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George Mauroff named EHC Citizen of the Year

BY SAVANNA PERRY
FOR THE GAZETTE

EGG HARBOR CITY, N.J.—The Egg Harbor City Council Committee honored multiple individuals during their monthly meeting on Sept. 19.

Mayor Lisa Jiampetti commenced the meeting by presenting Egg Harbor City Citizen of the Year 2024 to George Mauroff. Mauroff could not be present to accept his award, however, his family members were there in his honor.

“First and foremost, this has been a long time coming. I worked closely with him on a lot of projects and I don’t know a man who worked as hard and long for the citizens of Egg Harbor,” Jiampetti said.

George Mauroff and his wife MaryLou settled in Egg Harbor City where they raised five children: George, James, Frank, William and Lori. Veteran of the Korean War, Mauroff is committed to serving his family, friends and country.

Besides proudly serving his country, Mauroff was involved in multiple boards and organizations across Egg Harbor City including the Board of Education, Zoning Board, Kiwanis Club, Boy Scouts of America and Key Rec. During his membership, he served as Founder of the Bring Up Grades (BUG) program at Charles L. Spragg Elementary, founder of Key Club at Cedar Creek High School, Key Rec President for almost 20 years and President of the Kiwanis Club as tenure.

In addition, Mauroff participated in many city wide events including D.A.R.E



Olympics, annual city wide cleanup, parades and other celebrations.

“George has always worked hard to maintain and improve recreation in Egg Harbor City,” Jiampetti said.

However, his greatest accomplishment was the building and improvement of the KaBOOM! Playground located across the street from Spragg. In his honor, the playground was changed to George Mauroff Memorial Playground.

“I wish we could do more to let the city of Egg Harbor know what a giant you were in the recreational, educational and community,” Daniel McGinnis wrote in a letter dedicated to Mauroff. “You are the key in the key rec.”

Jiampetti proclaimed Sept. 19 George Mauroff Day in Egg Harbor City in perpetuity.

Next, Jiampetti presented a promotion and oath of office to Lieutenant Zachary



Photo Courtesy of Savanna Perry

Egg Harbor City Council presented the Citizen of the Year Award to George Mauroff. His wife (pictured at left) accepted on his behalf. At center, is the sign installed on the playground honoring Mauroff. Right: Mayor Jiampetti honored others at the meeting as well including Zachary Perna, Chief Marcella Aylwin, Officer Darryl Fonville and Brian Mckenna.

Perna to Captain.

“He is the strong, silent backbone of the department,” Police Chief Marcella Aylwin said.

Aylwin describes her experience working with Perna over the last 15 years.

“We started the academy together. I feel honored to work beside Zach the entire time. He is an asset to the community, not only being in the volunteer fire department but also an integral part of the department,” she said.

Perna thanked Jiampetti, Aylwin, committee and his family and friends for believing in him and the constant support.

Egg Harbor City Police Department was notified on Aug. 26 that an armed robbery suspect was en route from the Atlantic City train station to Egg Harbor City. Aylwin, Perna, Officer Darryl Fonville and Brian Mckenna, entered the

train, taking the suspect into custody.

The man was in possession of a loaded handgun and placed under arrest. Perna and Fonville were able to subdue the suspect without harm to the victim, witnesses on the train and themselves.

“We do what we need to do to protect the citizens of Egg Harbor City,” Aylwin said.

Aylwin and Perna were awarded a certificate of recognition for their bravery and leadership. Fonville and Mckenna were awarded a certificate for their bravery.

The next council meeting will be held on Oct. 18 at Egg Harbor City Police Department.

This article was produced in collaboration with New Jersey Civic Information Consortium and Rowan University.

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