

COA STAFF NEWS

Lifelong Jersey Shore resident **Keith Rella** joins the COA team as Policy Advocate after nearly ten years as a broadcast journalist in Ocean, Monmouth, Atlantic, and Cape May Counties, most recently as News Director for Press Communications.



“COA and its members have always had my respect for their dedication to protecting the unique and invaluable waters off our coast. I am proud to take that message to regional, state and federal lawmakers, armed with the effectiveness that twenty years of ocean stewardship affords the group.”

The Policy Advocate will work alongside COA staff to encourage proactive actions, laws, and legislative safeguards for the marine environment. Keith will meet with policymakers this spring with eyes on introduction of the Clean Ocean Zone (COZ) legislation.



Holly Jantz, COA's Education Coordinator, has accepted a job with the Jekyll Island Foundation, on Jekyll Island, Georgia. At her new summer position, Holly will monitor and document nests of threatened Loggerhead Turtles. She will also be responding to emergencies, such as stranded and/or injured turtles, and will be teaching classes and giving tours to the public. She hopes to attend graduate school for wildlife studies in the fall.

Nicole Simmons, COA's Water Policy Analyst, has moved-on to practice litigation. Nicole has taken a position at The Law Office of Howard Davis, a private environmental law firm in Englewood Cliffs.



COA welcomes Keith and wishes both Nicole and Holly the best of luck in their new environmental journeys.

OUTREACH

Kari Jermansen, 732-872-0111,
Outreach@cleanoceanaction.org

Volunteer for the Ocean

COA is participating in several festivities this spring. Visit or volunteer for COA at the following events and festivals (*to sign up to volunteer, contact Kari*):

May 20, Saturday

- **Ocean Fun Day**, hosted by Marine Sciences Consortium, Island Beach State Park, 11am-3pm.

May 21, Sunday

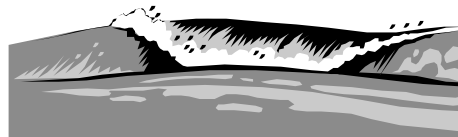
- **Ocean Fun Day**, hosted by Marine Sciences Consortium, Sandy Hook, 11am-3pm.

June 3, Saturday

- **Red Bank Jazz & Blues Festival**, Marine Park, Red Bank, volunteers are needed from 4-9:30pm.

June 10-11, Saturday-Sunday

- **New Jersey Seafood Festival**, Belmar, volunteers are needed from 10am-7pm.



DO YOU WANT TO C.O.A.S.T.?

The summer's COAST campaign, entering its 16th season, will soon be underway. Don't let the summer pass you by without being part of this campaign to educate people about ocean pollution issues. To find out more, call Jessie Barrett, C.O.A.S.T. 2006 Coordinator.

CORRECTION

Newsletter Correction - Student Summit

Please note that in COA's April *Ocean Advocate* Commerce Bank's WOW Zone website resource was listed incorrectly. The correct website is www.commercewowzone.com. Commerce Bank supports educators in creating fun and educationally sound programs that teach financial literacy within the classroom. They offer a wide range of educational programs designed to make learning fun.

COA's 8th Annual Student Summit, an outdoor seaside symposium for children in grades 5-8, is made possible this year by generous financial, in-kind, and volunteer support from Commerce Bank.