as well as the River Journey, would take place every four years. This year's journey begins on August 1st in Hancock, N.Y and ends on August 16th in Lower Township. We invite interested organizations and individuals to join us for the 2014 Treaty signing!

2PM - 5PM Pow Wow - Organized by Chief Bob Red Feather - \$3700

Native American drummers and dancers will perform, including specialty dancers and intertribal dancing. The public is invited to take part in the dancing. (Organized by Chief Bob Red Feather who provided the following budget)

Drummers	\$2000
Specialty Dancers	\$600
Master of Ceremonies	\$500
Native Food	\$200
Misc	\$100
Lodging for two nights	
Other dancers	\$300

Activities that will be on display all day include:

Historical information and artifact table (Tammanend) - \$100 plus lodging

Various vendors will provide Native American items for sale

Loom beading demonstration by Waktame - \$200 plus lodging

Knapping demonstration by George Bushy - \$200 plus lodging

Beading by Ellie \$200 plus lodging

TOTAL BUDGET \$4950

Treaty of Renewed Friendship

In the spirit of Chief Tamanend and in the spirit of William Penn, we, the undersigned, do openly recognize the Lenape Indian Tribe as the original inhabitants of Pennsylvania. We acknowledge the Lenape people as the indigenous stewards of their homelands and also as the spiritual keepers of the Lenape Sipi. Or Delaware River...

And we do hereby commit actively to support our Lenape sisters and brothers in whatever way we are able to, for a term of four years, helping to maintain the cultural identity of Pennsylvania, Delaware, New Jersey and Southern New York.

We will support the Lenape people in one or more of the following ways: Hosting Cultural / Educational programs, creating support for Lenape Cultural Center, assisting in Lenape Language revival projects, assisting in displays/exhibits of Lenape culture, helping the Lenape people to obtain and/or protect sacred land sites, encouraging updated curriculum in public schools, attending Lenape functions, volunteer service and support, distributing information, financial assistance.

We also recognize that this treaty is good for a term of four years, August 17th, 2014 until August 17th 2018, at which time a new treaty may be entered into.

May these partnerships serve to heal the past, give direction for today, and brighten the future as we move forward, learning from the mistakes of some of our forefathers, and may we, together, bring to light the cultural and geographical significance of Pennsylvania, preserving this natural history for all of our children.

May the Creator of all things embrace us as we move ahead.

Nanalakesh

Shelley DePaul

March 23 at 2:24pm

He All, Just finished finalizing the itinerary for the Rising Nation River Journey, for those who have been asking. More details regarding departure/arrival times, camping, educational programs, speakers, etc., will follow soon.

2014 Rising Nation River Journey Itinerary

August 1 - Friday - Camp in Hancock

August 2 - Saturday - Hancock, NY to Long Eddy, NY

August 3 - Sunday - Callicoon, NY to Narrowsburg Access (PA)

August 4 - Monday - Narrowsburg Access (PA) to Lackawaxen, PA

August 5 - Tuesday - Staircase, PA to Matamoras, PA

August 6 - Wednesday - Matamoras, PA to Dingman's Ferry, PA

August 7 - Thursday - Bushkill, PA to Shawnee, PA

August 8 - Friday - Worthington, PA to Delaware Water Gap, PA (Dave Winston's)

August 9 - Saturday - Martin's Creek, PA to Easton, PA - Upper River Treaty Signing and celebration

August 10 - Sunday - Easton, PA to Upper Black Eddy, PA

August 11 - Monday - Upper Black Eddy, PA - New Hope, PA

August 12 - Tuesday - New Hope, PA - Washington Crossing, PA

August 13 - Wednesday - Burlington Island, NJ

August 14 - Thursday - Meet Ocean Action Team in Sandy Hook, NJ - Travel to Cape May

August 15 - Friday - Cape May, NJ - Salt Marshes - Birding on the Osprey with Bob Lubberman

August 16th - Saturday - Cape May, NJ. Higbee's Beach to Sunset Beach

August 17th - Sunday - Lower River Treaty Signing and celebration at Lewes Ferry

April 7th, 2014

VOLUNTEER INDUCTION

Presenter: Jamie Ruchser (LCMR President:Future Business Leaders of America)

Bridget Martin was nominated by Jeff Martin. Over 30 hours of volunteer time given to Animal Outreach in West Cape May since 2012. Bridget kept the animals social, meaning ready for adoption. Sometimes sheltered animals can become withdrawn, but she shows them love and retains their ability to be a house pet.

Ryan Maurer was nominated by Fran Zukowski. Ryan has raised seeing eye dogs since 2010. He is the president of PPAWS. This organization is responsible for seeing eye dogs in Cape May County. It is a part of 4H. He is currently waiting for his third dog. Each dog stayed with the family from between 12-16 months. Ryan is currently a junior at Lower Cape May Regional High School.

Kasey Whitten was nominated by Jane Rife. When Kasey applied for membership to NHS I noticed that she had far more than the minimum number of community service hours for her high school career- in fact, she had nearly 4 times the normal number of hours that most students her age were submitting. Since Kasey was in 5th grade she has volunteered her service at her church, St. John Neuman by helping the priest with mass.

Mike Laing was nominated by Bill Damiana. Mike Laing has been a volunteer youth athletic coach for 33 years here in Lower Township! He has coached all levels of youth baseball for 33 seasons/years and youth basketball for 28 seasons/years! His dedication and commitment to the Lower Township youth athletic teams has been monumental. He has given thousands of hours unselfishly to the township programs. He also built two indoor pitching mounds for the high school baseball team and also volunteers his time on the LCMR High School Baseball Booster club. This man should be recognized for all he does for our youth in Lower Township!

Annette Weber was nominated by Mary Rose Bispels. Annette has been a member of Soroptimist International of Cape May County since 2006. This is a civic organization whose main focus is to improve the lives of young girls and women. Annette has served on numerous committees (fundraisers, social events) and was President for two years. She is also extremely involved with Family Promise, an organization that helps families in need. She has spent thousands of hours volunteering her time helping to improve the lives of others in our community and beyond. She is also a grandmother to children who attend the Lower Township/Lower Cape May Regional schools and is an avid fan of all of their activities. She truly embodies a "Spotlight" citizen with a personality to match. She thinks of others first and foremost in whatever project she undertakes. Annette Weber is a shining example to all Lower Township citizens.

Denise Madden was nominated by Mary Rose Bispels. Denise Madden is an employee of Care Alternatives an organization that provides hospice care to numerous individuals in South Jersey. Denise's main function is the Volunteer Program in several South Jersey counties. She gives wholeheartedly of herself as she helps train hospice volunteers. These volunteers are members of a dedicated group of loyal and sensitive individuals who give of themselves to help ensure the mission of hospice. Their first introduction to the movement is Denise, and

what a breath of fresh air she is! Although this is Denise's "full time job" she gives 110% of herself both when she is on the clock but especially when she is "off." This is her life's mission, to provide dignity to patients and their families who are nearing their final hour. Denise accomplishes this through kindness, patience and thoughtful care. I have been on many outings with her where she has shared with high school students the "gift" of life through the reality of death. She is one of my heroes and feel she deserved to be recognized for her achievements.

Tony Genaro was nominated by Mary Rose Bispels. Say Tony Genaro's name to anyone in the Cape May area and you will undoubtedly get the same response: "He's awesome!" Whether as a Scout Master for the West Cape May Boy Scouts, Cape May Police Athletic League or his own children's activities, Tony is an avid believer in giving back to the community, which he does on a constant basis. He truly believes our youth are our future and does everything in his power to ensure that that future will be bright. On numerous occasions, he has been the dj at events at Lower Cape May Regional High School, more often than not, free of charge. He also has been the musical entertainment at countless county events, again promoting positive activities for our young girls and boys. Tony has been and continues to be a positive impact on so many of our children! As a Cape May Police officer (and previous DARE officer as well) he is an upstanding citizen in our community and truly deserves recognition for his many hours of service. Anytime I hear his name connected with an event, it is sure to be a huge success! And his personality matches his boundless energy!

Sue Lotozo was nominated by Mary Rose Bispels. As the owner of Flying Fish Studio in West Cape May, Sue Lotozo has been an active force in our local area for many years. She is involved in so many community activities, both through her business and as a member of the Mermaid Guild. This group supports numerous charities, specifically the South Jersey Food Bank. Whether it's the Lima Bean Festival, The Jazz Festival or the West Cape May Farmers Market, Sue constantly gives back to her community, submersing herself and her creative skills to provide family events for our citizens. On a personal level, she donated 40 t-shirts to an event Soroptimist International of Cape May County (of which I am a member) sponsored called Girlz Rule. When I contacted her with my request, Sue did not hesitate one second with her generosity. I am certain she treats all worthwhile activities with that same positive spirit. She is a true role model for all who meet her, I being in awe of her energy and spirit. Sue Lotozo is a spotlight member of our community and should be duly recognized.

Betsy Sole was nominated by Mary Rose Bispels. Mother, business owner, champion of worthy causes. These are a few words that describe Betsy Sole. She is a member of an organization called "Girlfriends." The main goal of this group of concerned citizens is to financially help others without knowledge of who supplied the assistance. I have witnessed firsthand the joy of those recipients who were given a "leg up" during a difficult time. Betsy also oversees the Gene Sole Scholarship Fund, sponsoring the Second Annual Soleman 5K Run for Character, along with several other events. Funds raised are then distributed to deserving high school students who will be attending college. Betsy, as does her generous family members, also donates gift certificates to many local organizations/fundraisers, allowing various groups to continue their missions of helping others. Our community is richer (financially and spiritually) due to Betsy's generous support of all things "Cape May." She embodies the term "giver" and should be congratulated by the community she so willingly "gives" to.

Carlos Pruna was nominated by Anna Mae Manning. Carlos is a volunteer for Habitat for Humanity and Family Promise. He is also a member of Cape May Lutheran Church and if anybody needs a hand he is always the first to offer.