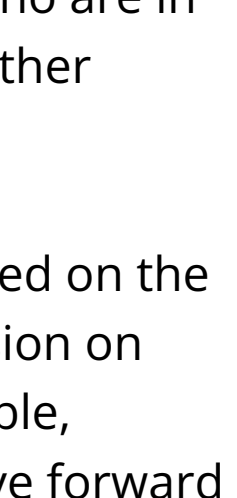


October 2023

President's Message

- Rich Fuchs, President



October brings with it enjoyable Fall days and comfortable evenings in Stone Harbor - usually! This Fall brought lots of rain and days that were not as pleasant as usual. It resulted in the cancellation of the Savor September event BOTH in its original September timeslot and the rescheduled event in October. Unfortunate, because it is always a wonderful day in Stone Harbor for those who are in town to enjoy the Fall events. We can look forward to its return next year and hope that the weather cooperates for the upcoming Thanksgiving festival.

Your new Board of Trustees met for the first time on Saturday, October 14th. The meeting focused on the reports of the committees who presented their plans for the upcoming year, as well as a discussion on proposals for the Project of the Year. We have a couple of very interesting, and we believe valuable, proposals which are currently being evaluated, so stay tuned as we finalize the analysis and move forward to implement one or more of the proposals. As always, we will work closely with the Borough on these projects this year.

Hopefully you participated in our "Meet the Council Candidates" event. Thank you to many members who submitted questions on a variety of topics. Thank you to our SHPOA Trustees who organized and moderated the event. Thank you to the Council candidates for their participation. And most of all thank you to you, the members, for your participation. If you were not able to participate in person, a recording of the event is now available (see next section below). Our mission is to help inform our membership on the issues impacting Stone Harbor and we were pleased to be able to produce this event to fulfill that mission.

I am now beginning my final year as President of SHPOA. Under our bylaws, an officer can only serve two 2-year terms and this year will be my second year of my second term. Much has changed in Stone Harbor in the past 3 years, and I expect more change to come as we collectively address the growing challenges of living on a barrier island.

As I started to think about the upcoming year, I asked myself the question, "Are there things we need to focus on that we aren't currently; what areas of focus should we continue and are there any areas where we should reduce our focus?" In my professional career, I found such reflection to be valuable in guiding me in my professional development. I posed the same question to the Trustees and asked them to think about what SHPOA should look like 4 years from now. This is a topic that we will continue to discuss in the coming months as we develop our plans for 2023/24 and beyond.

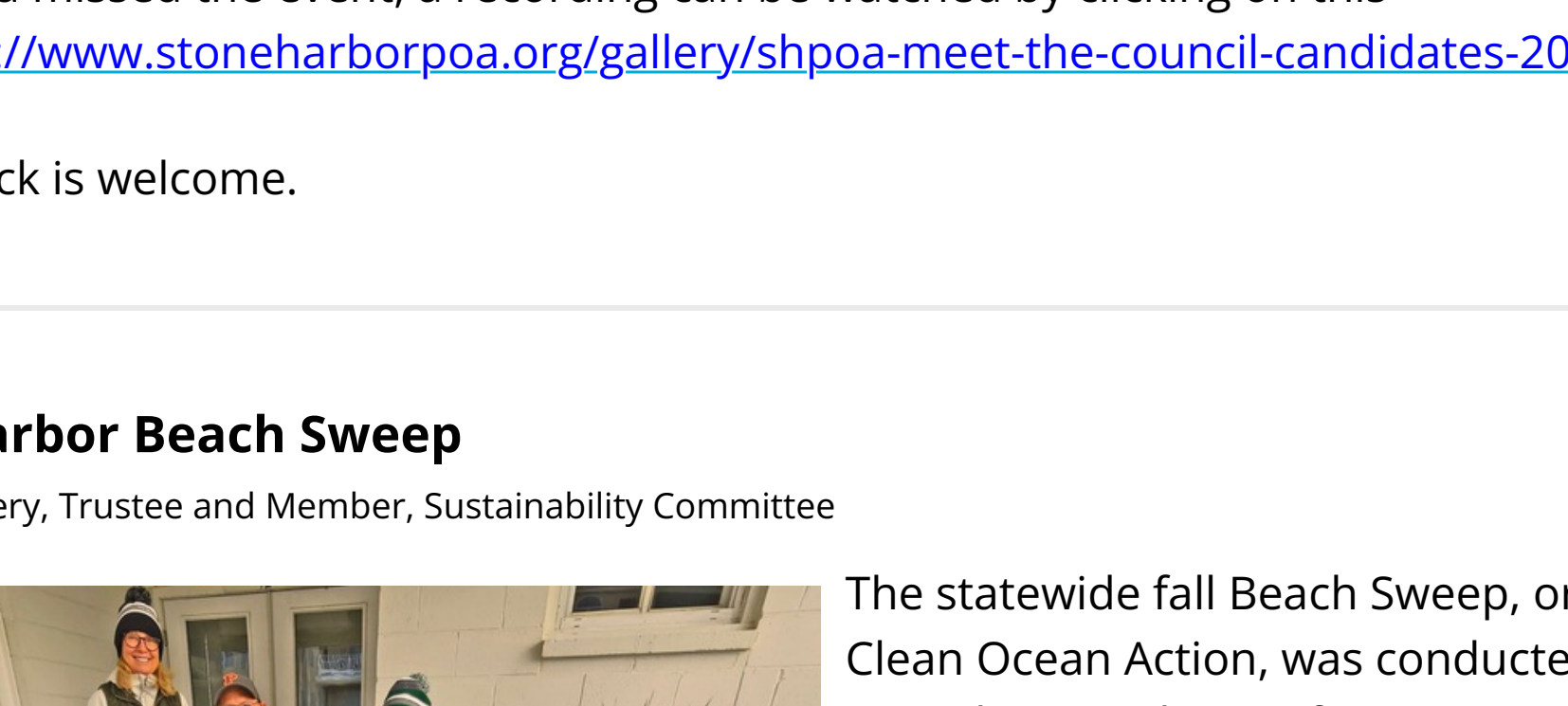
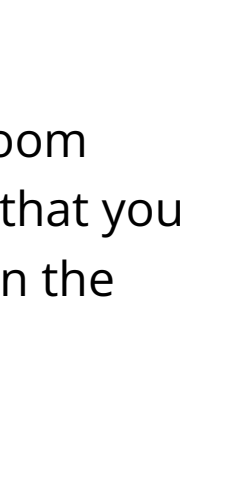
I would ask the same question of you, the members. What do you think? Are there new areas we should address? Are there areas where we should increase our focus? Are there things we do that we should reduce our efforts, or even stop? Think about it and give us your ideas and thoughts. You can send them to the SHPOA mailbox (Contact@StoneHarborPOA.org). The Trustees want to know what you think.

We continue to provide the perspectives of the members to the Borough, based on feedback you provide to us, so please keep your views and opinions coming. Comments can be sent to us via the SHPOA contact mailbox at Contact@StoneHarborPOA.org. We read all emails received and endeavor to respond. In addition, the viewpoints expressed are passed to our Council Liaison, Reese Moore.

We will remain your voice in Stone Harbor!

SHPOA "Meet the Council Candidates" event video recording

- Homi Kapadia, Chief Information Officer and Chair, Communications & Technology Committee



On Wednesday, October 25th, SHPOA held our first "Meet the Council Candidates" event via a Zoom Webinar. Thank you to all who registered and attended and thank you for the terrific questions that you submitted. It was a very informative session and we hope to provide you with similar programs in the future.

In case you missed the event, a recording can be watched by clicking on this link: <https://www.stoneharborpoa.org/gallery/shpoa-meet-the-council-candidates-2023-video-access-form/>

All feedback is welcome.

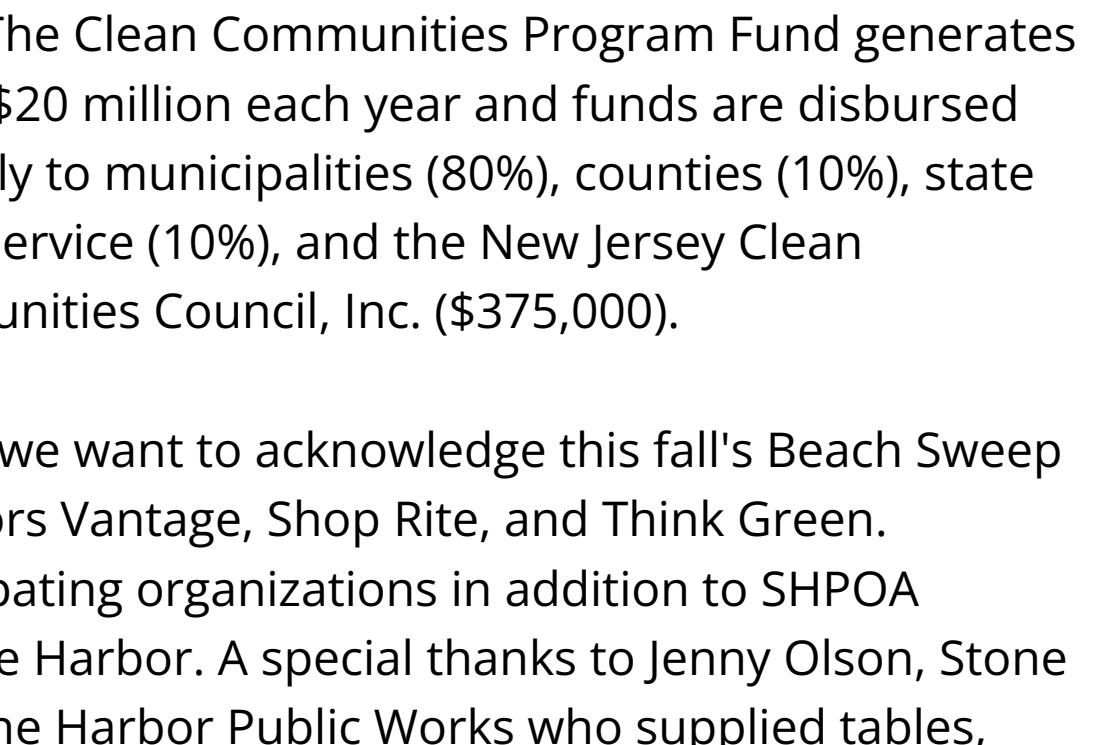
Stone Harbor Beach Sweep

- Geoff Woolery, Trustee and Member, Sustainability Committee

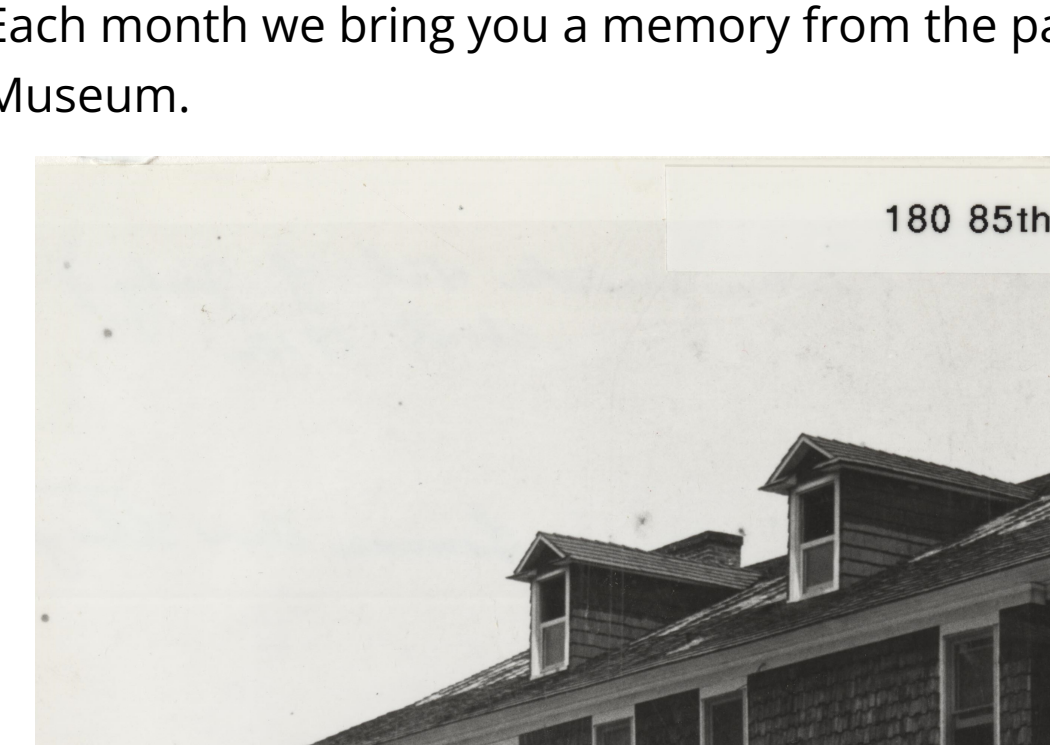


The statewide fall Beach Sweep, organized by Clean Ocean Action, was conducted on Saturday, October 21 from 9:00-12:30. The weather was better than first predicted but early rain, high winds and cloudy skies dampened (pun intended) participation. Nonetheless we had a reasonable turnout of 32 eager volunteers. Recall last fall's beach sweep was cancelled due to closed beaches in the aftermath of tropical storm Ian.

The volunteers collected approximately 50 cubic feet of trash along with approximately 20 gallons of recycling. As in past sweeps, the dunes generally had the most amount of trash and debris. Food/candy wrappers, cigarette filters, and foam plastic were among the most common items collected. Recyclable materials were primarily aluminum, glass, and plastic beverage containers (soda, water, beer).



Last spring we noted 3 areas of concern: excessive 1) dog waste bags, 2) cigarette filters/butts, and 3) debris in dunes near construction sites. This fall saw improvements in decreased construction debris, but problems continued with dog waste and cigarette filters/butts. The two locations with the highest concentration of trash overall were 80th - 82nd Streets and 94th - 96th Streets. The former may be due to proximity to the hotels/bars while the latter may be due to the high volume of visitors near the municipal parking lots.

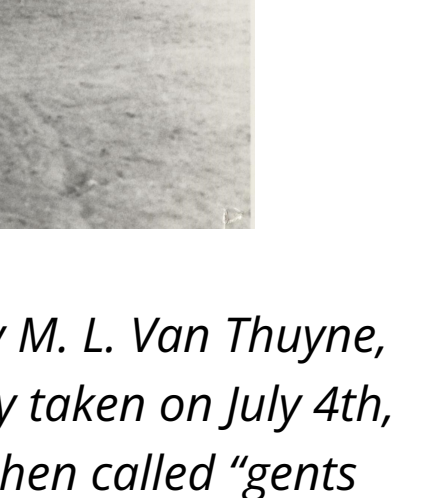


It is again recommended that Borough consider cigarette butt receptacles at beach entrances and dog waste disposals added to waste bag dispensers (like that used at the bird sanctuary). In this regard it was suggested by Clean Ocean Action that Stone Harbor consider applying for a grant from New Jersey Clean Communities (<https://www.njclean.org>) which funds such efforts. This is a statewide, comprehensive, litter-abatement program created by the passage of the Clean Communities Act in 1986. The Clean Communities Program Fund generates about \$20 million each year and funds are disbursed annually to municipalities (80%), counties (10%), state parks service (10%), and the New Jersey Clean Communities Council, Inc. (\$375,000).

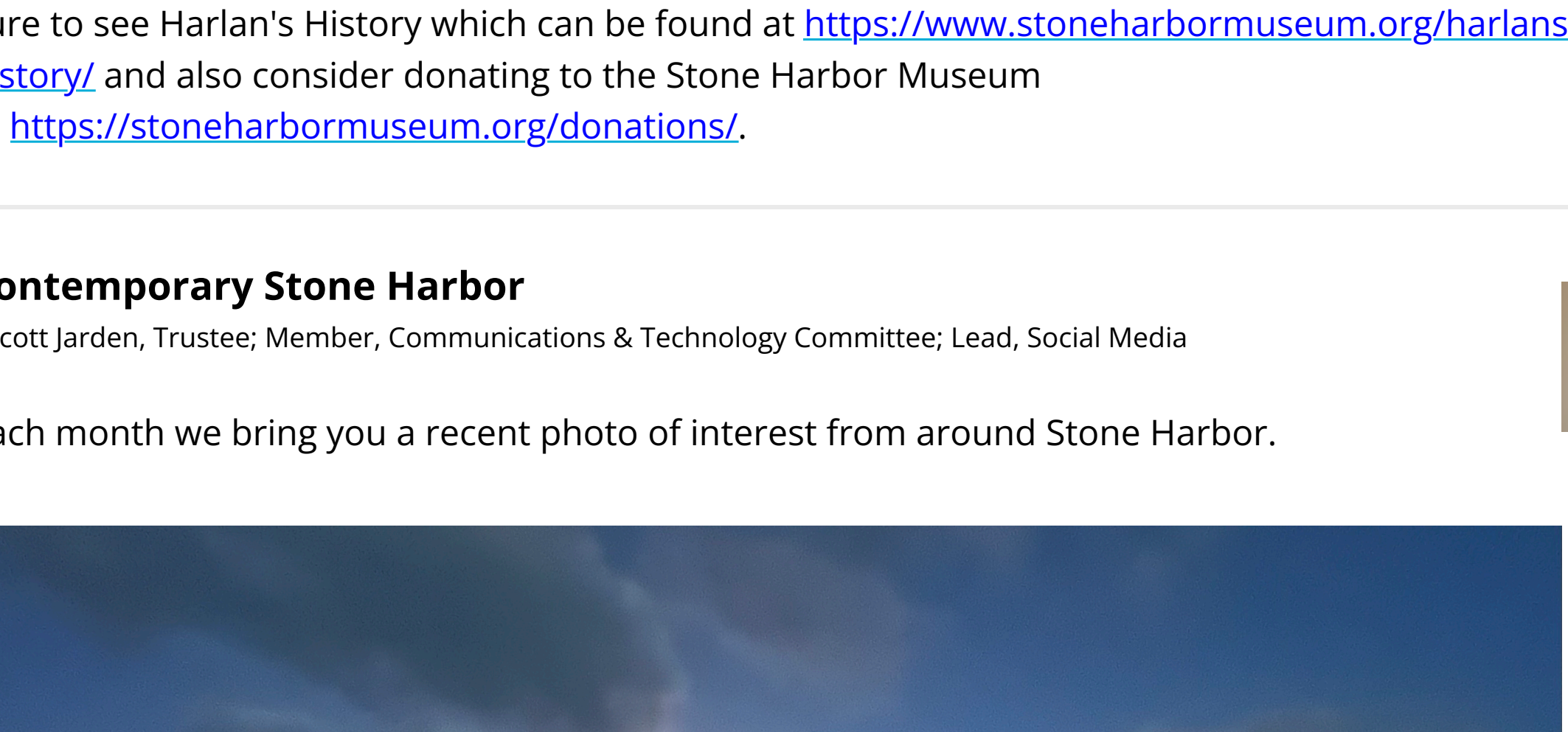
Finally we want to acknowledge this fall's Beach Sweep sponsors Vantage, Shop Rite, and Think Green. Participating organizations in addition to SHPOA included the Wetlands Institute, and the Borough of Stone Harbor. A special thanks to Jenny Olsson, Stone Harbor's Director of Tourism and Public Information, Stone Harbor Public Works who supplied tables, chairs, and trash pickers, as well as all of our volunteers.

Historical Stone Harbor

- Courtesy of Stone Harbor Museum



Each month we bring you a memory from the past, courtesy of the Stone Harbor Museum.



Shown here is one of the first business enterprises in Stone Harbor. Owned and operated by M. L. Van Thuyne, this General Store was located at 85th Street and Second Avenue. The photo was apparently taken on July 4th, 1912 and we know that this business provided meats, provisions, groceries and what were then called "gents Furnishings". In addition, according to the large sign prominently displayed for all to see, it states: "STOP / SPEND A PLEASANT HOUR / Stone Harbor Amusement Parlor / POOL and REFRESHMENTS / TABLE FOR LADIES."

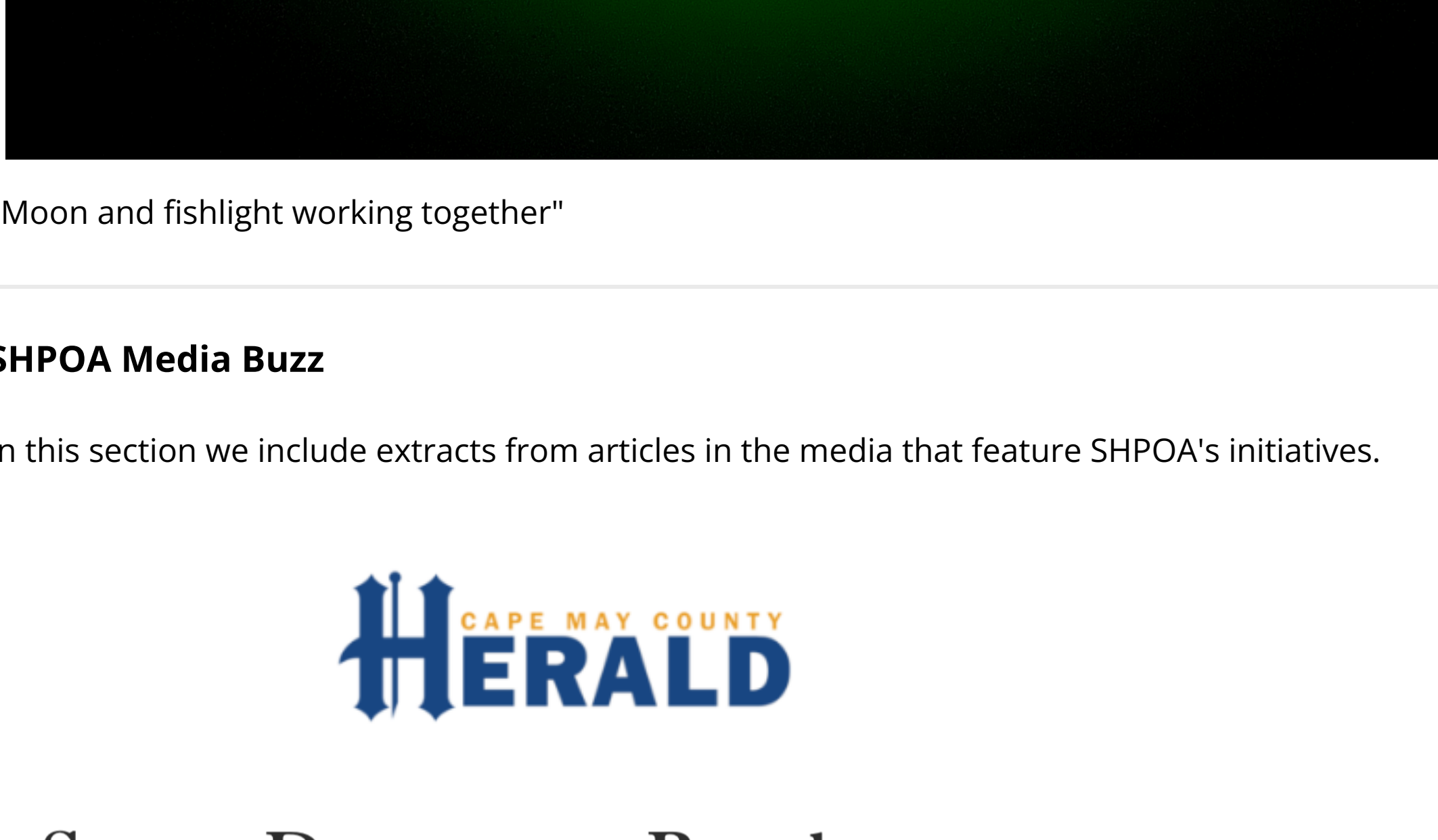
The Museum is at 9410 2nd Avenue and can be found online at www.stoneharbormuseum.org. Please be sure to see Harlan's History which can be found at <https://www.stoneharbormuseum.org/harlans-history/> and also consider donating to the Stone Harbor Museum at <https://stoneharbormuseum.org/donations/>.

Contemporary Stone Harbor

- Scott Jarden, Trustee; Member, Communications & Technology Committee; Lead, Social Media



Each month we bring you a recent photo of interest from around Stone Harbor.



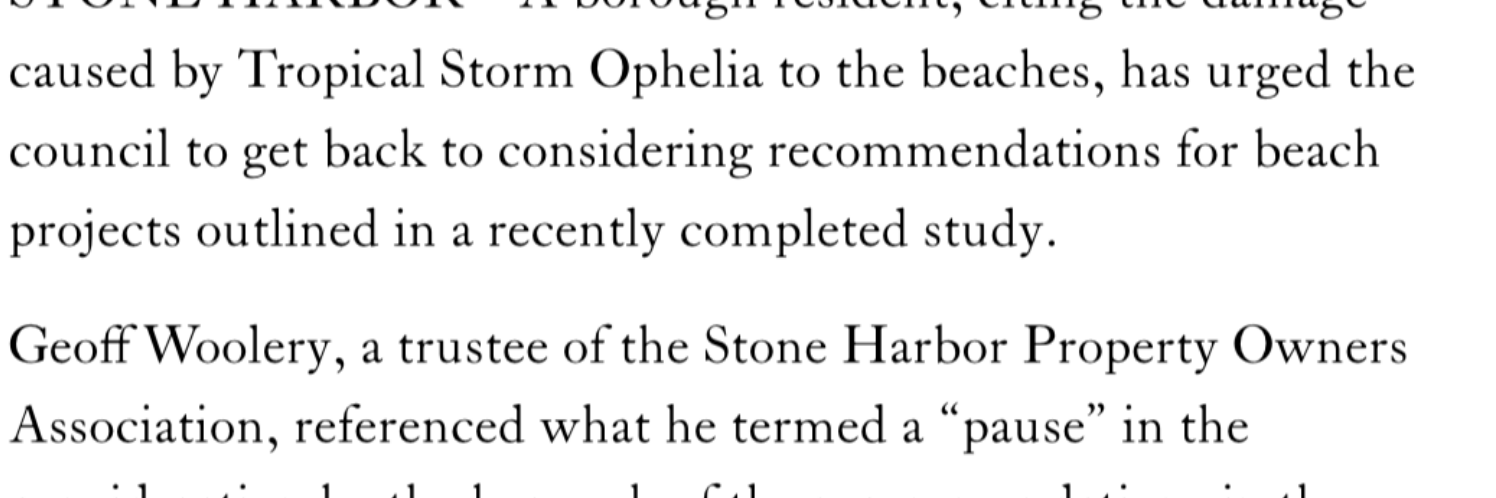
"Moon and fishlight working together"

SHPOA Media Buzz

In this section we include extracts from articles in the media that feature SHPOA's initiatives.



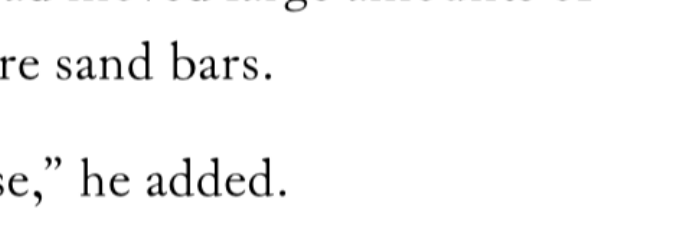
Storm Damage to Beaches Raises Issues From Recent Study



Manny Parada

Shown is a photo of Stone Harbor's beach the day after a Saturday, Sept. 23, storm.

By Vince Conti



October 6, 2023

STONE HARBOR – A borough resident, citing the damage caused by Tropical Storm Ophelia to the beaches, has urged the council to get back to considering recommendations for beach projects outlined in a recently completed study.

Geoff Woolery, a trustee of the Stone Harbor Property Owners Association, referenced what he termed a "pause" in the consideration by the borough of the recommendations in the feasibility study, aimed at defining beach projects that could help sand retention, between large replenishment projects, at the Tuesday, Oct. 3, council meeting.

"What a difference one storm can make," Woolery said.

He spoke of areas where the storm had moved large amounts of new sand from the beaches to offshore sand bars.

"It is out there, and some of it is close," he added.

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To read the entire article in the Cape May County Herald, you need a subscription to the Herald, and can then click on this link: <https://capemaycountyherald.com/article/ophelia-damage-to-stone-harbor-beaches-raises-issues-from-recent-feasibility-study/>

Announcement on behalf of the Stone Harbor Museum

Please note that the Stone Harbor Museum is currently seeking members to serve on their Board of Trustees with terms starting in January 2024. They are a governing / working group and a fun group. They seek individuals who are committed to Stone Harbor, and are interested in helping keep our heritage and culture alive and available. They can use skills in communications, technology, fund raising, and history.

Member's Buzz

In this section we will 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.



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!

SHPOA's site with beach cams and now updated with embedded weather and tide information can be found 24 x 7 at StoneHarborPOA.org/beachcams.

The Beach Buzz editorial team: Homi Kapadia, Scott Jarden, Cynthia Burton, Ted Kestner, Jay Blackman, Heidi Yacker, and Don Otterbein.