



# OCEAN COUNTY LIBRARY

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101 Washington St., Toms River, NJ 08753-7625

Telephone: 732-349-6200

[www.theoceancountylibrary.org](http://www.theoceancountylibrary.org)

Susan Quinn, Director

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## PRESS RELEASE

**CONTACT:** Tom Mongelli, 732-349-6200, ext. 5900

[tmongelli@theoceancountylibrary.org](mailto:tmongelli@theoceancountylibrary.org)

### Hear About U.S. Coast Guard Origins at Tuckerton Library Association Open House

**TUCKERTON** – Ocean County maritime experts Gretchen F. Coyle and Deborah C. Whitcraft will discuss New Jersey's vital role in the formation of the U.S. Coast Guard at the Tuckerton Library Association's annual Open House, 7 PM Wednesday April 19 at the Ocean County Library Tuckerton Branch.

The Beach Haven notables will describe events and individuals that influenced the founding of the U.S. Lifesaving Service, forerunner of the Coast Guard, including a shipwreck off New Jersey's coast and the urgent recommendations of a local doctor, William Newell.

Gretchen Coyle served as President of the Long Beach Island Historical Association and the Tuckerton Seaport Board of Trustees. She contributes columns to the *Asbury Park Press*, and volunteers at the New Jersey Maritime Museum.

Former Beach Haven Mayor Deborah Whitcraft founded the New Jersey Maritime Museum, which is visited by thousands each year and has been a consistent winner of magazine popularity polls in its 16 years of existence. Prior to that time, she was the proprietor of Black Whale Pleasure and Fishing Boats.

Their nonfiction account of the 1934 disaster on the passenger liner *Morro Castle* off Asbury Park, *Inferno at Sea*, is available at the Ocean County Library.

Please register at [www.theoceancountylibrary.org/events](http://www.theoceancountylibrary.org/events) to attend this free program. Walk-ins are welcome. For more information visit the Tuckerton Branch, 380 Bay Avenue, or call (609) 296-1470.

Keep up with Library programs and events at [www.theoceancountylibrary.org](http://www.theoceancountylibrary.org), and on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#), [YouTube](#), [Spotify](#), and [Pinterest](#).

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***Deborah Whitcraft and Gretchen Coyle***

***Photo Courtesy of Elaine McClure***

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