# Longport Town Topics

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

## Beachfill Dune Project - Almost Done!

The United States Army Corps of Engineers and the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection Absecon Island beachfill and dune project is nearing completion. The State construction project's projects include "a coastwide system of engineered beaches and dunes to make our economically vital shore communities more resilient to storms and flooding."

### Why are Sand Dunes Important?

While sand dunes are interesting to look at, they are also very important for nature as well as protecting our properties. Sand dunes act as a natural barrier against storms and waves protecting our homes and borough infrastructure. Dunes act as a storage reservoir and are the home to many plants and animals, including: shore birds, migrating birds, red foxes; vegetation such as beach peas, beach plums, marram and dune grass, and wild roses.

So we need to protect our dunes so they can become a natural habitat for all of us to enjoy. PLEASE

- Do not play or walk on the dunes
- Carry out any garbage that you bring onto the beach
- Avoid visiting birds' nests or disturbing any animals that you may see
- Respect our "Please Keep Off Dunes" signs

Walkways over the dunes have been provided for beach access. The following beaches have ADA-accessible walkways: 33rd Avenue, 27th Avenue and 16th Avenue. The Longport Beach Patrol has specialized ADA equipment to help you. So for additional assistance please call the Beach Patrol Headquarters 822 3898.

## Longport Farmers Market 2018

The Longport Farmers Market will be returning for its third season beginning June 30th. It will be held every Saturday from 9 am to 12 noon, with a final market on August 25th. The market is located behind Borough Hall at 2305 Atlantic Avenue. Plans are underway to feature live music, opening day, compliments of our Library !

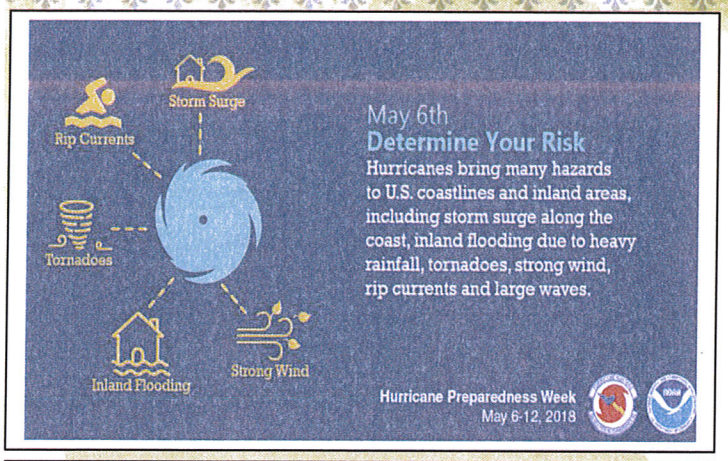
Stay tuned for details.

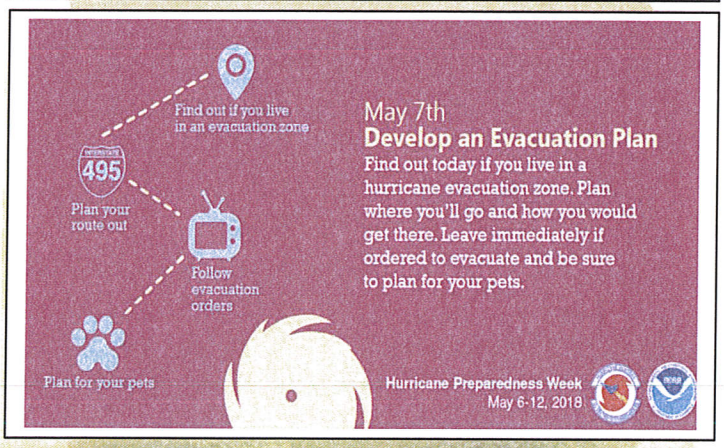
Some of the items participants can find at the market include farm fresh fruits and vegetables; fresh-cut flowers, potted herbs, flowers and plants; organic lotions and skincare; handmade soap and jewelry; local honey and honey products; locally harvested seafood; artisanal foods; handmade arts and crafts; and more. Please visit the Longport Farmers Market on Facebook for more information and updates. Vendor applications are still being accepted and can be found online at www.longportnj.gov.

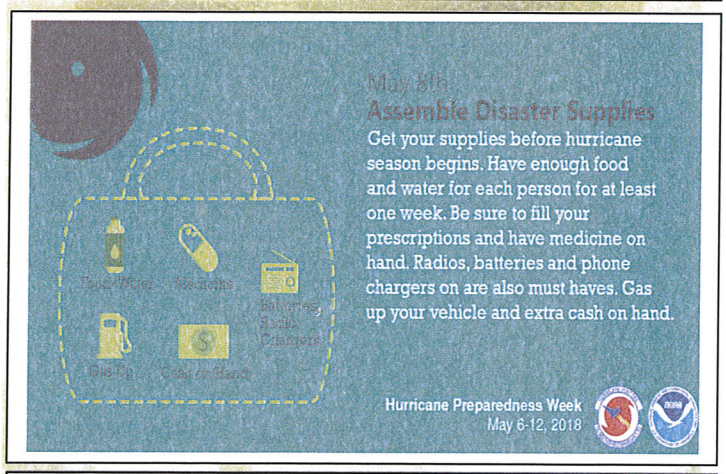
If you are familiar with Longport, summer parking can be challenging, so Longport's market is a self-proclaimed "walk up" or "bike to" market, and visitors are encouraged to walk or ride their bicycle to the event.

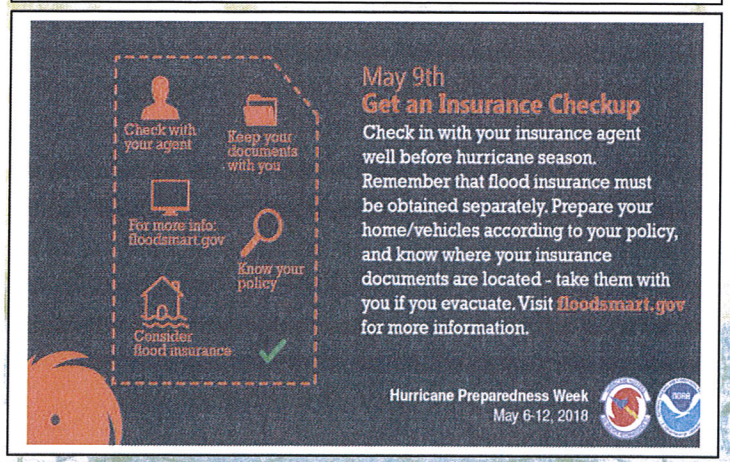
Volunteers are a vital part of community farmers market. If you are interested in volunteering or would like more information, please contact Monica at 609.823.2731 ext. 109 or via email at mkyle@longport-nj.us. Volunteers can join us for any amount of time, as any and all help is greatly appreciated.

The Longport Farmers Market first began in June 2016. The borough in cooperation with its green team, Sustainable Longport, started the farmers market as a means to help the local economy, bring fresh produce and products to the community, and raise sustainability awareness.



## HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS

*History* **teaches that a lack of hurricane awareness and preparation are common threads among all major hurricane disasters. By knowing your vulnerability and what actions you should take, you can reduce the effects of a hurricane disaster.**

***Hurricane hazards** come in many forms, including storm surge, heavy rainfall, inland flooding, high winds, tornadoes, and rip currents. The National Weather Service is responsible for protecting life and property through issuance of timely watches and warnings, but it is essential that your family be ready before a storm approaches. Are You Ready?*

### Before the Hurricane Season - PREPARE

- **Determine safe evacuation routes inland.**
- **Learn locations of official shelters.**
- **Check emergency equipment, such as flashlights, generators and battery-powered equipment such as cell phones and your NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards receiver.**
- **Buy food that will keep and store drinking water.**
- **Buy plywood or other material to protect your home if you don't already have it.**
- **Trim trees and shrubbery so branches don't fly into your home.**
- **Clear clogged rain gutters and downspouts.**
- **Decide where to move your boat.**
- **Review your insurance policy.**
- **Find pet-friendly hotels on your evacuation route.**

### *Do You Have A Plan ?*
### What To Do - in an Emergency!

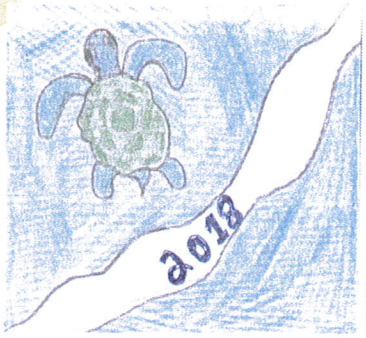
**Create a Personal Support Network: If you anticipate needing assistance during a disaster, make a list of family, friends and neighbors who will be a part of your plan. Make sure they all know how you plan to evacuate your home and where you will go in case of a disaster.**

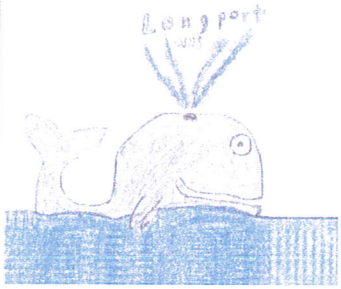
**Develop a Family Communication Plan: Your family may not be together when disaster strikes, so plan how you will contact one another. Consider a plan where each family member calls, or e-mails, the same friend or relative in the event of an emergency.**

**Evacuation: There will be times when you are ordered to leave. Plan how you will get away and anticipate where you will go.**

**WWW.READY.GOV**

## Beach Badges!




### Beach Tag Design Contest Winners

This year's regular seasonal beach tag was designed by Sophia Mammucari and features a green turtle on a blue background. This year's senior seasonal beach tag was designed by Ryan Slaven, Jr., and has a gray whale on it. An honorable mention was presented to CeCe Hermanovich. Well done to all and thank you for your submissions!!!

### Longport 2018 Pre-Season Beach Tag Sales

With warmer days ahead of us, it is time to start planning your summer beach tag purchase. This year, beach tags will go on sale April 16th. Beach tags can be purchased at pre-season prices until June 15th. Children younger than 12 years are not required to have a beach tag. Beachgoers must present a tag to checkers as they enter the beach. Regular seasonal tags will be sold at the pre-season price of $15 per tag. Senior tags, for use by adults 65 years of age and up, may be purchased at the pre-season price of $5 each. Once the pre-season time period ends, seasonal tags will increase in price to $30 per tag and senior tags will cost $10 per tag.

### How do you purchase pre-season beach tags?

There are several ways to purchase your pre-season beach tags. Beach tags can be purchased inside Borough Hall beginning April 16th and ending June 15th from 9 am to 4 pm, Monday through Friday. Tags may be purchased with a check or cash.

Pre-season beach tags can also be reserved for pick up in Borough Hall by sending in the pre-season beach tag application form (included with this newsletter) with a check made payable to the *Borough of Longport*. Please be sure to keep the yellow copy of the application form as this will be needed for tag pick up. After June 22nd, all tags can be picked up at the Community Building/Lifeguard Headquarters located at 33rd Avenue and the beach.

## *It's that time of the year! Doggie Registration*

Borough Ordinance 82-3 License Required:
It shall be unlawful for any person to own, keep or harbor any dogs within the Borough of Longport without first obtaining from the proper official a license therefor and paying the fee hereinafter provided for.

Please remember to register your dog (s)! The fee is $7.00 for dogs that have been neutered or spayed and $ 10.00 or those that have not been.

Please stop by the tax office 9am – 430 pm Monday – Friday with your pet's updated rabies vaccination. Any questions, please email Pam at taxes@longport-nj.us.

### *Herb Stern Longport Educational Foundation*

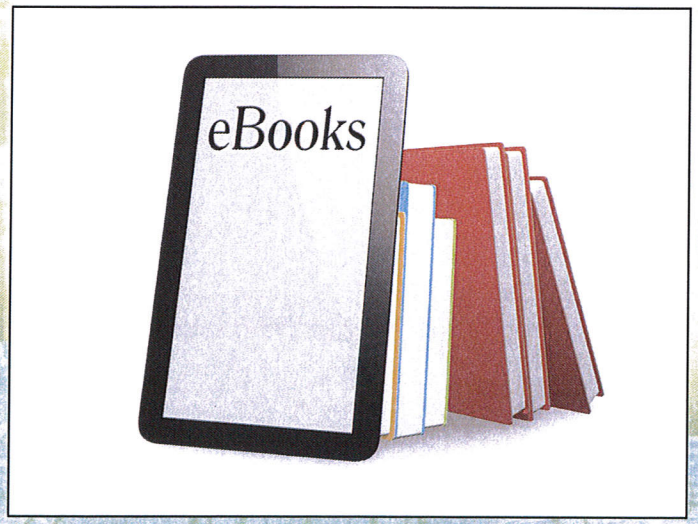
The Longport Educational Foundation, Inc. has announced that scholarships will be awarded this spring.

The applications for the scholarships are available at the Clerk's Office in Borough Hall or from Board Vice Chairman Michael Garvin at 32 South 32nd Ave. Awards are given to Longport graduating seniors from area high schools or Longport resident students attending college.

The foundation typically mails its annual letter soliciting contributions in spring or early summer. BUT, contributions can be made at any time of the year to Herb Stern at 16 South 33 Avenue.

Your contributions in any amount from Longport stays in Longport and helps qualified and deserving Longport students and their families. For additional information please contact Herb Stern at H-822 1269 C-335 3071 or email STERNHERB@GMAIL.COM.

Longport's newest Policeman Josh Sikoryak




## Longport's Newest Police Officer!

Josh Sikoryak was recently appointed as a Class II Policeman by the Borough. As a Class II Police Officer Josh will be working with the Police Department on a part-time basis.

Josh is graduate of Donavan High School in Toms River, and a graduate of Ocean County Community College with an Associate's Degree in science. He is currently attending Stockton University and working towards a Bachelor's Degree in accounting.

Josh is married, has a young daughter with twins on the way! Congratulations to Josh on the twins and his new position in our Police Department!

## Community Garden

Located behind Borough Hall, near the boathouse, are several garden beds available to the community. A spring planting will be scheduled soon and volunteers will be needed to help clear and plant the beds. For more information or to volunteer please contact Monica at mkyle@longport-nj.us or by phone at 823.2731 ext. 109

LONGPORT PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Longport Public Library unveiled our new website: https://www.longportpubliclibrary.org, check it out for great resources and information.

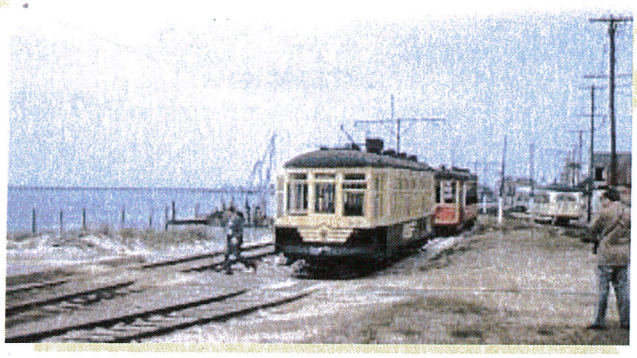
The library, in partnership with the Margate City Public Library, also recently launched an easier way to get eBooks and eAudiobooks, downbeach.overdrive.com. This service has the newest books available exclusively to Longport and Margate Library cardholders. It is also available as an application on smartphones and tablets. Please call the library for more information.

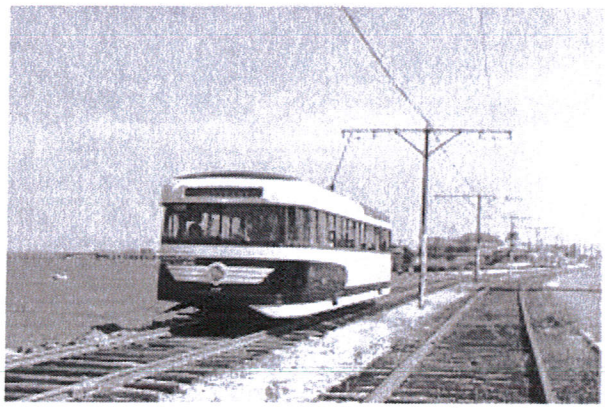
The library is in the process of unveiling our summer reading program series. Some events will include the following:

- For adults: author series, barre and yoga, as well as much more
- For kids and families: summer reading kickoff, dinosaur show, magic show, and much more.
- Local museum passes available to borrow

Please call the library for more information, (609) 487-7403 or visit https://www.longportpubliclibrary.org.

# Trolley Service to Longport





**The following article is from Michael Cohen's book "The Way We Were." Michael Cohen was the founder of the Longport Historical Society and Museum.**

## "TRAINS, TROLLEYS, THEN BUSES"

**The first train entered Longport on the morning of August 31st, 1884. Prior to that time passengers were conveyed by horse drawn carriage to and from South Atlantic City (Margate).**

**There were three train stations in what is now Longport. The Bartlett Crossing Station was located at 34th and Atlantic Avenues, the Oberon Station at 24th and Atlantic Avenues and the Longport Station at the pier at 16th Avenue.**

**In a few years, travel increased so rapidly that the Camden and Atlantic Railroad Company put into service, between Atlantic City and Longport, small cars with steam motors making frequent trips between the two cities.**

**In 1893, a modern electric trolley system was introduced. It was said that the trolleys would come down from Atlantic City with trailers attached to them and that they were so crowded that the conductors had difficulty moving about to collect the fares.**

**The trolley system was replaced by buses on December 28th, 1955.**

**Shortly thereafter, Commissioner Tom Reed negotiated the purchase of the middle of Atlantic Avenue, where the tracks ran, for the Borough from Atlantic City Transportation Company.**

**For more information on the history of Longport, please visit the Historical Society.**

**The Longport Historical Society is located in the old Coast Guard Station at 2305 Atlantic Ave.**

**The Historical Society will be opening its doors on Saturdays starting May 26th from 9am – 12 noon.**

**A special OPEN HOUSE is planned for July 3rd, 2018 from 5 to 7pm !**

**www.longporthistoricalsociety.org**

## Rain Sensors are Required!

A rain sensor is a device that is activated by rainfall. It determines whether or not enough rainfall has occurred in order to skip an irrigation cycle. The electrical connection between the sensor and the sprinkler system controller is interrupted when a certain amount of rain triggers the sensor. The sensor breaks the electrical connection so that electricity cannot flow to either the sprinkler valves or to a pump start.

By stopping the automatic cycle of the irrigation system, a rain sensor can help conserve water and save money. Since a sensor will help stop an irrigation system from running during rainfall, it will also reduce overwatering. Rain sensors also help extend the life of a sprinkler system by reducing wear on the system by only running when necessary.

Sprinkler systems must be certified on an annual basis by either the property owner or the landscaper. The certification verifies the rain gauge or moisture sensor is in proper operational condition and complies with local municipal ordinances. The certification form can be found online at www.longportnj.gov.

## Lawn and Landscaping Watering/ Sprinkling Rules & Regulations during the Summer Season

The Longport Board of Commissioners passed an ordinance in November 2016 that regulates lawn and landscape watering or sprinkling during the summer season. The regulations are in effect beginning May 15 through September 15 and are as follows:

1. Sprinkling or watering on a lot is limited to a one-hour period for manual watering and to only one fifteen-minute period per zone for automatic sprinkling systems during a 24-hour period.
2. Watering is permitted on Monday, Wednesday and Friday for homes with an odd number street address.
3. Water is permitted on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday for homes with an even number street address.
4. No watering is permitted on Sundays during the regulation period.
5. Watering/ sprinkling must be between 4 am and 7 am or between 7 pm and 9 pm.
6. In the event of an emergency situation, watering/sprinkling may be suspended.
7. There is a special provision for newly planted or seeded sod.

Persons found in violation of the ordinance will be subject to a fine of not more than $1,000 or imprisonment for not more than 90 days, or both such fine and imprisonment. Those in violation might find an informational door knocker left on the property's door. For more information, please see local ordinance 2016-18 and 2017-05 on the borough's website at www.longportnj.gov.

## Know Your Line: Be Flood Aware !

## HIGH WATER MARK INITIATIVE

Longport has placed High Water Mark signs at the Gazebo on 17th Ave., in front of the Historical Society, the Gazebo at 35th and Amherst Avenue and in the park at 29th & Ventnor Ave. The signs show and are a permanent reminder how high the flood waters were at those locations during "Sandy October 29th, 2012."

The goal of this outreach initiative is to draw attention to Longport's flood risk by showcasing how high the water has come and encourage you to take steps to reduce your risk.

Longport is surrounded on three sides by water and is no stranger to flooding. Nor-Easters & Hurricanes are our biggest threat! But too few of us take the necessary steps to protect ourselves and property from these potentially devastating events, opting instead to trust that, "it won't happen here." The High Water Mark signs will be a continual reminder that Longport has flooded and will continue to flood!

Take a minute and consider how a major flood will impact you, your family and your property. So "Develop an Evacuation Plan, Assemble Disaster Supplies, Prepare Your Home and know where to go if told to evacuate!

## FLOOD INFO 101

Every year, flooding causes hundreds of millions of dollars' worth of damage to homes and businesses around the country. Standard homeowners and commercial property policies do not cover flood losses. So, to meet the need for this vital coverage, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) administers the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). The NFIP offers reasonably priced flood insurance in communities that comply with minimum standards for floodplain management.

The NFIP's Community Rating System (CRS) recognizes community efforts beyond those minimum standards by reducing flood insurance premiums for the community's property owners. The CRS is similar to — but separate from — the private insurance industry's programs that grade communities on the effectiveness of their fire suppression and building code enforcement.

CRS discounts on flood insurance premiums range from 5% up to 45%. Those discounts provide an incentive for new flood protection activities that can help save lives and property in the event of a flood.

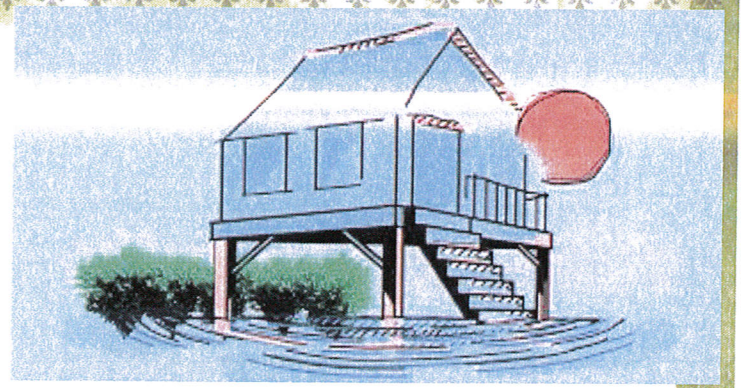
Longport is a Class 5 Community that gives you a 25% discount off your flood insurance premium. Longport currently has 1,465 flood insurance policies in effect. Total premiums are $1,413,167 with the average flood insurance policy premium at $ 965. Because Longport is a Class 5 Community, Borough residents annually save $ 471,257.

CODE RED
Emergency Communication Made Easy.

CodeRED is an emergency notification service that allows the Borough of Longport emergency officials to notify residents and businesses by telephone, cell phone, text message, email and social media regarding time-sensitive general and emergency notifications.

Any message regarding the safety, property or welfare of our community may be disseminated using the CodeRED system. Typical ALERTS include severe weather warnings, flood events and/or evacuation notices. To sign up, go to the www.longportnj.gov click on the CodeRED icon!

Additionally you can sign up for the CodeRED Mobile Alert App for severe weather alerts where ever you are !



## GRANTS AVAILABLE to ELEVATE YOUR HOME!

The Borough of Longport has been pursuing and has obtained FEMA Flood Mitigation Funds to elevate eligible structures in our community. Your property may qualify for this grant. The flood Mitigation Assistance Program, (FMA) provides funding for the elevation of qualified properties. The Grant opportunities are for both primary and secondary homes! If awarded, the grant will be used to elevate qualified structures in accordance with the provisions of the grant. Participation on the part of property owners will be voluntary.

To start the application process contact the Longport Building department or go the Borough's Web Home Page for the "Notice of Voluntary Interest Information Application." Submit the application to the Building Department along with a copy of your NFIP Flood Insurance Policy.

For additional information regarding grant opportunities please call Bruce A. Funk/CRS Director-OEM Coordinator 609 823 2731 or email at zoning@longport-nj.us.

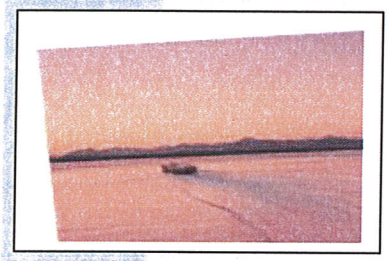
## FLOOD ELEVATION CERTIFICATES!

Did you know, if we have a copy of your EC (flood Elevation Certificate) you can access that information via the Borough's home page web site! www.longportnj.gov

At the bottom of our home page, click on Elevation Certificates, then click on your block number, the lot number. If we have your EC, there it is! If not and you have a EC, please forward a copy to the Building Department and we will add it to our data base.

## FLOOD MAPS & FLOOD MAP INFORMATION!

Looking for your Flood Zone, Community Number, Flood Map Panel Number, date of the FIRM, minimal building height requirements or other flood information please contact B.Funk/CRS Director 609 823 2731ext 120.



## BOROUGH STORM WATER MANAGEMENT

**The Borough of Longport has adopted various ordinances to regulate the impact of stormwater runoff and pollutants on the environment. The following highlight the requirements and environmental benefits of these ordinances !**

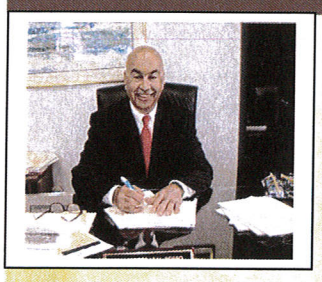
**PET WASTE: This ordinance requires pet owners to pick up and properly dispose of pet waste dropped on public or other people's property. It prevents fecal contamination from impacting local waterways!**

**LITTER: This ordinance states that it is unlawful to throw, drop, discard or otherwise place litter of any nature upon any public or private property, other than in a litter receptacle. The purpose of this ordinance is to prevent unsightly and unsanitary conditions and prevent litter from impacting waterways!**

**IMPROPER DISPOSAL OF WASTE: This ordinance states that it is illegal to dispose of waste in any place not specifically designated for the purpose of solid waste storage or disposal. The purpose of the ordinance is to prevent unsanitary conditions and groundwater pollution!**

**YARD WASTE: Yard waste is regulated via ordinances that establish the current zone collection system and the methods of collecting leaves, brush and other yard waste. The purpose of the ordinance is to keep leaves and grass out of the storm sewer system!**

***Town Topics* is published by the Borough of Longport as a means to keep the community informed and up to date on current events and happenings in our town. Edited and compiled by: FRIENDS & BOROUGH EMPLOYEES**



**Mayor Nick Russo**

## Mayor's Corner!

**Longport is surrounded by water on three sides and with that comes a responsibility to protect our marine wildlife and waterways. Each spring and fall, Longport participates in a biannual beach sweep sponsored by Clean Ocean Action. This year's spring cleanup is scheduled for April 21st from 9 am to 12:30 pm, beginning at the community building located at 33rd Avenue and the beach.**

**Did you know that Longport is bronze certified in the Sustainable Jersey Program? Sustainable Jersey is a nonprofit organization that provides tools, training and financial incentives to support communities as they pursue sustainability programs. Several of the steps that Longport took to achieve certification in the program included: becoming the first municipality in New Jersey to enact a single-use bag fee ordinance, banning the intentional release of balloons, providing a drop box for unused or expired prescription drugs, creating a community garden, starting a local farmers market behind borough hall, the installation of a hydration station to refill reusable water bottles, and adding curbside collection of rigid bulky plastics for recycling are just a few of the steps taken to increase sustainability.**

**Longport was also the recipient of a special award from Sustainable Jersey. In November 2016, the borough was presented with the *Creativity and Innovation Award* for becoming the first municipality in New Jersey to pass a single-use bag fee ordinance. Local businesses that provide single-use bags to customers must charge 10-cents per bag. The business keeps the fee, so it is not a tax that the borough collects. The fee serves as a reminder to local business patrons to please bring a reusable bag for purchases. In addition, in November of last year, Longport was included in a joint presentation along with several neighboring municipalities for the Sustainable Jersey *Collaboration Award* for passing a balloon ordinance that bans the intentional release of balloons. These balloons often end up in our waterways as pollution and are often mistaken for food by marine wildlife. Local environmental groups are working hard to implement this ban statewide. In addition to Longport, the following local municipalities have implemented a similar ban: Margate, Ventnor, Brigantine, Atlantic City, Somers Point, Egg Harbor City, Cape May City, Stone Harbor, Sea Isle, North Wildwood, Upper Township, Long Beach Township, Brick, and New Milford.**