



Welcome to CCOM's February newsletter!

Signs of spring are on their way! The snow is melting, the morning songbirds have begun their dawn chorus, and we are all ready to get outside and start enjoying the natural beauty of Montauk.

As CCOM embarks on yet another season of environmental programming, I would like you all to join me in welcoming our new CCOM Chairman, David Freudenthal! We are beyond thrilled to have elevated David to a new leadership position, and we thank our prior Chairman, Ed Braun, for his many years of outstanding service.

Please continue to stay connected to CCOM's social media pages, website, and newsletter for important and exciting updates on our work.

With thanks,

President

CCOM'S BOARD ELECTS NEW CHAIR WELCOME DAVID FREUDENTHAL!

At its February meeting, the [CCOM Board](#) elected David Freudenthal as Chairman. David succeeds Ed Braun, who has skillfully led the board since 2016.

CCOM's Board of Directors is the volunteer team elected by its membership to provide oversight and direction to the organization, and to

support Laura Tooman and the CCOM staff in their work protecting the unique environment and ecology of Montauk through education, advocacy, and grassroots citizen action. The Board includes individuals who live in Montauk and are dedicated to this community.

David has been associated with Montauk for twenty-five years, on the Board for seven, and serves on the Montauk Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC). Ed



Braun says, "I'm grateful for the chance to have supported CCOM's work and to the CCOM members who stand behind this work. David brings new skills, great experience, and youthful vigor to this task."

"CCOM owes huge thanks to Ed for his leadership," David adds. "I joined CCOM to give back to this community that's given me so much and is so central to my life, and I'm happy to help CCOM look forward. Montauk's environment faces many challenges, but there are also exciting opportunities to preserve this place we all love. CCOM is here to meet that moment."

DOWNTOWN MONTAUK WASTEWATER COMMITTEE **2021 TEAM SELECTED**

At its recent February organizational meeting, the East Hampton Town Downtown Montauk Wastewater Committee comprising 11 Montauk volunteers along with representatives from the East Hampton Town Board, Planning and Natural Resources departments appointed Laura Tooman as Vice-Chair of the committee along with Kay Tyler (newly appointed executive director of the Montauk Chamber of Commerce) as Chair and Leo Daunt as Secretary.

With the Town's recent hiring of [consulting engineers H2M](#) to help develop a map and plan for a downtown wastewater system, CCOM is looking forward to continuing our collaboration on this committee as we work together to address the wastewater crisis, which threatens the health and safety of Montauk's ground and surface water resources.

For more information on the Town's Downtown Montauk Wastewater Plan, click [HERE](#).

[CLICK HERE TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP!](#)

PETER LOWENSTEIN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP **ENCOURAGING YOUNG SCIENTISTS IN MEMORY OF** **LONG-SERVING CCOM BOARD MEMBER**

CCOM is offering a scholarship to a local Montauk student whose love for our unique environment has affected their decision to pursue science after high school. This will be the second year of the scholarship offering.

Peter Lowenstein was a beloved CCOM Board Member who cherished Montauk's environment and fought hard for many years to ensure it was protected. The Peter Lowenstein Memorial Scholarship will continue Peter's legacy by investing in Montauk's next generation of environmentalists.

Student applicants must be full-time Montauk residents in their senior year who are planning to pursue science in college or trade school, and must exhibit a commitment to improving the environment. East Hampton High School students must [contact the guidance office for application instructions](#). Eligible students enrolled in other local schools may contact CCOM directly for instructions. Deadline to apply is 3/12/21.



STAY CONNECTED WITH CCOM THERE ARE MANY WAYS TO KEEP IN TOUCH

Although due to Covid-19 our office remains closed, CCOM is still hard at work, and our monthly [eNewsletter](#) is a great way to help understand local environmental issues and our work.

If someone you know would like to stay updated on Montauk's environment each month, they can [join our mailing list](#). And while we have had to postpone community events and gatherings, we still want to know what you are up to! During this time have you been doing your own personal beach cleanup, planted a native rain garden, installed a new septic system or taken actions to reduce your home energy consumption? Take a picture and tag CCOM to let us know - and be sure you're following us for timely posts and updates:

[Instagram](#) (@preservemontauk)
[Facebook](#) (@concernedcitizensofmontauk)
[Twitter](#) (@preservemontauk)

If you are not on social media, feel free to email us at Info@PreserveMontauk.org. Or, if you have questions for one of our staff members, visit our Who We Are – Staff page [HERE](#) to find their direct contact information.



THANK YOU!



To the more than 240 of our supporters who completed our online Member Survey earlier this month – thank you.

Your feedback on how we are doing is essential and helps us in our commitment to preserving the environment and ecology of Montauk. We look forward to continuing that work with your support in 2021.

CCOM WEBINARS A GREAT WAY TO STAY INFORMED

Our Fall/Winter series of [environmental webinars](#) have provided a forum for experts and our members to stay engaged and informed on key issues ranging from Coastal Resiliency to Renewable Energy. In case you missed any, please be sure to click the image to watch the recordings of our first five webinars.

This work will continue through 2021, and starting in April we will be holding another series of webinars on key environmental issues. More details will follow next month.



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