



Clean Ocean Action  
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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



## Tributes

Photo courtesy of Joe Reynolds

### In Memory of:

Matt Callahan	Justin Lincoln
Patricia Coren	Ron Martin
Douglass J. Denman	Montecalvo Family
Barbara Woolson Dillon	David Mooj
Margaret Dooley	John Quinn
Addie Gabel	Carol Anne Ross
Sheri Grover	Esser Perrier Sequite
Grace	Connor Sharkey
Dolores & Samuel Karinja	Chuck Sliney
William Michael Kestly	Nick Usechak
Jean Kushner	Joan Young
Linda Lees	Franz Von Ziegesar

### In Honor of:

Engagement of Sarah Abramow & Tyler Gilmour	Birth of Max David Himelman
William Didier Brite	Happy Birthday to Vicky James
Merry Christmas to Dr. John Castellini	Happy Birthday to Karen Kessler
Theresa Chemanski	Lisa Kingery
Merry Christmas to Jenna & Antonio Ciongoli	Merry Christmas to Chris Lee
Dr. Camille DeClementi	Nathaniel Lohead
COA's Work, Team, & the beautiful Big Blue	Merry Christmas to Mary & Dennis Mallazzo
Happy 90th Birthday to Mickey Cohen	Jacque Margolis & Mark Tibor
Michael DeSimone	Merry Christmas to Derek Noah
Merry Christmas to Barbara & Ray Dodd	Happy Birthday to Sandy Nott
Fran Donnelly	Arthur M. Pavluk, III
Merry Christmas to William Fitzpatrick	Owen Prabhakar
Sabrina & Sam Friedman	Jeff Schneider
Kevin Gilroy	Merry Christmas to the Shaheen Family
Ellen Goldberg	Tina Walling
Margaret & John Harper	Cindy Zipf

## Mark Your Calendars

### Rally for the Navesink Public Meeting January 31

Save the date! The first Rally for the Navesink meeting of the year will be held on Thursday, January 31st. Join us to learn more about what's in store for the Navesink and beyond in 2019!

### COA's 35th Birthday February 26

Stay tuned by visiting [cleanoceanaction.org](http://cleanoceanaction.org) or follow COA's social media to learn how Clean Ocean Action plans to celebrate its birthday!

### Beach Sweeps April 13

Over 60 NJ Locations  
Registration opens in Mid-February



## NJ's Law sets National Chain Reaction - Federal and State Officials Unite in Opposition to Offshore Oil



January 8 was a great day for the ocean. Nine states announced their intention to use state legislation, similar to New Jersey's STOP Offshore Oil and Gas Drilling, to combat the Federal Government's attempt to expand offshore oil and gas developments. Connecticut, Georgia, Hawaii, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York,

Oregon, and Rhode Island have introduced laws. South Carolina is considering legislation, as well. Once passed they will join New Jersey, California, Delaware, Florida, and Maryland that will create a blue wave targeted at blocking the Trump Administration's attempts to expand offshore oil drilling.

On the same day, seven Federal Representatives introduced seven bills aimed to block offshore oil and gas drilling in at least one or more regions of the OCS. The action taken on the Federal level included the reintroduction of the COAST Anti-Drilling Act by Congressman Frank Pallone (NJ-06). That act would ban offshore oil and gas drilling in the Atlantic Ocean.

## Coastal States Fight Seismic Testing

On December 20, NJ Attorney General Gurbir Grewal and NJDEP Deputy Commissioner Debbie Mans announced that NJ, along with nine other states, filed a lawsuit challenging the Incidental Harassment Authorizations (IHA) issued by NOAA. The IHA's allow the companies to "incidentally" harm and harass otherwise protected marine mammals. The impact is devastating to marine life and can even cause death. While the five companies intending to perform seismic blasting still need a final permit from BOEM before the blasting can begin, the lawsuit seeks to invalidate the IHAs which are necessary for any seismic activities.



## NJ Ban on Smoking at Public Parks and Beaches in Effect



On January 16, New Jersey's statewide ban on smoking in public beaches and parks went into full effect. Violators caught smoking on the beach will be subject to a \$250 fine on the first offense, a \$500 fine on the second offense and a \$1,000 fine on future violations.



On December 19, COA joined Congressman Frank Pallone and NJ environmental leaders at Monmouth University hosted by the Urban Coast Institute to discuss climate change and leadership opportunities. Mr. Pallone (center) recently became Chairman of the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.

# PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

Spencer Munson, Resource and Event Coordinator, [Programs@CleanOceanAction.org](mailto:Programs@CleanOceanAction.org)



## Two Exciting Opportunities for Businesses to Make an Impact!

Be the change! Participate in COA’s programs to build your company team and improve the environment!

### Sponsor the 2019 Beach Sweeps

This year marks the 34th anniversary of COA’s statewide Beach Sweeps, making it the longest running environmental event in the state. The event is possible thanks to incredible sponsors providing funds at levels ranging from a single site to state-wide sponsorship. In return, sponsors receive exposure and promotion through a variety of marketing channels including print, social and email. With over 6,500 volunteers at 60+ coastal sites from Cape May to the Raritan Bay, sponsors are ensured incredible exposure to a network of ocean advocates.

### Build your Team with the Corporate Beach Sweeps

COA’s Corporate Beach Sweeps offer a unique opportunity for corporate teams to get away from the office, engage in important team building activities, give back to the community and make a positive impact on the marine environment. Participating companies join COA on the beaches of Sandy Hook, receive a marine debris education session and a guided beach cleanup, as well as a catered lunch. Groups range in size from 10-100 and sessions are available in the morning or afternoon, Monday through Friday from May to September. Last year, 635 volunteers from over 19 corporations picked up an outstanding 52,822 pieces of debris!

Contact [SMunson@cleanoceanaction.org](mailto:SMunson@cleanoceanaction.org) for more details about these programs.



## Canyon Pass Provisions’ Inspiring Support Seeks to Pass It On

COA salutes, Canyon Pass Provisions in Fair Haven, NJ, for their inspiring Giving Tuesday donation. Through their Thanksgiving weekend “Sale for the Sea” Canyon Pass was able to raise over \$1,800 for Clean Ocean Action. They also used the occasion of Giving Tuesday to donate \$1 for every Hydro Flask and YETI Drinkware product was sold over the prior 12 months. This year’s donation was “made in loving memory of Drew Thompson, whose love for the environment and wildlife was only surpassed by his loving dedication to family and friends.”

Canyon Pass Provisions provides apparel, accessories, and hard goods for those connected to the outdoors and pursuing active lifestyles which depend on healthy ecosystems. As such, owners Genevieve and Derek DeBree are deeply devoted to the environment and routinely back up this commitment with generous customer-based campaigns. Genevieve said, “It’s an easy way to give back and our customers love it! We hope other stores will run similar in-store campaigns. If everyone does a little, it adds up to a big impact!” COA is so proud, honored, and inspired by this family’s commitment and leadership - thank you CPP!

If you own or operate a local business and would like to partner with COA, please reach-out to Spencer Munson at [Programs@cleanoceanaction.org](mailto:Programs@cleanoceanaction.org).



Clean Ocean Action Policy Attorney Peter Blair was sworn in this month as a member of the Oregon State Bar, which has Reciprocity Admission with NJ. He was sworn in by his cousin, a New Jersey Attorney, Matthew Cali.

# SCIENCE

Swarna Muthukrishnan, PhD, Staff Scientist; [Science@CleanOceanAction.org](mailto:Science@CleanOceanAction.org)  
Alison McCarthy, Watershed Protection Coordinator; [Outreach@CleanOceanAction.org](mailto:Outreach@CleanOceanAction.org)

## Rally for the Navesink Chock Full of News

In November, Clean Ocean Action hosted Environmental Canine Services (ECS) back to the Navesink River watershed to conduct another pathogen pollution source trackdown investigation. ECS investigated over 90 locations throughout Fair Haven, Middletown, Red Bank, and Rumson, while the NJDEP collected and analyzed water samples from 44 of these locations for fecal coliforms and E. coli. At the end of January, COA and NJDEP met with each municipality to review these results and to discuss actions needed to address any potential sources.

Following these meetings with municipalities, results from the ECS investigation and NJDEP’s water sample analysis will be shared by Dr. Swarna Muthukrishnan (COA) and Bill Hedgendorf (NJDEP Bureau of Marine Water Monitoring) at the Rally for the Navesink meeting on January 31st at Bingham Hall, Rumson, from 6:30pm – 8pm.

An exciting living shoreline project along the Navesink River was also discussed by Bill Shadel, Coastal Programs Manager at The Nature Conservancy in New Jersey. Thanks to funding through TNC’s Living Shoreline Grants Program, the Lee Family in Red Bank will be able to replace bulkhead along the waterfront with a living shoreline, which can help to improve water quality and create habitat for aquatic life.



Thanks to the generosity of the Cosgrove Family, COA’s Navesink River volunteer water quality monitors and their guests enjoyed a fantastic celebration at Bahrs Landing to recognize the volunteers’ commitment to clean waterways and continual support of the source trackdown program.

## Clean Ocean Action Fights to Ensure NJ Strengthens Stormwater Rules

Clean Ocean Action and a coalition of environmental organizations are working together to pressure the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection into making the new proposed stormwater rule the strongest possible. The proposed rule would require developers to utilize green infrastructure to meet water quality and quantity standards. Stormwater is a leading contributor to flooding and non-point source pollution. For details on how to submit comments, which are due February 1, contact Peter Blair at [policy@cleanoceanaction.org](mailto:policy@cleanoceanaction.org) or 732-872-0111.



2nd Jetty crew (l to r): Ashley and Sunnie Hopfensperger, Jack Murphy, and Kyle Hopfensperger, with COA’s Executive Director Cindy Zipf (Danny Ciambone not pictured)

The event was made even more special by the “passing of the rides.” Billy Caldwell, a local NJ surf legend, passed away last year and his wife, Wendy, donated his beautiful and beloved boards to be auctioned to help COA defend big blue and ensure his boards went on to ride the waves. The auction was caringly coordinated by Billy’s dear friend Scott “The General” Thompson. The four boards raised \$1650. We look forward to the re-opening of 2nd Jetty on March 1!

## 2nd Jetty Dining Sensation to Benefit COA

Clean Ocean Action sends its gratitude to the folks at 2nd Jetty Seafood for donating a portion of the proceeds from their end-of-the-year party to COA. The sold-out event was another epic 2nd Jetty creation including a delicious 5-course dinner that was a taste-sensation, paired with incredible wines generously donated by Rumson Wine and Spirits, and enhanced thanks to the acoustic music provided by the Psychotic Submarines!

# OUTREACH & EDUCATION

Amanda Wheeler, Volunteer & Education Coordinator; [Citizens@CleanOceanAction.org](mailto:Citizens@CleanOceanAction.org)

## Muchas Gracias, Amanda!

Amanda Wheeler, Education and Volunteer Coordinator, has sailed off to her second retirement. We are so grateful to Mandy for joining our crew in 2016.

Mandy’s teaching ability is remarkable. To watch her teach is a joy to behold—children and adults are captivated with her every word. Mandy’s enthusiasm for teaching, motivating and engaging people is inspiring and contagious. Her many skills and experience made a big splash at COA which will have extensive ripple effects for years to come. Here are just a few highlights of Mandy’s innovations:

- Be the Sea Change: an inspiring program for K-3rd grade youth about the dangers of marine debris. This program led to students stopping the use plastics, and organizing classmates to take action.
- Watershed Mindfulness: a concept and an understanding that we are all connected to and responsible for the quality of our local waterways. Programs include Soak it Up and Know your Water Address.
- COA Ambassadors: trained adults to conduct presentations, maximizing the opportunity for COA’s programs to be heard.
- Jr. Beach Sweep Captains: helps provide teens with an opportunity to learn leadership skills and responsibility as they support the Beach Captains.

Mandy also improved and enhanced COA’s many existing programs, raising the quality and effectiveness. She held many volunteer trainings, coordinated two NJ Student Summits annually and established a third Student Summit in Staten Island.

Mandy’s positive effect on COA ran deep. She was always available, often stepped-up to take on responsibilities beyond her job description, supported all staff, and often worked late and on weekends. She was a guiding voice sharing her extensive knowledge and experience with everyone. We wish we could bottle her amazing skills and good-hearted perseverance.

All this in three years! WOW! Waves of thanks and enjoy your well-deserved retirement #2, Mandy!



## Welcome, Kendall Keelen, COA Policy Fellow!



COA welcomes Kendall Kellan Policy Fellow for the next eight months. She is a recent graduate of George Washington University, Elliott School of International Affairs in Washington, D.C. where she attained a Bachelor of Arts in International Affairs and Spanish, and a minor in Sustainability.

Kendall’s past experiences include internships in Legislative Affairs with the Office of NJ Governor Phil Murphy, Research with Emily’s List in Washington, D.C., Program Services with Make-A-Wish MidAtlantic, and with the Office of Congressman Frank Pallone in Washington, D.C. Kendall is planning to attend the Vermont Law School in September.

While at COA, Kendall will be working closely with our Policy Attorney and Executive Director on energy, offshore oil and gas development, water quality, marine debris, and coastal resiliency. She will be involved with research, developing policy guidelines, advocacy, communication, and evaluation of legal issues and legislative proposals.

In Kendall’s words, “I believe that my passion for environmental advocacy aligns well with Clean Ocean Action. Advocacy gives a voice to those without. I believe that advocacy work improves the wellbeing of people, animals and the environment through engagement with communities, governments, and groups.”

Welcome aboard, Kendall!