

CAPE MAY COUNTY CHAMBER

NEWSLETTER || JUNE 2025

From the President's Desk:

Dear Members,

As we welcome the month of June, the summer season is officially underway in Cape May County. Our businesses are prepared, our beaches are open, and the vibrant energy that defines our region is already taking hold. This is the time of year when the vital role of our tourism economy becomes most evident—and so does the importance of the Chamber's mission to support, advocate for, and connect our members.

We know the challenges that come with the summer surge: housing shortages for seasonal workers, transportation demands, and regulatory burdens that impact operations. The Chamber continues to press for meaningful solutions at every level—from workforce development initiatives and visa program protections to infrastructure improvements and sensible policies that recognize our county's unique needs.

At the same time, we are proud to offer resources and programs that help our members grow.

We are offering a seminar on June 5th – Summer Essentials for Employers with Fisher Phillips, which will provide members with the legal “do’s and don’ts” of managing seasonal workers. Our membership meeting on June 18th is our mayors roundtable discussion featuring Mayor Curtis Corson (Upper Township), Mayor Jay Gillian (Ocean City), Mayor Zeth Mattalucci (Dennis Township), and Mayor William Pikolycky (Woodbine).

Thank you for your continued membership and engagement. As always, please reach out to share your concerns, ideas, or success stories. Together, we make Cape May County a premier place to live, work, and do business.

Warm Regards,
Barbara Stafford
Jones,
President



◆ UPCOMING EVENTS *

6/3/25—New Member Reception—Chamber Office

6/3/25—Evening Networking Mixer—Madison Resort Wildwood Crest

6/5/25—Summer Essentials for Employers w. Fisher Phillips Seminar—Chamber

6/10/25—Evening Networking Mixer—Jersey Girl

6/11/25—Leadership Cape May County Graduation—The Reeds

6/18/25—Membership Meeting—The Shore Club

6/30/25—FORE Education Gold Tournament—The Shore Club

7/17/25—Membership Meeting—Avalon Links

Chamber & Legislative Updates

- ◆ The Chamber and Fisher Phillips are partnering to bring members *Essentials for South Jersey Employers Heading Into Summer Seminar* on June 5. Learn the do's and don'ts of hiring seasonal workers and minors, get tips on avoiding legal issues like tip pooling and workplace policies, and stay compliant with NJ wage laws, earned sick leave, and required staffing paperwork. **[Learn more and sign up.](#)**

- ◆ The Chamber will host its June Membership Meeting, *Community Insights with Our Mayors*, on Wednesday, June 18, at The Shore Club, proudly sponsored by Workplace HCM. This informative session will feature updates from local leaders, including Mayor Curtis Corson (Upper Township), Mayor Jay Gillian (Ocean City), Mayor Zeth Mattalucci (Dennis Township), and Mayor William Pikolycky (Woodbine), who will each share developments and initiatives within their respective municipalities. In addition, Bob Mullock of the Cape May Point Science Center will provide an update on recent activities at the Center. **[Learn more and sign up.](#)**

- ◆ Enjoy a fantastic day on the greens while making a meaningful impact at the Education Foundation's 11th Annual FORE Education Golf Tournament, presented by J. Byrne Agency, on June 30 at The Shore Club. This event supports programs like Leadership Cape May County and provides scholarships for local students. **[Learn more and sign up.](#)**

- ◆ On May 22, the Chamber and community celebrated the grand opening of Dink It! Pickleball, a dynamic new addition to Cape May Court House. As the area's premier pickleball facility, Dink It! is quickly becoming a hub for fun, fitness, and connection. **[Read more.](#)**

- ◆ The Chamber is proud to support the upcoming *TEDxCapeMay Salon* series, featuring two thought-provoking events at Atlantic Cape Community College. On August 21, Ryan Benz will present "Why Being Yourself Takes Courage—and How to Find It," followed by Louis Bezich's "Unleash Your Emotional Force to Live Healthy and Happy" on September 18. These Salons lead up to the main *TEDxCapeMay* event on October 5. **[Learn more.](#)**

- ◆ The Cape May County Department of Tourism recently released its 2025 Tourism Impact Book, highlighting a record-breaking year for the local tourism industry. In 2024, the county achieved \$8.1 billion in direct visitor spending, a 5% increase over 2023, driven by growth across all sectors including lodging, food and beverage, retail, recreation, and transportation. Cape May County led New Jersey in spending on food and beverage, retail, and recreation, and generated \$668.5 million in state and local taxes and saw 12.11 million visitors. Cape May County ranked second in the state for total direct spending, behind only Atlantic County. **[Read the complete Tourism Impact Book.](#)**

- ◆ Beginning June 1, electric supply rates in New Jersey are set to increase significantly by as much as 20% for some customers depending on their utility provider. This spike is largely due to growing demand from major energy users such as data centers, delays in launching new energy sources, and elevated prices resulting from regional energy market auctions. Electricity represents a substantial cost for businesses like restaurants and hotels, which rely heavily on consistent power to operate. **[Read more from New Jersey Restaurant and Hospitality Association.](#)**

- ◆ Congress has postponed a vote on the GENIUS Act, which includes the Credit Card Competition Act aimed at reforming credit card swipe fees. The delay means that legislation intended to introduce more competition into the credit card processing market will not proceed as scheduled. The proposed reforms are significant for businesses, particularly small retailers, as swipe fees have become a substantial operating expense. **[Read more. New Jersey Restaurant and Hospitality Association offers resources for contacting Senators here.](#)**

- ◆ On May 22, Congressman Jefferson Van Drew discussed the passage of H.R. 1, the budget reconciliation, stating, "I want to make it clear that in this bill there are NO cuts to Medicaid, Medicare, or Social Security for the people these programs were designed to serve. I have been deeply disturbed by the misinformation the left has been circulating surrounding this bill, so I wanted to take the opportunity to give you a breakdown of what is being said versus what is actually true." **[Read more.](#)**



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Chamber Event Highlights



Tourism Conference & May Membership Meeting – May 15

The Cape May County Tourism Conference and May Chamber Membership Meeting took place on May 15 at ICONA Diamond Beach. With over 100 business and community members in attendance, the event marked a strong and enthusiastic start to the 2025 tourism season in Cape May County. This luncheon was sponsored by Southern Shore Regional DMO, Ocean View Resort Campground and Hutchinson.

We were honored to welcome Cape May County Commissioner Director Leonard Desiderio, who provided opening remarks and introduced the County's annual tourism report. Tourism Director Diane Wieland provided statistics from the 2024 season and delivered an in-depth look at the 2025 tourism outlook, followed by timely updates from Michael Styles of the New Jersey Division of Travel & Tourism and Stephen Dougherty of the South Jersey Transportation Authority. **[Read More "Region hopes to top record tourism growth of 2024"](#)**.

Our next luncheon meeting is Wednesday, June 18, 2025 for Community Insights with Our Mayors. Networking and check-in begins at 11:30am with the program to start at 12:00pm.

Real Estate Seminar—May 8



The Chamber hosted a dynamic panel discussion, *Cape May County Real Estate: Realtor Perspectives on Modern Challenges*, at Avalon Links Restaurant on May 8. Local real estate leaders shared valuable insights on the trends, challenges, and opportunities shaping today's housing market in Cape May County. The expert panel featured Dutch Dechert (Ferguson Dechert Real Estate), Rachel Mammele (Freda Real Estate), Kathleen Satt and Micah Yerk (deSatnick Real Estate), with the discussion skillfully moderated by Patricia Gray Hendricks (Long & Foster Real Estate). This event was sponsored by South Jersey Gas; Shore Title Agency; Sturdy Savings Bank; Advisors Mortgage Group; Barry, Corrado, & Grassi Attorneys at Law; Clark's Moving & Storage; Atlantic Title Agency; Wisser Insurance Agency; Harris Production Services. **[Read more "Real estate market continues to grow, but inventory refuses to budget"](#)**.

Evening Networking Mixer—May 21



Chamber members braced the unseasonably cold spring weather to take a ride at Revolution Rail in Cape May on May 21. Everyone enjoyed a scenic ride on the rails, discovering fascinating facts about nature and monarch butterflies, and admired the newly painted rail cars at the Garrett Family Preserve. We thank Ed, Jake, Christine and the team at Rev Rail for making this event possible for our members.



Chamber Member of the Month: The Depot Travel Park

The Depot Travel Park, located at 800 Broadway in West Cape May, is the closest campground to Cape May's beaches, offering a convenient and affordable option for families and travelers seeking a coastal getaway.

Open seasonally from May 1 to November 1, this family-owned and operated campground features 240 sites accommodating tents and RVs, with options for 2-way, 3-way, and 4-way hookups. Amenities include free Wi-Fi hotspots, clean comfort stations, a laundromat, two children's playgrounds, a covered pavilion, and pet-friendly policies. Guests can also enjoy on-site conveniences like a farm market, propane and firewood sales, and easy access to Cape May's attractions, making it an ideal base for exploring the area.



Learn more at www.thedepottravelpark.com.

Out on the Town with Our Members



With the summer season quickly approaching, **Britton's Bakery** in Wildwood Crest is once again open and serving up their famously delicious treats. Chamber staff recently made a morning visit to this longtime local favorite to pick up a batch of their world-famous apple fritters—crispy on the outside, soft and flavorful on the inside—as well as an assortment of baked goods including fresh doughnuts, muffins, and pastries to share with family and friends. Located just a few blocks from the beach, Britton's is known for drawing early crowds, and it's easy to see why! The aroma of freshly baked goods fills the air, the staff is friendly and welcoming, and the quality is consistently top-notch. If you're planning a visit this summer, be sure to get there early—popular items sell out fast, and the line can wrap around the block! They also feature special holiday pop-ups during the off-season, offering seasonal favorites like pies, donuts, assorted pastries and apple fritters for occasions such as Easter and Christmas.

Britton's Bakery is located at 5600 Pacific Avenue (corner of Buttercup & Pacific)
Please visit their website at www.brittonsbakery.com for current hours and menu.

Reich Asset Management, located in Marmora, is committed to empowering the community through a robust lineup of free financial education workshops offered throughout the year. Chamber staff recently attended their Women's Financial Literacy Workshop and panel discussion, which provided valuable insights on budgeting, investing, and long-term planning specifically tailored to women. This seminar is just one example of the firm's dedication to making financial literacy accessible and engaging. Other workshop topics include Young Adult Financial Literacy, Retirement Planning, Estate Planning, Medicare, and more—each designed to meet people where they are in life and help them make informed financial decisions.



To learn more about Reich Asset Management and their events, please visit their website at www.reichassetmanagement.com.

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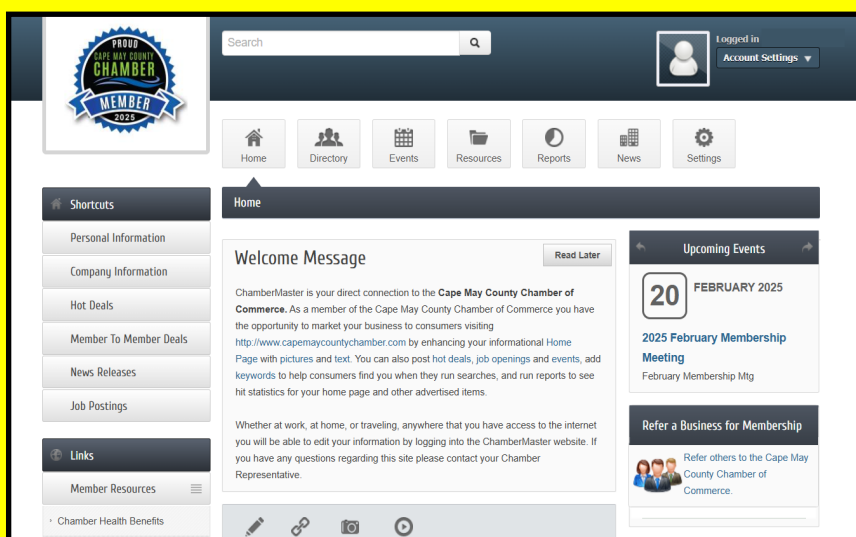
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Maximize Your Membership: Share, Connect, and Shine!

Did you know your Chamber membership gives you a platform to amplify your business?

- **Spread the Word:** Post your events, news, job openings, and special offers directly on the Chamber's website and membership portal—it's easy and effective!
- **Boost Your Visibility:** Keep your member profile updated with your products, services, hours, and more to help potential customers find you.
- **Shop Local & Save:** Discover products, services, and exclusive member-to-member deals and discounts from fellow Chamber members.



Don't miss out—make the most of these benefits and let your business shine!

LOGIN NOW.

2025 Jersey Cape Vacation Guide & Calendar of Events



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Convenient Location | Free Parking | Wi-Fi access | Video Conferencing Capabilities
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Regular Rate:
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Half Day - \$100

Non-Profit Rate:
Full Day - \$100
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Contact admin@cmcchamber.com or call 609-465-7181 for more information and to book.

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