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Egg Harbor Township is a full-service community

BY JAMES "SONNY" MCCULLOUGH
Mayor

Egg Harbor Township government is made up of five elected committee members, which include a mayor and deputy mayor. The present government consists of Mayor James J. McCullough, Deputy Mayor Paul Hodson, and committee members Joe Cafero, Frank Finnerty and Laura Pfrommer.

The township is situated in the southeast portion of Atlantic County, contiguous with Atlantic City. With a land area of approximately 68 square miles, it is one of the largest municipalities in the state.

The township is bounded by Hamilton Township to the west; Galloway Township to the north; the cities of Absecon, Pleasantville, Northfield, Linwood, Atlantic City and Somers Point to the east; Longport and Ocean City to the southeast; and Estell Manor to the south. Egg Harbor Township once encompassed all of Atlantic County, including Atlantic City.

Our community is made up of

diverse areas of woodlands, waterfront and residential growth areas. Egg Harbor Township has more waterfront than any other town in New Jersey — from West Atlantic City all the way behind Atlantic City, Ventnor, Margate, Longport, Ocean City and Somers Point, up to Mays Landing.

Farmington, Bargaintown, Cardiff, Scullville and West Atlantic City make up the majority of the township. Anchorage Poynte and Seaview Harbor provide many waterfront residences. We are part of the Pinelands, and as a result our population exploded in the last 20 years.

From 2000 to 2010, the population went from 30,058 to 43,323 — a 44 percent increase. School populations increased substantially in correlation. Our residents approved many school building projects to keep up with the demand in education. Meanwhile, the



James 'Sonny' McCullough

mayor and Township Committee kept the local-purpose tax one of the lowest in Atlantic County for full-service communities. Members of the Board of Education will be elected in November along with Township Committee members.

Likewise, the township has kept up with the demand for additional municipal services and recreational opportunities. We have purchased many acres of open space for preservation and recreation. Our parks are centralized and serve many needs. Bargaintown Park was completed to provide soccer, tennis, pickleball and baseball opportunities in addition to those provided at Canale Park. Our 55,000-square-foot Community Center was completed in 2007 and provides a home for recreational services, art and crafts, basketball, fine arts programs and many other community activities.

We have miles of trails for use by our residents, and our arboretum provides an opportunity to enjoy peace and tranquility in a wooded setting. Veterans Park is home to football, cheerleading, baseball, BMX and street hockey, and

many other recreation activities are provided by numerous groups. We have 6- to 18-hole golf courses and own our own golf course that many residents enjoy. We also have many marinas for fishing and boating.

Egg Harbor Township is the home of Atlantic City International Airport and is the home of Coast Guard Air Station Atlantic City, the 177th Fighter Wing of the New Jersey Air National Guard and the Stockton Aviation Research and Technology Park.

The Atlantic City Expressway and Garden State Parkway intersect our town, while major bus lines provide public transportation. It is easy to connect to anywhere in New Jersey and surrounding states from the township.

Residents and visitors can enjoy our expansive Great Egg Harbor River frontage, our many parks, and our cultural and recreational activities. Business growth continues in Egg Harbor Township, and excellent restaurants provide a wide variety of cuisine, but our wonderful residents are the real reason Egg Harbor Township is a great place to live.



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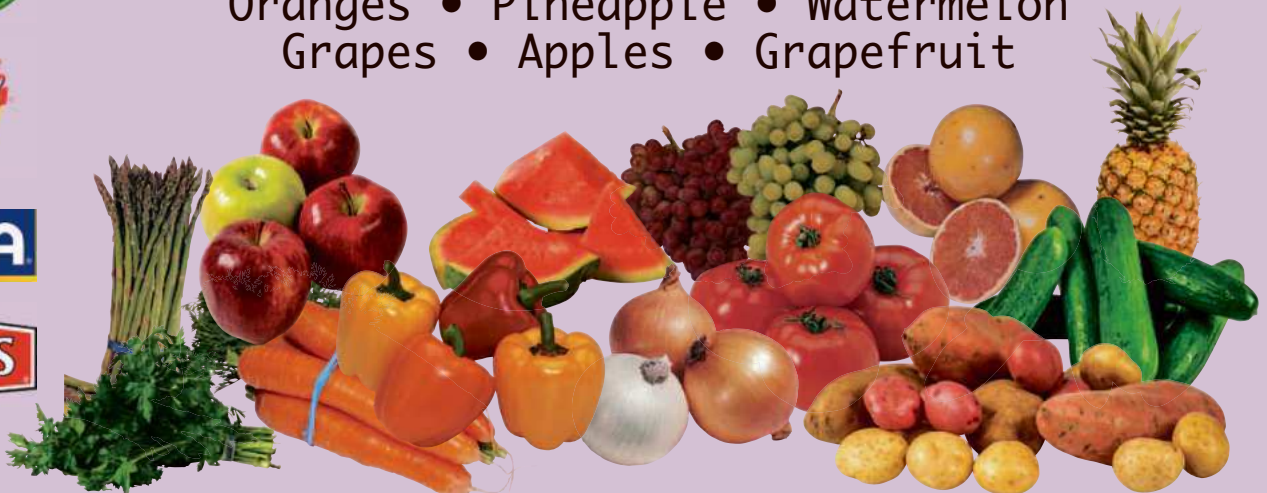
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10 public schools help students reach their full potential

There are 10 schools in the Egg Harbor Township school system: a high school, an alternative high school, two middle schools and six elementary schools, all overseen by Interim Superintendent Fred Nickles.

The district states that it is committed to providing up-to-date, energy-efficient schools, high-quality curriculum and instruction, multiple and diverse co-curricular activities, and dedicated and competent faculty, staff and administration so students can reach their fullest potential.

The district provides multiple learning opportunities to students and staff through differentiated instruction and professional development workshops.

H. Russell Swift Elementary School

The H. Russell Swift Elementary School, 5 Swift Drive, houses preschoolers through third-graders. The student body is approximately 470.

Principal Patricia Connor writes in the school's state report card profile that its mission is to provide a safe, positive learning environment where students have a variety of learning opportunities to help them develop into healthy, productive, and lifelong learners.

Ellmore H. Slaybaugh School Complex

Principal Maryann Giardina is at the helm of the Slaybaugh Primary and Elementary schools at 13 and 11 Swift Drive, respectively. The primary school houses students in preschool through first grade, and the elementary school is for students in second and third grade. Enrollment is about 809.

C.J. Davenport Complex

C.J. Davenport Primary and Elementary schools, at 2499 and 2501 Spruce Ave., respectively, teach students in preschool through third grade. Kevin Fricke is the principal for approximately 885 students.

In addition to the four preschool, 10 kindergarten and 10 first-grade classrooms, Davenport has three self-contained classrooms for students with multiple disabilities. The primary building is also home to the district's director of autism, a behavior specialist, and offices for the district IT department and the director of special programs and grants.

The elementary school contains 21 regular education second- and third-grade classrooms and one self-contained classroom for students with multiple disabilities.

Dr. Joyanne D. Miller Elementary School

The Joyanne Miller School, 2 Alder Ave., opened in September 2003 to all of the district's fourth- and fifth-grade students. It has a student body of about 1,140, just under its capacity of 1,175.

Principal Latifah Potter describes the school's vision as "lighting the way for children to achieve their greatest academic potential while learning to respect themselves, others and their community is the foundation for our three simple school rules. These include respect for yourself, respect for others and respect for your community."

Fernwood Avenue and Alder Avenue Middle schools

The Fernwood Avenue Middle School, 4034 Fernwood Ave., is structured into nine small learning

communities for a more personalized educational process. Principal James Battersby oversees about 930 students at the school.

Alder Avenue Middle School, at 25 Alder Ave., is its sister school. Principal Joseph Marinelli oversees its 930 or so students.

Both schools teach grades six through eight.

Egg Harbor Township High School

Egg Harbor Township High School, 24 High School Drive, serves about 2,360 students in ninth through 12th grade. Class sizes are slightly above the state average, according to state data.

Principal Terry Charlton oversees four assistant principals, 11 department supervisors and a staff of nearly 200.

The high school has a graduation rate of more than 93 percent.

The school is classified by the NJSIAA for most sports as South Jersey Group IV, based on enrollment.

Eagle Academy

The Eagle Academy alternative school at 3517 Bargaintown Road is where some high school students will find success. Led by Director Bud Smith, Eagle Academy has small class sizes to better address the needs of students who are at high risk of failing or dropping out of school.

Board of Education

The Egg Harbor Township Board of Education consists of nine members and meets twice monthly in the meeting room of the Alder Avenue Middle School. See eht.k12.nj.us.



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Egg Harbor Township Nature Reserve

The Egg Harbor Township Nature Reserve is a 220-acre public park in the Scullville section of the township with entrances on Zion Road and Schoolhouse Road. It consists of an arboretum, a 40-acre lake and a wooded area with extensive trail systems. Its management and development is overseen by the Nature Reserve Committee, a nonprofit organization.

The reserve is open from dusk till dawn year round and provides areas for passive recreation and activities such as walking, bike riding, birdwatching,

fishing and kayaking.

The committee hosts an annual Turkey Trot 5K race and 1-mile fun run/walk the first Saturday after Thanksgiving.

Recently the reserve was awarded a \$24,000 grant from the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection to improve its trail system and is considering options to provide better access to the trails. The Arboretum has of an Environmental Learning Center that is developing a butterfly garden, and an interactive smart trail developed

by the Catawba Club, a township student organization.

Plans are underway to create a trail map and add park benches, picnic areas and a boat ramp for launching nonmotorized boats. Organizers anticipate working with other nonprofit organizations to offer seminars on birdwatching, planting and exploring the park's wildlife and vegetation.

The Nature Reserve Committee meets the second Tuesday of each month at the Egg Harbor Township Municipal Building, usually at 7 p.m.

Indoor and outdoor fun in EHT

BY R.J. LIBERATORE JR.
Staff Writer

There is plenty of fun to be had in Egg Harbor Township, both indoors and out. The Recreation Department is committed to providing as many recreational opportunities as possible to residents.

The township offers sports and recreational programs including walking, cycling, golf, team activities, cheerleading and day trips.

The department publishes a program schedule four times each year in The Current of Egg Harbor Township and on the township website at ehtrec.com.

Registration for winter programs takes place in January, spring in March, summer in June and fall in September at the Egg Harbor Township Community Center, 5045 English Creek Ave.

For information on any program, contact Recreation Director Rick Audet at recreation@ehtgov.org or 609-272-8120.

The Recreation Department is open 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. weekdays at the Community Center.

Here is a sampling of the offerings:

Youth sports

Egg Harbor Township is home to many youth sports organizations that offer everything from BMX racing to football to street hockey to lacrosse. Sports run year-round, so grab a hockey stick, a baseball glove or your BMX bike and check out ehtbmrxracing.org, ehtbaseball.org, ehtyo.org, ehtlax.com, ehtsoccerclub.com, ehtstreethockey.com, eggharbortownshipyouthsoftball.baberuthonline.com or mcculloughsgolf.com.

Health and fitness

Programs include yoga, cardio step classes, indoor walking, tennis lessons, tai chi, cardio kickboxing, volleyball, cooking classes, sports camps and clinics, and spring, summer and winter sports leagues. Check ehtrec.com throughout the year for details and program developments.

Bus trips

For those in search of fun times outside of the township, the Recreation Department sponsors several one-day bus trips each year to destinations such as

New York City; Baltimore's Inner Harbor; Peddler's Village in New Hope, Pennsylvania; Washington, D.C.; and Lancaster, Pennsylvania. The bus trips generally depart in the early morning from the Municipal Building and return that evening. Costs vary. Contact the department for dates and fees.

Youth summer camps

The Recreation Department sponsors seven-, eight-, nine- and 10-week Summer Adventure Camp programs with hours to meet nearly any working parent's schedule. The cost ranges from \$200 to \$275 a week for fun trips, indoor and outdoor games, sports, roller skating, beach days, crafts and puppet shows. All camps take place at the Community Center and start in June.

Rhythm and Movies in the park

The annual Rhythm in the Park summer concert series features shows 7 to 9 p.m. Fridays in July and August at Tony Canale Park. Movie nights are held on Saturdays. Call 609-272-8120 for information.

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Egg Harbor Township Fast Facts

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, Egg Harbor Township covers an area of 74.93 square miles consisting of 66.59 square miles of land and 8.336 square miles of water. It is the second-largest municipality in Atlantic County.

In 2010 the Census Bureau recorded a population of 43,323. The 2016 population was estimated at 45,000.

Unincorporated areas include Bargaintown, English Creek, Scullville, Steelmanville, McKee City, Cardiff, Farmington and West Atlantic City.

The township is bordered by Hamilton Township to the west; Galloway Township to the north; Absecon, Pleasantville, Northfield, Linwood and Somers Point to the east; Longport and Ocean City to the southeast; and Estell Manor to the south.

The township is in the 2nd Congressional District and is part of New Jersey's 2nd Legislative District.

It operates under the township form of government. Residents elect five Township Committee members to three-year terms. The mayor and deputy mayor are chosen by Township Committee at a reorganization meeting each January. The mayor presides over meetings, but does not have greater powers than other committee members.

Government

ehtgov.org
Municipal Building
3515 Bargaintown Road
609-926-4000

Meeting Schedule

Township Committee: 5 p.m. first and third Wednesday of the month at the Municipal Building unless otherwise noted. All Township Committee meetings are taped and broadcast 7 p.m. the next day on Comcast Channel 97. Minutes normally appear on the website a month after the meeting.

Mayor: James "Sonny" McCullough

Deputy Mayor: Paul W. Hodson

Committee Members: Joe Cafero, Frank Finnerty and Laura Pfrommer

Zoning Board: 7 p.m. first Monday of the month

Planning Board: 5 p.m. third Monday of the month

Municipal Utilities Authority: 5:30 p.m. third Wednesday of the month, with June meeting June 15 and November meeting Nov. 30.

Recreation Commission: 7 p.m. second Wednesday of the month at the Community Center, 5045 English Creek Ave., with additional meeting Sept. 28.

Ambulance Services: 609-383-0003

Director of Ambulance Services: Bill Higbee, whigbee@ehtgov.org

Township Administrator: Peter J. Miller, 609-926-4027, pmiller@ehtgov.org

Township Clerk: Eileen M. Tedesco, 609-926-4085, etedesco@ehtgov.org

Deputy Township Clerk: Janice F. Hughes

Construction/Inspections: 609-926-4069

Construction Official: Pat J. Naticchione, pnatic-

chione@ehtgov.org

Technical Assistant: Rose Maul

Municipal Court: 609-926-4195

Judge: Marc Nehmad

Court Administrator: Therese B. Collins, tcollins@ehtgov.org

Finance Department: 609-926-4094

Chief Finance Officer: Jennifer McIver, jmciver@ehtgov.org

Deputy Finance Officer: Maureen Mattle

Fire Department: 609-926-4070

Township Chief: Rob Winkler

Deputy Township Chief: Gene Sharpe

Police Department: ehtpd.com, 609-927-5200 (dispatch nonemergency), 609-926-4000 (all other police business)

Chief of Police: Raymond Davis, 609-926-4036

Public Works: 609-926-3838

Director of Public Works: Alan Simerson

Parks and Recreation: 609-272-8120

Director of Recreation: Rick Audet, raudet@ehtgov.org

Tax Assessor's Office: 609-926-4083

Assessor: Maryanne C. Lavner, mlavner@ehtgov.org

Tax Collector's Office: 609-926-4079

Tax Collector: Sharon Riley, sriley@ehtgov.org

Deputy Tax Collector: Cathy England

Zoning: 609-926-4048

Zoning Officer: Pat Naticchione, pnaticchione@ehtgov.org

Volunteer Fire Department

Bargaintown Vol. Fire Co. Station 1, 6550 Mill Road, 609-927-2387 bvfc1a.com

Bargaintown Vol. Fire Co. Station 2, 1 Tony "Mink" Pagano Drive, 609-926-2253

Cardiff Vol. Fire Co. Station 1, 6609 Black Horse Pike, 609-646-5955 cardiffvfc1.com

Cardiff Vol. Fire Co. Station 2, 4049 English Creek Ave., 609-484-0341

Farmington Vol. Fire Co., 301 Maple Ave., 609-641-3012, farmingtonfire4.com

Scullville Vol. Fire Co. Station 1, 1708 Mays Landing-Somers Point Road, 609-927-2588 scullvillefire.org

Scullville Vol. Fire Co. Station 2, 1403 Mays Landing-Somers Point Road, 609-927-4488

West Atlantic City Vol. Fire Co. 7004 Black Horse Pike, 609-272-9002

Trash and Recycling

Trash is collected Monday through Friday by zone. See ehtgov.org or call 609-926-3838 for your pickup day.

Bulk trash items should be put at the curb by 6 a.m. Monday of the scheduled week; see ehtgov.org/publicworks for bulk pickup schedules and a list of accepted materials.

State law prohibits electronic items from being disposed of as trash. Electronics can be dropped off

at the EHT Convenience Center, 6120 Mill Road, or call for curbside collection. Recyclable pickup is provided by the Atlantic County Utilities Authority. Residential recyclables pickup is every other week the same day as your trash day. Call the ACUA at 609-272-6960 for information.

Yard Waste

Bagged grass and leaves will only be collected in biodegradable paper bags weighing less than 50 pounds. Place bagged grass and leaves at the curb on trash day and they will be collected as near to your trash day as possible. Loose leaves raked to the curb are collected by vacuum collector in the spring and fall; signs will be posted with the start date for each zone. Personal vehicles must be kept at least 50 feet from leaf piles to allow collection access.

Compost made from collected leaves and grass is available to township residents and can be loaded by hand into any size vehicle for no charge. Screened or unscreened compost loaded by township equipment is available for a fee 7:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Mondays and Fridays from the Public Works Department, 6120 Mill Road.

Snow Removal

Parking on any snow-covered street in the township is prohibited, and vehicles are subject to ticketing and towing. If snow is forecast, you must park off the street. Residents who shovel snow before the snow plow passes are advised to pile the snow to the right of the driveway (facing the street), as it will minimize the amount of snow pushed into the driveway by the plow. Residents are responsible for clearing their own driveway and mailbox.

Animal Services

Dogs kept within the township for more than 10 days are required to be licensed through the municipal clerk's office. Call 609-926-4085.

Dogs must have a current rabies vaccination certificate to be licensed. Atlantic County holds a free rabies clinic each month; call 609-485-2345 for details.

The annual license fee is \$9 for a neutered pet and \$15 for an unneutered pet. A late fee of \$3 applies to licenses provided from April 1 through Dec. 31. Seeing Eye dogs must be licensed, but are exempt from fees.

Golf Courses

Ballamor Golf Club, 6071 English Creek Ave., 609-601-6220, ballamor.com

Green Tree Golf Course, 1030 Somers Point-Mays Landing Road, 609-625-9131, greentree.aclink.org

Harbor Pines Golf Club, 500 St. Andrews Drive, 609-927-0006, harborpines.com

Hidden Creek Golf Club, 75 Asbury Ave., 609-909-2990, hiddencreekclub.com

McCullough's Emerald Golf Links, 3016 Ocean Heights Ave., 609-926-3900, mcculloughsgolf.com

Twisted Dune Golf Club, 2101 Ocean Heights Ave., 609-653-8019, tristeddune.com

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Community groups and services

Adult book club

The Egg Harbor Township branch of the Atlantic County Library offers a book club for adults 6:30 p.m. the first Thursday of every month. Call 609-927-8664 for a list of selected books.

Alcove Center volunteer training

The Alcove Center for Grieving Children and Families holds 30-hour training sessions for volunteers interested in facilitating grief support groups for children ages 3-18. Call 609-484-1133 for information and a list of one-hour orientation dates.

Amateur Radio Association

The Southern Counties Amateur Radio Association meets 7:30 p.m. the second Thursday of every month at the Canale Training Center in Egg Harbor Township. Join amateur radio operators all over the globe; sign up for classes and other local events. Call Bill McCord at 609-435-0598.

American Association of University Women

The Atlantic County branch of the American Association of University Women meets monthly at various locations. It supports children's theater program at Stockton University, college fairs at Atlantic Cape Community College, provides resources and volunteers at the Atlantic County Women's Center's GED program, and sponsors the TechTrek summer camp for girls. Prospective members and visitors are welcome. For information see ac-nj.aauw.net.

Astronomy Club

The South Jersey Astronomy Club meets 7:30 p.m. the second Thursday of each month at the Egg Harbor Township branch of the Atlantic County Library on Ocean Heights Avenue. For information see sjac.us or call 609-653-0711.

AtlantiCare seminars, support groups

The AtlantiCare LifeCenter at 2500 English Creek Ave. in Egg Harbor Township hosts a number of support groups. Topics include diabetes, gastric bypass and lap band surgery, breast cancer, and radiation and chemotherapy treatments. Call 888-569-1000.

Book Club in a Bag

Book Club in a Bag provides area book clubs with more than 25 titles for book club discussion. Each bag contains 10 copies of the book and tools to promote discussion. Call 609-625-2776, ext. 6333 to reserve a title for your club.

Coin club

The Atlantic County Numismatic Society meets 7 p.m. the first Wednesday of each month at the Linwood Library, 301 Davis Ave., with a coin auction at 8 p.m. Admission is free. See accoins.org, email accoins@gmail.com or call 609-412-1490.

Cancer screenings

Free screenings for breast, cervical, colon and prostate cancer are available for the uninsured and underinsured. Age and income restrictions apply. It only takes a few minutes to see if you qualify. US citizenship is not required. For information call the New Jersey Cancer Education and Early Detection Program for Atlantic County at Shore Medical Cancer Center, 609-653-3484.

Child care food program

The Wee Care Pediatric Medical Day Care child care food program provides meals to children in child-care centers, recreation programs and more. Meals are available at no separate charge to all children age 6 and under enrolled in the program. Medicaid enrolled children only. Call 609-449-0076.

Fair Trade Alliance

South Jersey Fair Trade Alliance meets quarterly to learn together, share information and raise awareness about fair trade. Meetings are open to all. See www.southjerseyfairtrade.wordpress.com, email southjerseyfairtrade@gmail.com or Facebook.

Free and low-cost health services

The Atlantic County Division of Public Health provides a variety of free and low-cost services including free screenings for heart disease, cancer, diabetes and other chronic illnesses, pap smears and mammogram prescriptions for women and PSA testing and prostate examinations for men. Adult vaccinations, flu shots and pneumonia shots are available for those 18 years and older. There are also low-cost immunizations and screenings for eligible children up to age 18. See aclink.org/publichealth or call 609-645-5933.

Help for people with disabilities

The state Personal Assistance Services Program administered by the Atlantic County Division of Intergenerational Services provides assistance to county residents age 18-65 who have permanent physical disabilities. Includes light housekeeping, bathing, dressing, meal preparation, shopping and general mobility to individuals who are employed, attending school or vocational training, or engaged in community volunteer service. Participants must be able to self-direct their services and program needs. Where applicable, the cost of services is based upon income. Call 609-645-7700, ext. 4519.

Hospice volunteers wanted

Heartland Hospice, serving Atlantic and Cape May counties, is looking for caring and dedicated people with an interest in serving patients facing the end-of-life stages of illness and their families. Volunteers provide services such as friendly visiting and caregiver respite. A commitment of two hours a week can greatly enhance a patient's quality of life. Training is provided by the hospice team. Call Margie at 609-641-4675.

Knitting Club

The Knitting Club is open to all ages. Knitters and crocheters are welcome to bring and work on a current project 10 a.m.-noon Fridays at the Egg Harbor Township branch of the Atlantic County Library. Call 609-927-8664.

LifeCenter support groups

The AtlantiCare LifeCenter at 2500 English Creek Ave. hosts a number of support groups. Topics include diabetes, gastric bypass and gastric band surgery, breast cancer, and radiation and chemotherapy treatments. Call the center at 888-569-1000.

Middle School Book Club

The Middle School Book Club, suggested for ages 9-14, meets 5-6 p.m. every Wednesday at the Egg Harbor Township branch of the Atlantic County Library. Call 609-927-8664.

MOMS Club

The Moms Offering Moms Support Club of Egg Harbor Township is always open to new members. See momclub.org or email momclubofeht@yahoo.com for information.

Mom to Mom support group

Mothers can get together and share their experiences at Mom to Mom support group meetings 1-2 p.m. every Monday in the Jenkins Room at Shore Memorial Hospital. New mothers are encouraged to bring their babies. Valet parking is available. Call 609-653-3238 to register.

Narcotics Anonymous

Narcotics Anonymous can help individuals with drug problems. Call 800-992-0401 or see nanj.org.

Nashville Songwriters

The Atlantic County Chapter of the Nashville Songwriters Association International meets 6:30-9 p.m. the second Tuesday of the month at the Egg Harbor Township branch of the Atlantic County Library. All are welcome. The workshop portion of the meetings will focus on some aspect of song craft or the business of songwriting, to be followed by song feedback. Come prepared to play a song live or via recording and bring at least 10 copies of lyrics. Call Mike Michnya at 609-214-0547.



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Greate Egg Harbour Township Historical Society

The Greate Egg Harbour Township Historical Society Museum and Library is open 1-3 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays, weather permitting, or by appointment, at 6647 West Jersey Ave. The society holds special events throughout the year and is always looking for new members or donations of historical Egg Harbor Township photos and artifacts. Call 609-813-2002, go to gehthsmuseum.org or see Greate Egg Harbour Township Historical Society Museum on Facebook.

Upcoming events

Thursday, May 11: Annual recognition dinner 7 p.m. at Crab Trap Restaurant, 2 Broadway, Somers Point. Cost is \$40 for members and \$45 for nonmembers. Guest speaker is meteorologist Dan Skeldon. Call 609-813-2002.

Friday, June 2: All about quilting presentation by Debbie McNeill 7 p.m. at Egg Harbor Township Community Center, 6647 English Creek Ave. Cost is \$2; free for members and students.

Saturday, July 29: Call of Duty an American military timeline



re-enactment 10 a.m.-5 p.m. on the museum grounds. Free. Sponsors and volunteers needed.

Saturday, Sept. 30: Museum Day and Ye Ole flea market 8 a.m.-2 p.m. on the museum grounds. Call 609-813-2002 for table information.

Friday, Oct. 6: Seabrook Farms presentation by Beverly Bradway, director of The Seabrook Educational

and Cultural Center, 7 p.m. at Egg Harbor Township Community Center, 6647 English Creek Ave. Cost is \$2; free for members and students. Presentation about the Japanese relocation to the farm and German prisoners of war who worked the farm during World War II.

Friday, Nov. 3: History of glass making, a presentation by Kristin Qualls from the Wheaton Arts Center, 7 p.m.

at Egg Harbor Township Community Center, 6647 English Creek Ave. Cost is \$2; free for members and students. Discussion of the impact glass making had on the growth of South Jersey.

Wednesday, Dec. 6: Christmas tree lighting ceremony 6:30 p.m. on the museum grounds. Free. Dancers, music, refreshments and pictures with Santa. Call 609-813-2002 for table information.

EGG HARBOR TOWNSHIP Spring Community Pride Day Saturday April 29, 2017

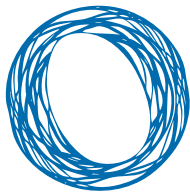
Adults, children, and community organizations are invited to help clean up the litter from Egg Harbor Township's roads, parks, and public lands. Volunteers will be provided with T-shirts, gloves, and garbage bags. Lunch will be provided to participants. Make this a family event and show your Community Pride.

Start Time: 8:30 am
Egg Harbor Township Community Center
(5045 English Creek Avenue)

For additional information, contact Public Works **926-3838**

COMMUNITY PRIDE DAY

is sponsored by Egg Harbor Township's Clean Communities Program



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Volunteers power youth sports programs in EHT

BY BILL LECONY
Staff Writer

The offerings are numerous and diverse, but common themes of fun, fitness and volunteerism characterize youth sports and recreation in Egg Harbor Township.

The Egg Harbor Township Recreation Department and the Egg Harbor Township Youth Organization have dozens of sports squads, each run by volunteer coaches or hobbyists.

The list of offerings includes dance, field hockey, wrestling, sand sculpting, soccer, fencing, karate, flag football and Hooked on Fishing. There is also a junior hockey program, a Phillies Home Run Derby and an NFL Punt Pass and Kick competition.

Other programs include the Summer Sports and Activities Camp, youth sports coaching clinics, bus trips, and discounted ski lift tickets.

For links to programs see ehtgov.org/recreation, go to the bottom of the page and click on the link.

The township also sponsors athletic organizations that include the EHT BMX Association, the Street Hockey Association, Soccer Club, Baseball Association, Youth Softball Association, Youth Organization, which fields cheerleading and football squads, and Lacrosse Association.

The Egg Harbor Township Police Athletic League offers an array of year-round and seasonal programs and



EHTBMX features Saturday night racing over a 1,000-foot-long track of turns and obstacles. Thursday racing begins in June.

events made possible by fundraising efforts, grants, support of the local community and an army of volunteers.

PAL locations include the John J. Coyle Youth Center on Tilton Road, which is home to Little PALs preschool; PAL kindergarten to third-grade summer camp; and outdoor basketball courts. There is also the Ridge Avenue

Ready to Ride Off-road Vehicle Park, set on 35 acres, with more than 8 miles of maintained trails for ATVs, go-karts and dirt bike riders.

The Egg Harbor Township Baseball Association offers a recreation program for children ages 5 and under (T-ball) to 12 and under. EHT Baseball maintains a travel baseball program that is part of Babe Ruth Baseball, fielding teams from 9U to 16U in the Tri-State Elite baseball league. These teams also participate in weekend and week-long tournaments throughout the year. Go to ehtbaseball.org.

The Elite Youth Football Organization fields teams at four levels: taxi (ages 5-7), peewee (8-10), junior varsity and varsity. For information, including sponsorships and donations, email Chris Souder at ehtelite@gmail.com.

Do you like riding your bike around your neighborhood or on a homemade track or jumps? The BMX Association is now open for the 2017 season. Riders of the same age and skill level race their 20-inch bicycles or 24-inch cruisers over a 1,000-foot-long track of turns and obstacles.

BMX is a competitive type of racing for all ages, and it's safer than riding on the street, according to organizers,

since protective gear is required, and bikes must pass a safety inspection before every race.

The action begins with registration 6 p.m. Saturdays at the track in front of Veterans Park on Ocean Heights Avenue. The BMX Association adds Thursday races beginning in June.

Egg Harbor Township Soccer Club has more than 500 participants and gives children ages 4 to 14 a place to play soccer through three separate levels, including a co-ed micro league for children ages 4-7; an intramural league for children ages 8-14 that competes in the Shore County Soccer League; and a travel program with teams competing in the SJGSL and SJSL.

The Orchard South Wrestling Club on Fire Road near Delilah Avenue is a training facility for youth wrestlers, and has served as a feeder program of sorts to the successful Egg Harbor Township High School wrestling program. For information call 609-665-1095.

EHT Seahawks is a year-round swim team dedicated to developing great swimmers, many of whom have gone on to compete at the high school and collegiate level. See seahawksswimming.com or EHT Seahawks Swim Team on Facebook.



The EHT Baseball Association, affiliated with Babe Ruth Baseball, fields teams from 9U to 16U in the Tri-State Elite baseball league. The Egg Harbor Township Baseball Association offers a recreation program for children ages 5 and under (T-ball) to 12 and under.

Community Partnership for Egg Harbor Township Schools

In 2005, Egg Harbor Township schools were busting at the seams with nearly 8,000 students. The influx of new residents who came to the area in 1979 to fill casino jobs and Egg Harbor Township's designation as a Regional Growth Area by the state Pinelands Commission in 1980 combined to create the perfect storm of overpopulation.

As a result, Egg Harbor Township experienced a 41 percent population increase between 2000 and 2010, growing from 30,726 to 43,323, and adding about 300 new students per year to the local public school district, with no additional state aid to serve the burgeoning student population.

The Community Partnership for Egg Harbor Township Schools was founded in December 2005 to help address the financial shortfalls that overpopulation and cuts in state aid to public schools created, and to provide private funds to enhance and expand educational programs and extracurricular activities for students, and capital projects and technology upgrades.

More than a decade later, the Community Partnership is addressing another challenge: the fallout from the recession hitting the Atlantic City economy. As Atlantic County continues to lead the nation with the highest foreclosure rate, the trickle-down effect is hitting Egg Harbor Township hard. Mounting unemployment, high foreclosure rates and rising poverty are all acutely felt by the schools serving this community.

As an independent organization, the Community Partnership tries to adapt to the ever-changing needs of the schools and the student body. To date, the organization has raised about \$400,000 for Egg Harbor Township schools. The Board of Trustees is made up of concerned local business and community members who share a common goal of raising supplemental funding for instructional technology, academic enhancement, extracurricular activities and capital projects for the largest district in Atlantic County.

Funds raised directly support the schools and students in a continuing

effort to achieve educational excellence among all student groups in Egg Harbor Township.

Projects funded in 2016 include a new playground at H. Russell Swift Elementary School and computer lab at E.H. Slaybaugh Elementary School. Other projects funded over the past decade include iPads for students with autism at Dr. Joyanne D. Miller Elementary School; commercial kitchen equipment for the high school field house/concession stand, an LED marquee sign at High School Drive and English Creek Avenue, a Steinway grand piano for the district's performing arts students, new computer labs at Alder Avenue Middle School and Miller Elementary, and three high-definition digital cameras and upgrades for the high school media and EHT-TV program.

The nonprofit also has covered the costs of Advanced Placement tests for low-income students; start-up boys' and girls' lacrosse team equipment and uniforms; a Chris Herren anti-drug presentation for high school and middle school students; EHTHS

alumni website hosting; Renaissance Program funding, annual end-of-the-year eighth-grade student academic awards at Alder and Fernwood Avenue Middle Schools; a Leg-Up therapeutic horseback riding program for special-needs students; district-wide, life-saving automatic external defibrillators; Teacher of the Year county luncheon for the district's awardees, and the installation of two additional elementary school playgrounds at Davenport and Slaybaugh.

The Community Partnership couldn't have done these things without the amazing generosity of community businesses and people.

Upcoming Community Partnership events include a beer tasting at Tuckahoe Brewing Co. on May 7; a Designer Bag Bingo on June 2; and the annual Friends of Chuck Donovan Wine Tasting Dinner at Hidden Creek Golf Club in early October. To attend these events or for more information on the Community Partnership, call 609-646-8441, ext. 1017, or email gregorye@eht.k12.nj.us.

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Tech Center is vital axis in Atlantic County's economic development

BY CHARLIE PRITCHARD

With the decline of employment in the casino industry due to competition from other states and the resulting downward economic conditions, officials in Atlantic County hired Angelou Economics, a consulting firm based in Austin, Texas, to prepare a comprehensive economic development study in 2015.

Among its recommendations was to create more positions in technical industries and to expand the opportu-

nities that exist. One entity was singled out in the final report as serving a continuing vital role in the county's future economic vitality: the Federal Aviation Administration William J. Hughes Technical Center.

Situated 10 miles northwest of Atlantic City on more than 5,000 acres that also contain the Atlantic City International Airport and a noncommercial aircraft hangar, the center employs more than 1,500 people. A similar number of contractor employees and about a

thousand non-FAA tenants are also based at the site.

The center has served as the core facility for modernizing the air traffic control system and for advancing programs to enhance aviation safety in all stages of flight since 1958.

Previously known as the National Aviation Facilities Experimental Center, or NAFEC, it was renamed the Federal Aviation Administration Technical Center in 1980; the name of longtime 2nd District Congressman and U.S. Ambassador William J. Hughes was added in 1996.

The Tech Center serves as the national scientific test base for research and development, testing and evaluation, and verification and validation in air traffic control, communications, navigation, airports, aircraft safety and security. Its laboratories and engineering place the Technical Center at the forefront of the FAA's challenge to modernize the U.S. air transportation system.

Each day, more than 50,000 commercial airliners and general aviation airplanes take off and land in the United States. There were 8,727,691 commercial flights in the country last year, with no fatal accidents. The importance of having highly trained air traffic employees is evident in the numbers: There are 7,000 commercial aircraft flying over 5 million square miles of airspace in the country at any given time. The FAA's 14,000 air traffic controllers service 2,456,445 passengers each day.

The center is the primary aviation facility responsible for conducting research and engineering and developing the National Airspace System integration activities required to support and advance the NextGen systems and our legacy airspace.

The Tech Center is also a key focal point for national security. The grounds are home to the Department of Homeland Security, the Transportation Security Lab, the New Jersey Air National Guard 177th Fighter Wing, and U.S. Coast Guard Group Air Station Atlantic City.

Much of the work is performed through contracts with private industry and research by academic institutions through aviation research grants.

Center scientists focus on air traffic management, communications, and navigation, airport and aircraft safety. The center provides operational support to FAA field facilities around the country 24/7. Its specialists diagnose and correct problems so that critical systems remain operational.

Tech Center laboratories include air traffic control and simulation facilities, a human factors laboratory, a fleet of specially instrumented in-flight testing aircraft, the world's largest full-scale aviation fire test facility, a chemistry lab for analyzing the toxicity of materials involved in a fire, radar test laboratories, a structural panel test facility, and the National Airport Pavement Test Facility.

The William J. Hughes Technical Center is a cornerstone for aviation innovation worldwide.

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Ministry of Motherhood

The Ministry of Motherhood is a dynamic group of new and experienced mothers who share a commitment to making Christ the center of their family lives by supporting, praying, sharing with and learning from each other.

The group is based on Catholic teachings and consists of a diverse group of Atlantic County residents who have come to New Jersey from around the world.

Some of the core team members are Alice Reemmer, Mena Roff, Maria Smith and Ive Mosca of Egg Harbor Township; Cara Kurtz of Atlantic City; and Pamela Karol and Katie DeSalle of Linwood.

The group provides a variety of social, service and spiritual activities. The Children's Rosary meets the first Saturday of each month after the 8 a.m. Mass in the Cry Room at Our Lady of Sorrows in Linwood.

Mom's Pennies for the Poor Project IX encourages people to save a penny a day for 100 days as part of an effort to raise \$3,000 for its adopted school in the Dominican Republic. The project has been able to build three houses in Haiti, provide bicycles in rural Guatemala, and support a home for homeless pregnant mothers. It is always looking for more groups to get involved.

Other activities include the end-of-school-year

Mom's Night Out Dinner in June, Mothers' Prayer Group and Book and Dessert Club, usually on a Wednesday evening every other month.

There is also an annual scholarship to local families with children attending St. Joseph's or St. Vincent de Paul schools. The group sponsors a team in the Shirley Mae Run and Walk, a new quilt project, potlucks, blueberry picking and beach days, and more.

Membership is free, and members participate at whatever level they wish. To learn more or to get on the email list email ministryofmotherhood@yahoo.com or call Alice at 609-408-2194.

Cygnus Creative Arts Centre

Cygnus Creative Arts Centre is a nonprofit regional arts organization that offers instruction in dance, visual arts, music and theater, serving as a home for creative discovery. Programs provide a complete study of the visual and performing arts for all ages and levels of experience.

Cygnus, which means swan, was established in 1992 by Millville artists Maryann Cannon and Cynthia M. Domino, an Atlantic City High School dance teacher. Domino is the center's artistic director.

The center has studios where artists can create, display areas where they can show their work, and a performance center where budding thespians can recite Shakespeare or stage original plays.

Cygnus alumni have been accepted to the Boston Conservatory, Joffrey Ballet School, AMDA, Tyler School of the Arts and Westminster Choir College.

Cygnus has partnerships with the Atlantic Pops and The Arc of Atlantic County and has sponsored events for Gilda's Club and the Egg Harbor

Township Recreation Department. It hosts events throughout the year including mini-disco dance parties, movie nights, special needs classes, intensive workshops and summer camps, and a senior citizens program called Art for the Young at Heart.

Cygnus Arts Centre hours are 3:30-8:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday at 5045 English Creek Ave., Egg Harbor Township. For information call 609-272-1199 or see cygnusarts.org.



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Boy Scouting

The Boy Scouts of America's goal is to train youth in responsible citizenship, character development and self-reliance through participation in a wide range of outdoor activities, educational programs and, at older age levels, career-oriented programs in partnership with community organizations.

For younger members, Scouting teaches values such as trustworthiness, good citizenship and outdoor skills through activities such as camping, aquatics and hiking.

Boy Scouting is for boys 11-17 years of age. Cub Scouting is for boys in first through fifth grade. Boys may also become Boy Scouts if they have earned the Cub Scouting Arrow of Light Award and are at least 10 years old or have completed fifth grade and are at least 10 years old.

Boy Scout Troop 94

The troop meets 6:30 p.m. every Tuesday at the Zion Methodist Church, 652 Zion Road, except for the first Tuesday of the month. Scouts spend their time at meetings to plan their adventures, learn new Scouting skills, and hear about Scouting opportunities



Scouts in Boy Scout Troop 94 of Egg Harbor Township collect donations for the Community Food Bank of New Jersey Southern Branch.

(e.g. merit badge fairs, jamborees, volunteer opportunities, etc.) The troop earned gold rating, the highest rating in Boy Scouts, in 2015 for its Journey of Excellence. Activities include a week-long summer camp, whitewater rafting, indoor rock climbing and monthly camping trips.

Peter Bruno is the scoutmaster, Matt

Helm is the committee chairman, and Steve Swankoski is the charter representative. Email brunopeter@gmail.com.

Cub Scout Pack 94

Cub Scouting is for younger boy in grades one through five who want to learn more about themselves, their community and be of service to others.

Dens are small groups of about eight members of the same grade level who meet in small age-appropriate groups on Wednesday or Thursday evenings to share what they have learned and receive advancement. Activities include the Pinewood Derby, Rain Gutter Regatta and service projects. Cub Scouts also help with neighborhood cleanups and food drives, learn first aid and cooking skills, and enjoy the outdoors in all of their activities.

The dens meet together once a month, usually 6:30 p.m. the second Wednesday in the cafeteria at the Joyanne D. Miller Elementary School, 2 Alder Ave.

For more information see ehtpack94.com or email Cubmaster Dawn Donchey at cubmaster@ehtpack94.com.

Boy Scout Troop 389

This program achieves the BSA's objectives of developing character, citizenship and personal fitness.

Troop 389 meets at Atlantic Christian School. Contact committee Chairman Dave Newman at 609-407-9560 or djnewman17@comcast.net or Scoutmaster Pete Karabashian at 609-823-1519 or ppkknj@comcast.net.

Girl Scouting

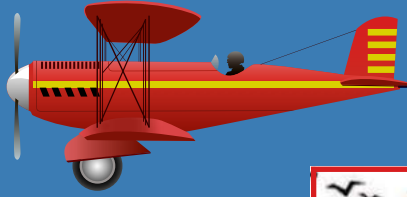
The mission of Girl Scouting is to build girls of courage, confidence and character who make the world a better place. Nationwide, nearly 2 million girls, under the leadership of 800,000 volunteers, learn their strengths, passions and abilities.

In Egg Harbor Township, girls can join one of a dozen Girl Scout troops ranging from Daisies to Seniors. The approximately 120 girls who participate are in kindergarten through sophomore year in high school.

Founded in 1912, Girl Scouting empowers girls through a variety of activities such as field trips, skill-building clinics, community service projects, cultural exchanges and environmental stewardship lessons.

Right: Girl Scouts from Egg Harbor Township Troop 16282 pack gift boxes for needy children. In the bottom row from left are Hannah Frick, Katie Colella, Ella Berg, Ali Weller and Kaci Velardi. In the top row from left are Gabi Jones, Marley Odell, Riley Grawl, Alex Urban, Paige Pacquing and Kayden Senior.





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Program Dates:

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Cost:

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Parents are responsible for transportation



email Wendy Eichinger: ehtsummer@gmail.com
or visit ehtsummer.wixsite.com/summerenrichment

Upcoming events

EHT schools performing arts events

Egg Harbor Township Schools Fine and Performing Arts will host the following events this spring at Egg Harbor Township High School: piano recital 7 p.m. Friday, May 5; Bands and Strings concert 7 p.m. Wednesday, May 10; district art show 6 p.m. Friday, May 19; choral festival 7 p.m. Friday, May 19; "Evening of Dance and Theater" 7 p.m. Wednesday, May 24; and "Jazz Night" 7 p.m. Thursday, May 25. The Fernwood Avenue Middle School will host the Fernwood strings and choral concert 7 p.m. Thursday, May 4; Fernwood band concert 7 p.m. Thursday, May 11; and Alder Avenue Middle School band strings and choral concert 7 p.m. Wednesday, May 17. The Dr. Joyanne D. Miller School will host the Miller strings concert 7 p.m. Thursday, May 25; Miller band concert 1:30 p.m. Thursday, June 1; and Miller chorus concert 1:30 p.m. Tuesday, June 13.

School board meetings

The Egg Harbor Township Board of Education will hold regular meetings at 7 p.m. on the following Tuesdays in the board room of Alder Avenue Middle School: April 25, May 9, May 23, June 13, June 27, July 25, Aug. 22, Sept. 12, Sept. 26, Oct. 10, Oct. 17, Nov. 14, Nov. 28, and Dec. 12. The board is scheduled

to hold work session meetings at 6 p.m. on the following Tuesdays: May 16, June 20, Sept. 19, Nov. 21 and Dec. 19. Agendas for regular meetings are available in advance at eht.k12.nj.us under Board of Education.

Nature Reserve bike tour

A guided bike tour of the Egg Harbor Township Nature Reserve is scheduled to 10 a.m. April 15 for all skill levels, ages 10 and above. The reserve is located at 318 Zion Road. The tour will take participants through open, wooden and winding terrain. Helmets and off-road wide tires are mandatory. Cost is \$5 fee, which includes a decal. Participants may register on day of the tour or in advance by calling the 609-272-8120. Go to ehtnaturereserve.org.

EHT Spring Break Camp

Join the Egg Harbor Township Recreation Center for a week of fun and games during Spring Break! Campers will participate in a variety of sports, games, group activities, and more. Participants will take a field trip to local destinations such as bowling or roller skating. \$150 per child; April 17-April 21. Visit EHTrec.com to register or call 609-272-8120 for more information.

ACUA Earth Day

The 27th Annual Earth Day Festival is set for 10 a.m.-4 p.m. April 23, rain or shine, at the Atlantic

County Utilities Authority, 6700 Delilah Road. The day will open with the Colors of the Earth 5K Fun Run at 8:30 a.m. and include tours, mini yoga sessions, environmental exhibits, giveaways, live entertainment and more. Free parking and admission. For a full schedule of events see acua.com.

Special education group

The Egg Harbor Township Special Education Resource Group meets 7 p.m. one Monday a month at Alder Avenue Middle School. The meetings provide a stress-free way for special needs parents, staff, administrators and guest speakers to address topics regarding special education services and strategies. The meeting dates are April 24 (library) and May 22 (library). See EHT Special Education Resource Group on Facebook, call Abby Longstreet at 609-214-1453 or email abby@jkagency.com.

Document shredding

Egg Harbor Township residents can bring their household documents to the Community Center, 5045 English Creek Ave., for free shredding 9 a.m.-noon April 29 or until the truck is full, whichever comes first. No commercial materials accepted. Books, magazines and newspapers should be recycled through ACUA. Call public works at 609-926-3838.

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Egg Harbor Twp. NJ 08234
(609) 241-6460

Herbert L. Godfrey II, Manager
NJ Lic. No. 4362

William C. Orr, Director, NJ Lic. No. 4896 Michelle R. Orr, Director, NJ Lic. No. 4804

National Night Out

Egg Harbor Township will hold its 33rd annual National Night Out crime and drug prevention event 5-8 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 1 at Veterans Memorial Park on Ocean Heights Avenue.

Sponsored by the National Association of Town Watch and co-sponsored locally by the township Municipal Alliance and the Police Department, National Night Out involves more than 16,540 communities from all 50 states, U.S. territories, Canadian cities and military bases around the world. In all, some 38 million people are expected to participate in "America's Night Out Against Crime."

National Night Out is designed to heighten crime and drug prevention

awareness, generate support for and participation in local anti-crime efforts, strengthen neighborhood spirit and police community partnerships, and put criminals on notice that neighborhoods are organized and fighting back.

It calls on people to lock their doors, turn on their outside lights and spend an evening with neighbors and police enjoying live music, food, fun, games and fireworks.

Businesses or organizations interested in participating can call Township Clerk April Stafford at 609-926-4119 or email astafford@ehtpd.com.

For other questions call Police Officer Robert O'Donoghue at 609-926-4040 or email rodonoghue@ehtpd.com.



LAURA STETSER

Ayush Mohanraj, 3, and his father Vipin join Egg Harbor Township Police Officers Mel Laramore, left, and Mike Keeping, both of whom serve on the Atlantic County SWAT Team, at the 2016 National Night Out.

The Charity League of Atlantic County

The Charity League of Atlantic County, established in 1939, seeks to improve the lives and well-being of women and children in Atlantic County.

This organization of women, meeting monthly, spends each year

creating hand-sewn items to sell. Members, along with many friends of Charity League, spend hours making the annual Christmas pin, Christmas stockings, tree skirts, tree ornaments and homemade baked goods that are all sold at the Charity

League Christmas Mart each year the weekend before Thanksgiving.

All profits are distributed to six chosen charities that support the women and children of Atlantic County: the Atlantic City Day Nursery, Child

Federation, Women's Center, Covenant House, Family Service Association and Donny Fund. Last year the organization gave \$150,000 to those charities.

Learn more about The Charity League on Facebook or at charityleagueac.com.

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