



NEW YORK STATE
OFFICE OF PARKS, RECREATION AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

CAROL ASH
Commissioner

DAVID A. PATERSON
Governor

Letter to the Editor:

Now that autumn has arrived, it is only natural that we take the time to reflect on the 2009 summer season.

This season was an especially challenging one. The reality of budgetary constraints made it necessary for us to make some tough decisions that had an effect on all of us. Together with your help, we were able to make the most of a difficult situation. The cooperation between management and The Jones Beach Lifeguard Corp was an incredible example of what can be accomplished when we all work to achieve a shared goal.

The 2009 season brought many weather related obstacles as well. The storms just off the shores of Long Island caused extremely dangerous rip currents. It is evident by the number of rescues our lifeguards successfully executed, that this year was an especially hazardous one. At Jones Beach State Park alone, we recorded 3809 rescues, the highest number in at least the last twelve years.

The Jones Beach Lifeguard Corps managed to overcome all of the obstacles that were placed before them and kept our park visitors safe.

It is with continued respect that I wish you the same success in your off season endeavors as you had during the 2009 season.

Thank you and congratulations on a spectacular season.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Carol Ash'.

Carol Ash
Commissioner
NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation