

# The Causeway Gazette

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Proudly serving Manahawkin and surrounding communities

June 2023 • Number 109



## CREATING SAFE SPACES AND TRANSFORMING LIVES

**Project Home Repair** is a collective effort that brings together several not-for-profit organizations and community-based groups to address the increasing need for critical home repairs among the senior, veteran, and vulnerable populations in Ocean County.

<p>Hot Water Heater Replacement <b>\$1,700+</b></p>	<p>Flooring / Sub Floor Replacement <b>\$2,000+</b></p>	<p>Furnace Replacement <b>\$3,000</b></p>
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<p>Safety Grab Bars <b>\$2,000</b></p>	<p>Roof Replacement <b>\$10,000+</b></p>	
<p>Window Replacement <b>\$12,000+</b></p>		

**MANAHAWKIN, NJ** – Causeway CAREs has announced the formation of *Project Home Repair*. The experienced coalition, initiated by Dave C. Wintrode, President of the Causeway Family of Dealerships and Causeway CAREs, aims to address the increasing need for critical home repairs among the senior, veteran, and vulnerable populations in Ocean County.

The demand for home repairs has surpassed the capacity of any single organization. Recognizing this pressing need, a collective effort was made to bring together several not-for-profit organizations and community-based groups including *Northern Ocean Habitat for Humanity*, *Homes for All*, *Habitat for Humanity of Southern Ocean County* and *Starve Poverty International*.

“Project Home Repair focuses on providing critical repairs that enhance the health and safety of individuals residing in these homes,” said Wintrode.

The coalition’s services include roofing and window repairs to mitigate mold and retain energy efficiency, ramp construction and repairs to ensure accessibility and safety, and grab bar installation to promote safety in showers and bathrooms for populations with disabilities and aging concerns.

**Consider Donna’s Story:** After her husband passed away, Donna’s roof began to leak, causing steady deterioration. Despite her efforts to cover it with tarps, they eventually fell apart. Her ceiling caved in, and water flooded her lower level, forcing her to constantly mop up after every rainstorm. Recently diagnosed with MS, Donna’s situation was dire. Thanks to Homes for All, she can continue to live in her home.

“Donna’s story is a powerful example of the future impact that Project Home Repair can make in the lives of those in need within Ocean County,” said Wintrode.

Causeway CAREs is dedicated to supporting causes like Project Home Repair, which directly and profoundly impact the community in and around Ocean County. The organization focuses on education, food security, and quality of life initiatives. By joining forces with Project Home Repair, Causeway CAREs aims to create safe spaces that transform lives and improve the well being of individuals and families in need.

► CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



Donna’s home before and during roof repairs made possible by Homes for All.

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To learn more about Causeway CAREs, please visit [CausewayCAREs.com](http://CausewayCAREs.com) or email [Joe.Stroffolino@CausewayCars.com](mailto:Joe.Stroffolino@CausewayCars.com).



Causeway CAREs’ mission is to make a direct and profound impact in and around Ocean County in the areas of education, food security and quality of life. Founded in 2004 and funded by The Wintrode Family Foundation, Inc., Causeway CAREs strives to make the community a better place to live grow and thrive. To learn more, visit [CausewayCAREs.com](http://CausewayCAREs.com).

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► COVER STORY



# Project Home Repair

CRITICAL REPAIRS FOR SAFE & HEALTHY HOUSING

## Founding Organizations



### Homes for All

Homes for All, Inc. is fully dedicated to providing affordable housing and support services for low and moderate-income families in local communities. They strive to ensure that everyone has access to safe and affordable housing.



### Habitat for Humanity of Southern Ocean County

Habitat for Humanity of Southern Ocean County works to develop communities with individuals in need by building and renovating houses. They believe that all people deserve a clean and decent place to live.



### Northern Ocean Habitat for Humanity

Northern Ocean Habitat for Humanity puts God's love into action by bringing people together to build homes, communities and hope. They work to improve the living conditions of those in need in the local community.



### Starve Poverty International

Starve Poverty International is a nonprofit organization dedicated to breaking the chains of poverty.

# About Project Home Repair

Project Home Repair is a collaborative effort between Homes for All, Habitat for Humanity of Southern Ocean County, Northern Ocean Habitat for Humanity and Starve Poverty International. The coalition aims to enhance the quality of life for the aging, disabled, and vulnerable populations of Ocean County by providing critical home repair services. Through collaboration, compassion, and community involvement, Project Home Repair seeks to make a lasting impact on the community.

# Family Promise announces outdoor fundraising events for the summer

## Happy Summer!

We hope you can join Family Promise of the Jersey Shore at our outdoor events this season and support our mission of helping local families facing homelessness.



In July, join us for summer evening entertainment at Movie Mondays at Bayview Park on Long Beach Island! The family movie night is hosted by Long Beach Township and presented by Hotel LBI, The Mainland, The Boatyard, and Spray Beach Inn.

Family Promise of the Jersey Shore will be there selling popcorn and candy! All proceeds go toward helping families in need in our community.

Movie Mondays at Bayview Park this year are:

- July 10th - Minions - The Rise of Gru
- July 17th - Puss in Boots
- July 24th - Hotel Transylvania Transformia
- July 31st- Vivo

We look forward to seeing you bayside for some great family entertainment!

Looking just beyond summer, join us for the Family Promise of the Jersey Shore 3rd Annual Golf Classic on Thursday, October 5 at Blue Heron Pines Golf Club in Galloway. For more golf information and sponsorship opportunities please email jim@familypromisesoc.org or call 848-448-6885.

No matter the season, Family Promise of the Jersey Shore welcomes new volunteers. We truly appreciate you and your selfless efforts to help others. If you would like to join our amazing volunteer team, please email Cheryl at Cheryl@familypromisesoc.org .

Never forget, you can make a difference in a child's life by

supporting us in our mission. Donations are always needed and welcome! Please donate at [www.familypromisesoc.org/donate](http://www.familypromisesoc.org/donate). Your gift may also be mailed to PO Box 83 West Creek, NJ 08092.

As always, heartfelt thanks to all of you for supporting Family Promise of the Jersey Shore as we work to help local families have a home.

Please follow us on Facebook and Instagram for news, events and opportunities to help our neighbors.

All the best,

Jim Lowney  
Development & Communications Manager  
Family Promise of the Jersey Shore  
[jim@familypromisesoc.org](mailto:jim@familypromisesoc.org)

First up, baseball! What better way to spend a summer's day than enjoying America's National Pastime?

The Jersey Shore BlueClaws welcome Family Promise of the Jersey Shore to ShoreTown Ballpark on the afternoon of Sunday, July 9, 2023. First pitch is at 1:05 p.m.

Watch the BlueClaws play the Hudson Valley Renegades while supporting an important cause! For each ticket purchased, a portion of the proceeds will go back to Family Promise of the Jersey Shore!

For tickets call 609-994-3317 or email [fpsoctstaff@gmail.com](mailto:fpsoctstaff@gmail.com) or buy tickets online at <https://fevogm.com/event/Familypromise2/offer> .

(Tickets purchased for the rained-out Family Promise game day on April 30 will be honored.)



## SAVE THE DATE! 6th Annual Causeway CAREs 5K!



Running for a cause.

Sunday, October 8, 2023 • 8:45am  
Southern Regional High School

[www.raceforum.com/causeway](http://www.raceforum.com/causeway)



**NEW DATE**

**SUNDAY, JUNE 25, 2023  
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# SOUTHERN REGIONAL SPORTS BEAT

## Athletic Hall of Fame

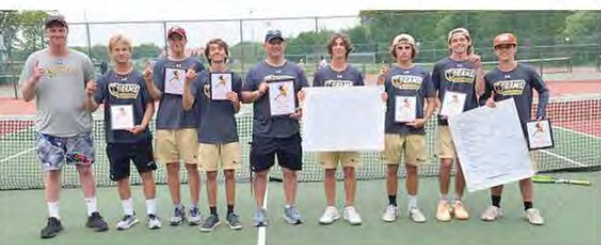
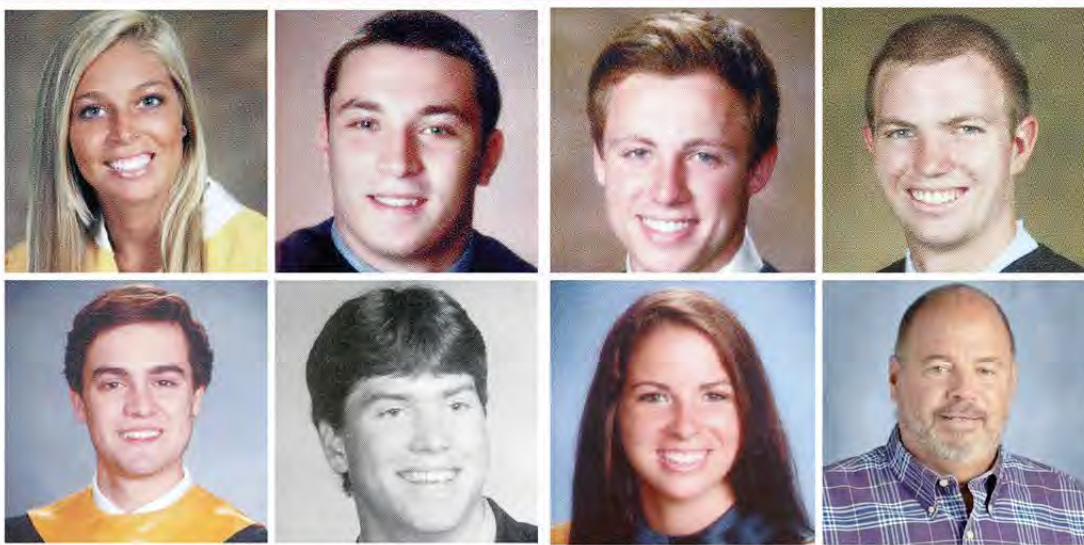
Congratulations to the newly inducted Southern Regional High School Athletic Hall of Fame "Class of 2022" on Saturday, May 13, 2023.

Thank you for all you have done for Southern!

- Alexa (Comfort) Hess - Class of 2011
- Gerardo Jorge - Class of 2014
- Liam Maxwell - Class of 2016
- Scott Metzger - Class of 1993
- Brendan Mullen - Class of 2014
- Brandon Skeie - Class of 2011
- Madison Skeie - Class of 2016

John Kaszuba Sr. - Class of 1977 - "Extraordinary Contribution"

Thank you to the Southern Regional Athletic Hall of Fame Committee in honoring our well-deserved alumni. Special thanks to Sue Spaschak, Missy Ardoin, Coach Eric Fierro, August Serviss, Bunny and Doug Raylman and our traditional MC former principal Jan Kristbergs.



## Tennis

Congratulations Southern Regional Boys Tennis on winning the 2023 Ocean County Championship on Saturday, May 13, 2023. Congrats players, coaches, parents, alumni and fans.



## Volleyball

Congratulations Southern Regional Boys Volleyball on winning the 2023 Shore Conference Tournament. The Rams defeated Colts Neck in the semifinals 2-1 and Howell in the finals 2-1. Southern opened up the NJSIAA Tournament on Thursday, May 25, 2023 vs Piscataway.



## Softball

Congratulations Southern Regional Softball on defeating Pinelands 13-1 on #SeniorNight - Monday, May 22, 2023. Thank you Seniors for all you have done for Southern.



## Multi-Sport

Congratulations Southern Regional High School Multi-Sport Athletes Pat Gaffney & Leah Morrin on being named the 2022-2023 Shore Conference Sportsmanship Award winners. Pat and Leah were honored by the conference on Sunday, May 21, 2023 at the RWJ Barnabas Arena in Toms River, NJ. Thank you both for all you have done for Southern.



## Soccer

Congratulations Southern Regional Boys Soccer player Nate Bott on being awarded the NJSIAA Scholar Athlete Award for the 2022-2023 school year. Thank you for representing Southern Regional with excellence in the classroom/ community and on the field. Nate was honored by the NJSIAA on Sunday, May 21, 2023, at the Pines Manor in Edison, NJ. Best of Luck!



## Tennis

Congratulations Southern Regional Boys Tennis on defeating Brick Memorial on Thursday, May 18, 2023 by a score of 5-0. With the win, the Rams have clinched the Shore Conference "A" South Divisional Championship. Congratulations players, coaches, parents, alumni and fans.



## Lacrosse

Congratulations Southern Regional Boys Lacrosse on defeating Central Regional on #SeniorNight on Monday, May 8, 2023. Thank you Seniors for all you have done for Southern.



## Multi-Sport

Congratulations Southern Regional Multi-Sport Athlete Johnathan Holden on his commitment to Stockton University to continue his academic and both soccer and track careers. Johnathan is surrounded by Head Boys Soccer Coach Rob Munoz, Head Boys Track Coach Scott Baker and his parents. Best of Luck!



## Multi-Sport

Congratulations Southern Regional Multi-Sport Athlete Jenna Castaldo on her commitment to continue her education and soccer careers at Moravian University. She is pictured with her family and Southern Soccer coaches; Mr. Eric Geddes, Ms. Kaitlyn Hartkopf and Ms. Melissa Scalone. Best of Luck!



## Lacrosse

Congratulations Southern Regional Girls Lacrosse player Ayla Cozzone on her commitment to continue her education and Lacrosse careers at Occidental College in Los Angeles, CA. Ayla is surrounded by her family, Head Coach Lori Johnson and Assistant Coach Sean Sweeney. Best of Luck.

## Volleyball

Congratulations Southern Regional Boys Volleyball on defeating Northern Burlington on Thursday, May 11, 2023 by a score of 2-0. With the win, the Rams earned Head Coach Eric Maxwell his 700th career win in Southern Boys Volleyball. Photo Credit: Asbury Park Press



## Wrestling

Congratulations, Southern Regional Wrestling Hannia Garcia-Leal on her commitment to continue her education and wrestling careers at New Jersey City University. Hannia is surrounded by her family, Head Coach Dan Roy with Assistants Nick Herring and Terrance Clendenin. Best of luck!



## Lacrosse

Congratulations Southern Regional Boys Lacrosse player Joey DeYoung on being named US All American for the 2023 season. Best of Luck.



# SOUTHERN



# DINE ON US PARTNERS WITH CAFFREY'S AND PROVIDED LUNCH FOR THE ARMY'S FAMILY DAY

Dine on Us and their long-time partner, Caffrey's Tavern in Forked River, had the privilege of providing a well-deserved lunch for 125 of our NJ active Army stationed right here at the Joint Bases.

Their annual family day was held at Tom's Retreat on the Bass River. The facility provided a great place for the Army to enjoy a day off with their families. A family day would not be complete without a meal that created a lot of conversations and smiles. That is exactly what Dine on Us and Caffrey's Tavern provided. Caffrey's prepared many trays of their classic menu items including buffalo wings, pretzel bites, chicken fingers, a garden salad, a caesar salad, mashed potatoes,



broccoli, penne vodka, chicken parm, and BBQ pulled pork. This was a well-deserved feast compliments of Dine on Us. Dine on Us understands the economic hardships that have restricted our active military from enjoying a day out with their families. This is a way to say, "we have your families back, while you're protecting ours. From our table to yours, Dine on Us!"

The mission for Dine on Us is to provide dining and entertainment for our active NJ military and their families who are not able to do so for themselves due to economic hardships when they are transferred to New Jersey.



## CONGRATULATIONS TO MEGAN MISURELLI

Daughter of Hyundai Service Advisor John Misurelli

Megan just graduated from Albright College in Reading, Pennsylvania. She earned a double major in Biochemistry and Biotechnology. She is also a multi-sport athlete, competing as swim team MVP and a member of the tennis team. Megan had the honor of giving a commencement speech representing her graduating class at Albright College this May.

While at Albright, she worked as a Lab intern at Misco Products Corporation and completed two ACRE projects. She presented her ACRE project at the annual Berks County undergraduate and research creativity conference in the Leigh Valley section of the American Chemical Society. Megan recently returned from presenting her work at the 2023 National Conference of Undergraduate Research in Wisconsin. Megan was named winner of the Paul M. Leininger Chemistry Award and the Muhlenberg Goodwill Prize at Albright.

Megan will be attending Saint James School of Medicine this fall. Congratulations and best of luck!

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<b>\$49,990*</b>	<b>\$49,990*</b>	<b>\$49,990*</b>	<b>\$53,990*</b>	<b>\$54,990*</b>	<b>\$56,990*</b>	<b>\$63,990*</b>

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# CAUSEWAY CAREs

Driving change in our community.

**Southern Ocean Medical Center** has been caring for the community for nearly 50 years. In March of 2022, Hackensack Meridian Southern Ocean Medical Center received a donation in the amount of \$250,000 through **Causeway CAREs**, funded by The Wintrode Family Foundation, Inc. The funds were used toward the hospital's surgical expansion.

"The hospital is key to the expansion of the southern end of Ocean County," said David C. Wintrode, President of **Causeway Family of Dealerships** and **Causeway CAREs**. "It is important to the major demographic living in the area, which is predominately seniors and families with children. After hearing the hospital's strategic plan for growth, I knew I wanted to help them succeed."

**Causeway CAREs** proudly gives back to organizations effecting positive change in our community.

## SOUTHERN OCEAN MEDICAL CENTER: PROVIDING HEALTH CARE CLOSE TO HOME

By Michele Morrison, MPH, BSHA, RN President/Chief Hospital Executive, Hackensack Meridian Southern Ocean Medical Center



Michele Morrison, MPH, BSHA, RN



**Hackensack Meridian Health**

Our goal is to provide outstanding cardiovascular health care services for the long-term. SOMC added a leading-edge angiography imaging system, the GE Innova IGS 540, to the medical center's vascular, cardiac, and interventional radiology services. This system accurately diagnoses heart, artery and valve diseases. We have worked diligently to make sure that SOMC provides the very best cardiac diagnostic testing and a comprehensive cardiac rehabilitation program. The expansion of diagnostics will provide the community with an even more complete cardiovascular program.

Our freestanding Vascular Surgery and Vein Center, located on Nautilus Drive adjacent to the hospital, provides specialized care and expert diagnosis of arterial and venous disease.

Cancer is the second leading cause of death (after heart disease) in New Jersey. As a medical center, we must be focused on preventing and treating cancer. Our Cancer Center provides a single destination for multidisciplinary cancer treatment and advanced radiation therapies. We are committed to providing treatment based on the latest medical advances, and we are able to offer investigational therapies that could possibly be more effective than existing treatments.

In addition to all of the developments that I have discussed, we are investing \$24.9 million in the expansion of our surgical services. The project includes five new state-of-the-art operating rooms combined with pre- and post- surgical areas, as well as the expansion of our Sterilized Processing Department (SPD). The project will take approximately 30 months to complete.

Our patients have access to both open and robotic-assisted surgery for general, bariatric, colorectal, urogynecology, thoracic and urology procedures. Our Robotic-Assisted Surgery program has grown tremendously since our acquisition of the da Vinci Xi® Surgical System in June 2022. To date, we have completed 904 robotic-assisted surgery cases and are hoping to complete 1,000 cases by this summer. Our robotics program has experienced so much growth that we added another robotic surgical system in March 2023

- allowing us to offer leading-edge surgical treatment to even more patients.

We are also working to add 20 new acute-care beds and to achieve a Level 2 maternity designation, which includes moderate- to high-risk specialty care. And to further expand the services available at SOMC, the Hackensack Meridian Health network connects our patients to a comprehensive range of leading-edge technologies, treatments and clinical trials, right here in New Jersey.

I'm proud to say that our work has been recognized nationally by nursing and medical organizations. The nursing team has been re-accredited for Magnet® status in 2022, the nation's highest honor of nursing excellence for nursing practice, quality and safety in patient care. U.S. News & World Report ranked the medical center as high performing in the treatment of kidney failure, chronic obstructive disease (COPD), heart failure and stroke. We were recently re-accredited by the Joint Commission for disease specific stroke care, and our bariatric program for obesity achieved recognition by the American College of Surgeons as the most comprehensive bariatric surgery program in the region.

I had the honor of celebrating SOMC's 50th anniversary last September. More than 300 families and community members attended the carnival-inspired event, and I so enjoyed the opportunity to listen to and gain insights from our guests. It's important for me on both a personal and professional level to hear first-hand the medical challenges that people in our community face and how they are coping and addressing their health care needs. The experience further strengthened my commitment to SOMC and to the people of southern Ocean County.

As I conclude this update to the community, I want to emphasize my deep personal and professional commitment to the people of southern Ocean County. My team at Hackensack Meridian Southern Ocean Medical Center works tirelessly day and night to meet the health care needs of our growing community, and to plan for the health care challenges of the future. From cardiology, to cancer care, to orthopedics and beyond, we are investing in the latest technologies and talent required to deliver outstanding health care for you, now and in the future. I look forward to providing more updates as we continue to realize our strategic plans to keep southern Ocean County healthy!

Until then, be well! - Michele

# 4th of July

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**EGYPT** (Oct 11-19, 2023) Fly from JFK, visit the Pyramids, Sphinx w/camel ride, cruise the Nile 4 nights, balloon flight, most meals. Rate: \$4,935. pp double

**10th ANNUAL ICELAND WEEKEND**  
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## NEW CAR NEWS

# FORD EV CUSTOMERS TO GAIN ACCESS TO 12,000 TESLA SUPERCHARGERS

DEARBORN, Mich., May 25, 2023 – Ford Motor Company said today it reached an agreement with Tesla Motors that will provide Ford electric vehicle customers access to more than 12,000 Tesla Superchargers across the U.S. and Canada, doubling the number of fast-chargers available to Ford EV customers starting Spring 2024.

“This is great news for our customers who will have unprecedented access to the largest network of fast-chargers in the U.S. and Canada with 12,000+ Tesla Superchargers plus 10,000+ fast-chargers already in the BlueOval Charge Network,” said Jim Farley, Ford president and CEO. “Widespread access to fast-charging is absolutely vital to our growth as an EV brand, and this breakthrough agreement comes as we are ramping up production of our popular Mustang Mach-E and F-150 Lightning, and preparing to launch a series of next-generation EVs starting in 2025.”

Added Rebecca Tinucci, Tesla’s senior director of charging infrastructure: “We’ve spent the last 10 years building an industry-leading Charging Network that enables freedom to travel and provides charging confidence for our Tesla owners. We’re excited



A Mustang Mach-E at a Tesla charging station.

to deliver on our mission to accelerate the world’s transition to sustainable energy by welcoming Ford owners, and other electric vehicles who adopt NACS, to our thousands of Superchargers across North America.”

A Tesla-developed adapter will provide Ford F-150 Lightning, Mustang Mach-E and E-Transit vehicles fitted with the Combined Charging System (CCS) port access to Tesla’s V3 Superchargers. Ford will equip future EVs with the NACS charge port, removing

the need for an adapter for direct access to Tesla Superchargers, starting in 2025.

“Tesla has led the industry in creating a large, reliable and efficient charging system and we are pleased to be able to join forces in a way that benefits customers and overall EV adoption,” said Marin Gजा, chief customer officer, Ford Model e. “The Tesla Supercharger network has excellent reliability and the NACS plug is smaller and lighter. Overall, this provides a superior experience for customers.”

The BlueOval Charge Network is already North America’s largest public charging network with over 84,000 chargers including access to over 10,000 public DC fast-chargers. Adding more than 12,000 Tesla Superchargers creates the single largest integrated fast-charge network across the U.S. and Canada, designed to significantly reduce charge anxiety for Ford customers, with automatic routing to the nearest charger and seamless billing via FordPass.

Additionally, Ford dealers are adding roughly 1,800 public-facing fast-chargers and locations to the BlueOval Charge Network by early 2024.

media.ford.com

# 2023 NISSAN ROGUE WINS CARS.COM COMPACT SUV CHALLENGE

Family-friendly crossover impresses editors with versatility, comfort and efficiency

NASHVILLE, Tenn. – The 2023 Nissan Rogue Platinum has been named the winner of the Cars.com 2023 Compact SUV Challenge. Cars.com editors tested six popular compact SUVs over the course of a week, evaluating handling, fuel efficiency, driver-assist and safety features, value for money, ease of installing car seats and other attributes.

“Exceptional visibility, useful in-cabin storage, comfortable seating, upscale amenities and a fuel-efficient drivetrain are just some of the standout attributes of the 2023 Nissan Rogue Platinum,” said Mike Hanley, Cars.com senior road test editor. “This



The 2023 Nissan Rogue Platinum has been named the winner of the Cars.com 2023 Compact SUV Challenge.

well-rounded compact SUV outpaced five other models in our weeklong comparison test to earn it the honor of Cars.com’s best compact SUV of 2023.”

Rogue also won the 2021 Cars.com Compact SUV Challenge.

The 2023 Nissan Rogue is functional for family life and packed with helpful technology, featuring striking design and providing impressive value for crossover drivers. Rogue has the most standard safety features in its class with standard Nissan Safety Shield® 360. In addition, it offers available ProPILOT Assist that makes long drives on the open highway easier. It features best-in-class gas-engine fuel economy and standard torque with an advanced 1.5-liter Variable Compression (VC) Turbo engine.

Rogue also boasts an array of connectivity technology, including standard Apple CarPlay® and Android Auto™ on a standard 8-inch or available 9-inch touchscreen, with available wireless Apple CarPlay®.

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# Focus ON Barnegat

## BARNEGAT LIGHTHOUSE REOPENED TO VISITORS JUNE 10TH

patch.com

top of the lighthouse and connect to a monitor in the park's interpretive center, providing an ADA-accessible view that previously could only be seen by climbing the lighthouse. In the coming weeks, this live feed will also be viewable on the State Park Service's website.

"The State Park Service looks forward to the complete reopening of the lighthouse, which has been a guiding light for sailors, visitors and families for much of its 166-year history," said John Cecil, Assistant Commissioner for State Parks, Forests & Historic Sites. "Visitors can now add a lighthouse climb or viewing to the many other activities available at Barnegat Lighthouse State Park, including fishing, hiking, birding and picnicking."

The Friends of Barnegat Lighthouse donated a new beacon light for the lighthouse, as well as new security fencing and security cameras. The new beacon light can be seen for 26.5 miles and was lighted during an Oct. 29, 2022 ceremony.

Built in 1856 and decommissioned in 1927, Barnegat Lighthouse remained dark until 2009, when the Friends of Barnegat Lighthouse donated the previous light, which was activated on Jan. 1, 2009 – exactly 150 years after the structure's original lighting in 1859.

breathhtaking views of the Jersey shore," LaTourette said. "And, for the first time in its history, the lighthouse's views will be inclusive for all, thanks to a new video feed system, continuing Barnegat Light's storied tradition as a community beacon."

The renovations included masonry recoating and repairs to the brick facade, repairs to the interior lantern steel platform, roof repairs, interior painting and the installation of new windows.

A new addition is great for those unable to make that lengthy climb to the top. Cameras have been installed to the

Commissioner Shawn M. LaTourette announced.

Extensive interior and exterior renovations have kept guests from being able to climb the 217 steps to the top of Old Barney since March 2022. But the work is finally complete.

"Barnegat Lighthouse is once again ready to welcome visitors who want to climb it and enjoy some of the most

The \$1.3 million restoration is complete, and guests will be able to climb the 217 steps all the way to the top of Old Barney.

By Veronica Flesher, Patch Staff

BARNEGAT LIGHT, NJ — It's been more than a year, but the \$1.3 million restoration project is complete - the Barnegat Lighthouse reopened for visitors starting June 10.

Effective that Saturday, the lighthouse is open daily from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., weather permitting, through Labor Day, Department of Environmental Protection

### OCEAN COUNTY LIBRARY

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Keep up with Library programs and events at: [www.theoceancountylibrary.org](http://www.theoceancountylibrary.org)

#### 'HEARTBEATS': DRUMMING FOR ADULTS AT SIX OCEAN COUNTY LIBRARY BRANCHES

TOMS RIVER – The Ocean County Library is pleased to present "HeartBeats: Drumming for Adults," a fun and empowering interactive program to be offered at six OCL branches:

##### Monday, July 24:

- 11 AM, Upper Shores Branch, 112 Jersey City Avenue, Lavallette, (732) 793-3996.
- 2 PM, Point Pleasant Borough Branch, 834 Beaver Dam Road, (732) 295-1555.

##### Tuesday, August 1:

- 2 PM, Tuckerton Branch, 380 Bay Avenue, (609) 296-1470.
- 6 PM, Long Beach Island Branch, 217 South Central Avenue, Surf City, (609) 494-2480.

##### Wednesday, August 2:

- 11 AM, Barnegat Branch, 112 Burr Street, (609) 698-3331.
  - 2 PM, Beachwood Branch, 126 Beachwood Boulevard, (732) 244-4573.
- Seating is limited; early registration is encouraged.



The presenter is Steven E. Brown of Drumhead Enterprises, whose "BONK!" program has introduced children to percussion instruments from around the world at Ocean County Library branches and at other New Jersey libraries.

Participants in the one-hour program will share drums and percussive instruments, receive instruction in basic techniques, and have the chance to create rhythm patterns and "lead" the group. Attendees are welcome to bring percussion instruments of their own.

Participants will also learn simple volume and speed dynamics, take part in a rhythm memory game, and create an imaginary "rain forest," using percussion instruments to simulate the sounds of birds, animals and weather.

Please register at [www.theoceancountylibrary.org/events](http://www.theoceancountylibrary.org/events) for this free program, sponsored by the Ocean County Library Senior Services Department. For more information, visit or call any participating OCL Branch, or phone (732) 349-6200.

#### KIDS, SING ALONG WITH JESSICA CARROLL AT OCEAN COUNTY LIBRARY LONG BEACH ISLAND BRANCH

SURF CITY – Enjoy fun singing and fancy stepping during the Kids' Concert and Dance Party with Jessica Carroll, 11 AM Thursday, June 29, at the Ocean County Library Long Beach Island Branch.

Raise your voice and shake your shoes as Jessica performs new, classic and upbeat children's songs. All ages are welcome to participate.

Please register at [www.theoceancountylibrary.org/events](http://www.theoceancountylibrary.org/events) to attend this free program. For more information, visit the OCL Long Beach Island Branch, 217 South Central Avenue, Surf City, or call (609) 494-2480.



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for each additional household member add	\$6,136	\$512

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• **For senior residences and senior-serving organizations:** Interested in bringing this program to the seniors you serve? Email Robin Gardiner at [rgardiner@fulfillnj.org](mailto:rgardiner@fulfillnj.org) or call 732-643-5864.

Senior Staples is a USDA program also known as the Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP). This institution is an equal opportunity provider. Esta institución es un proveedor de igualdad de oportunidades.

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Please submit a preliminary application at [www.AffordableHomesNewJersey.com](http://www.AffordableHomesNewJersey.com) and join the Lacey Ownership Waiting list by **June 14, 2023** to be included in the random lottery number drawing to determine priority order. If you do not have an email address, call 609-664-2769 ext. 5.

- Preserve at Barnegat Bay is located at 1301 Cyprus Court, Forked River in Lacey Township, Ocean County.
- HOA fees are \$268.40 per month.
- Unit amenities include: central AC, dishwasher, and washer & dryer.
- One off-street parking space per home with additional overflow parking in the community.
- Although any income eligible households may apply, residents and workers of Mercer, Monmouth, and Ocean counties will be selected before residents of other counties or states.

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		One Moderate	\$157,792	One Moderate	\$188,929
		Three Moderate	\$164,147	One Moderate	\$196,272
		One Moderate	\$170,501		

Maximum Gross Income by Household Size			
Household Size	Very Low	Low	Moderate
1	\$25,749	\$42,915	\$68,665
2	\$29,428	\$49,046	\$78,474
3	\$33,106	\$55,177	\$88,283
4	\$36,785	\$61,308	\$98,092
5	\$39,727	\$66,212	\$105,940
6	\$42,670	\$71,117	\$113,787







# SENIOR CORNER

## SCAM WATCH

**Fraudsters use social media for grant-related scams!**



## AMERICANS THINK FRAUD IS AT 'CRISIS LEVEL,' SURVEY FINDS

As scams skyrocket, AARP report explores understanding of scam threat and scammers' methods

By Christina Ianzito, AARP

Incidents of fraud have exploded in recent years, with 2.4 million fraud reports and nearly \$9 billion reported stolen in 2022. And that's likely a small fraction of the total, since experts believe that the vast majority of fraud goes unreported.

Scams — and seemingly constant scam attempts by phone, email and text — have grown so pervasive, two-thirds of Americans say they're at a crisis level.

That's based on a quiz of 1,000 U.S. adults, meant to assess their level of knowledge and awareness of various kinds of scams and fraud, summarized in a new AARP report, "Consumer Fraud Awareness Gets D Grade." Adults 50 and older are more likely to agree that scams are at a crisis level, with 81 percent concurring, compared to 56 percent of respondents ages 18 to 49.

The questions also touched on the different ways that scammers request payment from their victims.

About one-quarter of those surveyed said they didn't know that it's always a scam when you are asked to make a payment or send money by purchasing a gift card and sharing the number on the back of the card. Gift cards are a hugely popular way for criminals to receive cash; \$228 million of the money lost to scams last year was in the form of gift cards, according to the Federal Trade Commission (FTC).

And while most people (79 percent) are aware that it can be risky to purchase products and services in response to social media ads, 15 percent said they weren't sure, and 6 percent believed that it was "always safe" to do so. Social media was the most profitable contact method to scammers in 2022, the FTC reports.

### Key Points

Some other facts about scams that need to be emphasized, based on the survey:

Peer-to-peer apps like Venmo, Zelle and CashApp are commonly used in scams. Only 37 percent of quiz takers knew that these

apps do not offer consumers the same level of fraud protection as credit cards. Like gift cards, they are favored by criminals because their transactions are nearly impossible to trace. Fraud fighters suggest only using them with people you know and trust — to split a dinner bill with friends or send money to your grandchild, for instance.

When someone directs you to use a cryptocurrency ATM to address some financial concern, you're dealing with a scammer. One-third of adults aren't aware that these ATMs are a key tool for criminals. They are often located at vape stores, gas stations or convenience stores, says Amy Nofziger, director of victim support for the AARP Fraud Watch Network. She explains that scammers will tell their victims to enter cash into a machine in exchange for cryptocurrency. "I spoke with one woman who spent two hours at a machine because she was depositing \$80,000," Nofziger says.

Anyone can be a scam victim. Nearly 40 percent of people surveyed thought that victims lose money to scams because they are gullible. Observers may not be aware that some criminals' emotional manipulations are extremely sophisticated; often part of international crime rings, they are able to hone their techniques by targeting a huge number of potential victims.

Younger adults are more likely than older adults to be victims of a scam. About half of respondents thought that older people were more likely to be scam victims, but data from the FTC's Consumer Sentinel Network Data Book 2022 shows that younger adults (ages 20 to 29; 43 percent) are more likely to report losing money to fraud than older adults (ages 70 to 79; 23 percent), although the median financial loss is much higher for older adults.

### Where to report fraud

If you spot or have been a victim of a scam, report it to your local police and the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) at [reportfraud.ftc.gov](https://reportfraud.ftc.gov) and the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Internet Crime Complaint Center at [ic3.gov](https://ic3.gov). The more information they have, the better they can identify patterns, link cases and ultimately catch the criminals. The AARP Fraud Watch Network Helpline, 877-908-3360, is a free resource. Call to speak with trained fraud specialists who provide support and guidance on what to do next and how to avoid scams in the future. The AARP Fraud Watch Network also offers online group support sessions. [aarp.com](https://aarp.com)

## NORMAL MEMORY LOSS VS. MEMORY PROBLEMS: HOW TO TELL THE DIFFERENCE

Brain blips happen to all of us, but sometimes they can signal something more concerning

By Jessica Migala, AARP

Losing your keys or having walked into a room for, why you opened your fridge or where you placed your glasses — may happen more often as you age. One in nine adults 45 and older say they experienced more memory problems or confusion over the previous year, according to 2015-2017 data analyzed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Memory short circuits can make you question whether what you're experiencing is something more serious, such as mild cognitive impairment (MCI), a term that describes worsening confusion and memory loss that in some cases can lead to dementia.

Although we can't tell you definitively if cognitive problems are the culprit — or if you're in the clear — there are symptoms that experts say can clue you in on what's normal and what may be cause for concern. Compare your experiences with these all-too-common scenarios for advice on what to do next.

### Telling a story to a friend, you blank on the name of a shared acquaintance.

This is probably normal. There are expected brain changes that happen as you add candles to your cake. "Processing speed can slow down as we age. The speed and ability to retrieve info from your memory may become a bit slower," says Sarah Kremen, M.D., director of the Neurobehavior Program at Cedars-Sinai in Los Angeles.

Most likely, that info will come back to you — long after you needed it. (Of course, her name is Beth!) Focusing on one thing at a time, rather than multitasking or looking at your phone when you shouldn't be, can help clear background clutter to encode information into your brain, Kremen says.

### You've always been pretty even-keeled, but your sister has noticed your mood swings lately.

Consider visiting your doctor. "Any new change in mood over the age of 50 should be considered the

brain's way of sending out warning signals," says Rhonna Shatz, D.O., adjunct associate professor and an endowed chair in research and education in Alzheimer's disease at the University of Cincinnati College of Medicine.

"The brain can let you know that it's not working the way it should be with changes in mood or personality," she says. If you are experiencing anxiety, depression, irritability or lack of initiative and motivation for the first time, or you are going through a relapse of depression or anxiety (that had stabilized), see your doctor. On the other side of the coin, depression and anxiety also cause cognitive symptoms, which is why it's important to seek professional help to understand exactly what's going on.

### You and your spouse are arguing about a conversation that you don't remember.

How often is this happening? And how recently did you two talk about this?

It's normal to forget smaller elements of a conversation you had weeks or months ago, and once someone reminds you of the details, it should come back to you, says James Mastrianni, M.D., professor of neurology and codirector at the Center for Comprehensive Care and Research on Memory Disorders at UChicago Medicine. Outside factors, such as stress, can stymie your brain's ability to pluck info from your memory bank, according to research in *Neuroscience & Biobehavioral Reviews*.

What's concerning is if you don't remember having the conversation at all, Mastrianni says. Another clue is if you're having heated arguments with family members about whether certain conversations did or did not happen. Frustrated loved ones may say you told the same story within a 10-minute span. Repetition or forgetfulness of conversations should be evaluated by a doctor.

### You forgot where you placed your keys. (Though someday it's your phone.)

Often, this isn't concerning. "It's one of the most common things we see as we age, and it mainly occurs because we don't pay attention to where we place them," Mastrianni says.

Putting items down in the same place, such as a catchall, every day will help. Another tip, he says: When you drop your keys, stare at them for two seconds and notice what's around them to



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make sure you record their whereabouts in your memory.

There may be a cognitive problem at play if you spend your day tearing apart your house looking for a missing item or you regularly have to replace important items (including car keys) that cannot be found. Worried family members may report that they were accused of moving things or, worse, stealing them.

### You wanted a knife, but you called it a fork instead.

Cognitive issues can appear as language use problems. "There may be a difficulty in getting thoughts together or stringing words into a coherent thought," Mastrianni says. You may replace words with related — but not correct — words. You asked for the knife, but you meant a fork. Or you've lost the meaning of certain words, such as no longer knowing what a zebra is. "These are clearly signs of a dementia process," he says.

### You worked as an accountant, but calculating the tip on a restaurant bill has become a challenge.

During earlier stages of cognitive impairment, you may feel as if things consistently require more time and effort to complete, says Joel Salinas, M.D., clinical assistant professor of neurology and an expert on neurodegenerative diseases, dementia

and Alzheimer's at NYU Langone Health.

"Context, as well as your specific background, matters," he says. This is most telling if something that had been easy for you becomes difficult. For example, you were a trained accountant but struggle with calculating a tip. Or you feel as if you lost your ability to do a task that was part of your day-to-day living, such as paying bills.

### Whom to see if you're worried about your memory

If you notice concerning signs, don't put off a call or a visit to the doctor. "The earlier you can address your concerns, the more likely you can participate in your care and preserve your independence," Salinas says.

Your primary care physician is a good place to start. Several medical conditions can cause memory loss, some of which are reversible, so your doctor will want to rule those out first.

If they have concerns after an evaluation, you may be referred to a specialist, such as a neurologist, geropsychologist or a geriatrician for a more thorough workup. Just know: Wait times with these specialists can be long — some estimates say it takes about a month to score an appointment with a neurologist as a new patient. [aarp.com](https://aarp.com)

## WHY YOUR CAR COULD USE A DASHCAM

By Edward C. Baig, AARP

Social media is filled with viral videos of shocking road mishaps, amazing bolts of lightning, approaching tornadoes — all captured at just the right moment through the windshield of a car. Which begs the question: How did they film that? The videographers probably weren't holding a phone while they drove. An increasing number of people are installing a dashcam — a camera mounted inside the car that regularly makes video recordings.

Next question: Why? Many users get them just for fun, to capture what they see while they drive. But it turns out dashcams also have a practical use. And a case can be made for these devices whether you are at the wheel or when the vehicle is parked.

### Peace of mind for your car

If you live in a high-traffic area, a dashcam could prove to law enforcement or an insurance company that you weren't at fault in an accident. Indeed, if you've been in a severe collision, the victim of a hit and run, or even a minor fender bender, this may be the only "eyewitness" you have, says Jeff Chuh, vice president of marketing for North America at dashcam-maker Nextbase. And if you are pulled over during a traffic stop, you can grab video — and audio — of the episode.

Dashcams that turn on when activated by motion sensors can also help when a car is left unattended. If your parked auto is sideswiped, for example, a dashcam might capture video footage that reveals the license plate of the offending vehicle. It also may be able to identify a vandal or would-be thief.

### Dashcam costs are all over the road

Some popular dashcam brands include BlackVue, Garmin, Mio, Nexar, Nextbase and Rexing. Models can cost under \$100 or up to several hundred dollars. Amazon-owned Ring, the company that popularized doorbell cameras, also recently joined the market, with its Ring Car Cam.

Among Ring Car Cam's features is one built specifically for a traffic stop. A user can say, "Alexa record" and it will start capturing a clip, says Ring Chief Product Officer Jason Mitura.

Across the board, you'll find a wide gulf in terms of prices and features. Sub-\$100 models may be good for your budget but not function as well on the road, especially if you're hoping to make out a license plate captured at night. But not everyone needs all the bells and whistles in a model that costs well north of \$400.

### Features to consider

**Image quality:** Choose 1080p, high-definition as a minimum video resolution, as well as a model

with a decent field of vision that can also deliver crisp, high-quality video in bright sunshine and at night. Consumer Reports recommends a dashcam with 4K resolution to record useful, high-quality video for insurance purposes.

**Storage:** Get a dashcam with a slot to insert an SD memory card, though the cost of the card itself is not always included with your purchase. Typically, when you've run out of storage (capacity depends on the size of the SD card and video resolution), the camera will record over older footage. But you always have the option to remove the card and download any video to save on your computer. Some models can upload video directly to the cloud, typically for a fee. For example, the Ring Protect Go subscription plan costs \$6 per month or \$60 per year. A seven-day Garmin Vault cloud subscription plan costs \$4.99 when billed monthly, or \$9.99 for 30 days of storage.

**Single cam or multicam:** Using a dual-facing camera lets you grab footage of the front of the car and inside the cabin, a smart choice to capture video of break-ins, or if you want to monitor your teen child or grandchild in the back seat while you drive. It might also add security if you're moonlighting as a ride-share driver.

**Key add-on:** Consumer Reports also recommends looking for car cams that capture your GPS coordinates and log your speed,



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among other granular details. These can provide crucial evidence in an accident. Garmin's Herbst concurs: "GPS is nice for a source of truth in terms of speed and stoppage points," he says.

**Power:** Dashcams draw power when the ignition is on. They can be hard-wired to your car's fuse box, which likely will require professional installation. Or they can also be plugged into the 12-volt outlet (formerly the cigarette lighter socket) or the OBD (on-board diagnostics) port beneath the steering wheel. Some run off an internal battery pack that will need to be recharged from time to time. Though there's some risk of draining your battery in a standby mode, according to online vendor The Dashcam Store, these cameras "consume very small amounts of power, so a healthy car battery in a vehicle that is driven regularly will have no problem supplying power to a dashcam for many hours or even days before reaching a safety cutoff threshold." [aarp.com](https://aarp.com)



# THE MOST CRITICAL BEACH AND WATER SAFETY RULES YOU NEED TO KNOW IN NEW JERSEY

By Vin Ebenau, WOBM,

There are rules and real good reasons for them at the beach each summer and it's imperative that you follow each one here at the Jersey Shore.

It can be challenging to recognize what rip currents look like, so, before you go to the beach this summer, it's important to learn all you can about these deceptive kinds of waves.

"There's a lot of water that comes in and that water has to do what? -- go back out -- so, the different topographies of the sand creates faster exits for that water and that's usually where the rip currents form," Dan George, the Beach Manager in Long Branch, said.

"It is a current going in the opposite direction, so, it's discolored sometimes, there's little waves, there's a mark up in the water there -- with a good eye, you can see it."

If you find yourself in a rip current -- or see someone in one and need to know what to do -- George advises you to swim parallel to the beach.

"You don't want to swim back into the beach because you could have a 2, 3, 4, 5 mph current you're trying to swim in and that won't work," George said. "You swim to your left or to your right, swim out of the rip current and then, you could have a much better chance of swimming in."

Some of the dangers with rip currents could be avoided if swimmers are vigilant and cautious.

"I think the biggest problem sometimes beachgoers get themselves into is 'oh, it doesn't look that rough today, looks kind of calm' -- there's still rip currents on days where it appears to be mild," George said.

Before you go into the water at the beach this summer, you need to be aware of not only the surf conditions but also honest about your own physical ability. George explains that in June especially, the water is colder and many people just aren't in shape enough to take on the waves and surf.

"The majority of the people that come to the beach (in June) are not in swimming shape like they would



Fitz / stock.adobe.com

be in August, so, they're kind of out of swimming shape, the water is cold -- that's a perfect recipe for cramping or just not being physically fit to get yourself out of a dangerous situation," George said.

He advises you to be smart and cautious this summer and that includes here at the start of beach season. "Work your way in, see how you feel, get a good feel for where

you're swimming -- just don't go flying in and 'there's a big wave and I'm going to swim out and catch it'," George said.

In addition to looking out for rip currents this summer, you'll need to keep an eye out for another condition in the water -- beach sweeps.

"You think you're having a great time and everything's perfect and all of the sudden where you went in -- you're half a mile to the north or the south," George said.

"There's rip currents that go out, there's also beach sweeps meaning the current is always constantly running and we have sweeps down the beach where I go in at one spot and with good waves and stuff, sometimes or really windy conditions, I could be a quarter of a mile down the beach in 2-minutes," George said.

There are also flags to pay attention to at the beach with blue standing for a designated swimming area, green for calm waters and wind, yellow means caution with possible rip currents, and red means dangerous.

wobm.com

## BARNEGAT SPORTS BEAT



**Sportsmanship Winner**  
Congratulations to Cara McCoy Barnegat High School 2022-2023 Shore Conference Female Sportsmanship Winner!

**BARNEGAT HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS BEAT**



## HYUNDAI LEADS INDUSTRY AS BEST SUV BRAND IN 2023 BY U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT

FOUNTAIN VALLEY, Calif., June 12, 2023 – Hyundai's 2023 SUV line-up leads the industry according to U.S. News and World Report's Best SUV Brands list for 2023. This is the fourth consecutive year Hyundai has been recognized by U.S. News and World Report as Best SUV Brand. Hyundai's overall SUV average score (8.7/10) landed the company in first place and included nine SUV vehicles in the evaluation. The Hyundai Palisade, Santa Fe, Santa Fe HEV, Tucson, Tucson HEV, Kona, Kona EV, Venue and IONIQ 5 each were reviewed and compared to a number of new SUVs. These awards highlight vehicles that perform well in multiple factors including dependability, reliability, crash prevention, and available features. The Best SUV Brand list features thirteen SUV brands in total.



The 2023 Hyundai Tucson HEV is photographed in Irvine, Calif., on Feb. 16, 2022. yundainews.com



The 2023 Hyundai Palisade is photographed in Irvine, CA. on Aug. 15, 2022. Hyundainews.com.

"Hyundai has methodically ascended to top-tier status in no small part because of its stylish and capable SUVs," said Jim Sharifi, managing editor of U.S. News Best Cars. "SUVs win U.S. motorists' minds and hearts with their

inherent practicality and adventurous spirit."

"Hyundai recognized the changing shift in the attraction of SUVs, for their practicality, performance and adventurous offerings," said Olabisi Boyle, vice president, product planning and mobility strategy, Hyundai Motor

North America. "Our ability to be nimble, design focused, and offer multiple powertrain alternatives while also listening to our customers, has placed Hyundai at the top of the prestigious U.S. News & World Report Best of SUVs list for 2023."

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Where: Ocean County Library- Toms River Branch  
101 Washington Street Toms River  
When: 4th Tuesday of the Month  
Both groups meet from 11 am to 12:30 pm

Sessions are hosted by:  
Elaine M. Hughes, LCSW and  
Julia Fraser, MPA, CALA, CDP

More information or to reserve your spot:  
Call Julia at 732-505-2273



# HOME PROJECTS ARE A GREAT WAY TO TEACH KIDS TEAMWORK

By Danielle Natale

When I was a young girl, I have so many great memories of being at my grandparent's house for a holiday and going in the back yard to shoot a few hoops on their basketball court.

Let's be real here for a minute, I am no basketball player and never have played this team sport. I like it for the exercise. I started thinking that I'd really like to have something similar to that in my backyard for my daughter and me. I started Pinteresting as I usually do before I start all of my large home projects! Before I knew it, I had the materials at my house, and it took about 3 weeks to do.

I am still doing the finishing touches but so far it looks great! My daughter and I did this project together which she enjoyed! I encourage my daughter to help me with all the projects we do around the house so that she learns the concept of teamwork, hard work with a deep sense of accomplishment and understanding that the things we think aren't achievable are actually achievable.

So many times, we give up and let someone else do the work we ourselves are capable of.



She and I had a great time together making this happen and now we will have fun enjoying the fruits of our labor after dinner every night! What have you been wanting to get done around your house? Get it done!

**Danielle Natale**  
609-597-0033 x 1415  
Sales Consultant

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Hops is a strikingly handsome fellow and a survivor of the Brick hoarding situation. He is embracing his new lease on life and enjoying every moment. He has come to love the game of fetch and taking leashed walks. Hops is a 4 year old Boxer Mix who is full of personality. He is dog friendly and does not seem to mind the company of feline companions. If you would like to meet Hops, please call the So. Ocean Co. Animal Shelter 609-978-0127.



**Hops**

Beware of these two little thieves. They will absolutely steal your heart. Tucker & Leo are 4 year old brothers who are the sweetest cats you will ever meet. They are both lap cats who will come to you when you call them and will follow you like a puppy. If you are looking for 2 little love bugs, then these boys would be perfect for your family. They are outgoing little characters that love to be with people and just love to play with toys. They love being together and love to huddle together so it would be great if they could go to a new home together. They are both very gentle cats that never put their claws out and are easy to handle. They are neutered, up to date with vaccines, tested negative for FIV and FeLV and microchipped. If you would like to meet Leo and Tucker, please fill out an application online at Fosocas.org and their foster Mom will contact you for a meet and greet in her home in Little Egg Harbor



**Tucker & Leo**

If you are looking to adopt, have questions or want to volunteer please call:

**609-978-0127**

or go to [www.fosocas.org](http://www.fosocas.org)

Please call the Southern Ocean County Animal Shelter to make an appointment!

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**HOPE**  
*SHEDS LIGHT*

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# 4th of July

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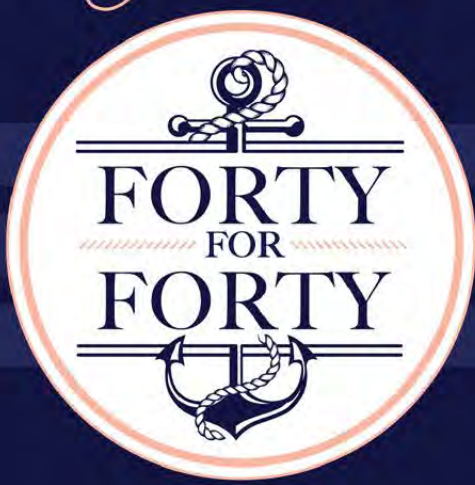
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*We hope you will consider joining us on Tuesday, August 1st, in honor of Ken's 40th Birthday, for an evening of plentiful cocktails, music, and a light comic roast, graciously hosted by Jonathan Z. Petro, as together we raise over \$40,000 for the students of Ocean County College.*

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# COUNTY BREAKS GROUND ON NEW STAFFORD LIBRARY BRANCH

The state of the art 19,700-square foot facility is scheduled to be completed in Sept. 2024.

By Veronica Flesher, Patch Staff

STAFFORD, NJ — Work has officially begun on the latest addition to the Ocean County Library system - a brand new, state of the art library in Stafford.

With ceremonial shovels in hand, Ocean County Commissioners and Stafford officials joined to officially break ground on the 19,700-square foot facility that will replace the current aging library here.

"Today is the result of strong partnerships, working together for a common cause - to bring a new library branch to the southern part of Ocean County that can be enjoyed by all of our residents," said Director of the Ocean County Board of Commissioners Joseph H. Vicari, liaison to the Ocean County Library system. "We look forward to the day that we can walk through the doors of this new branch and see the vision of so many talented and creative professionals that brought this to fruition."

The newest branch hopes to serve as an asset for Stafford and for all communities of Southern Ocean County, offering not only typical library services, but serving as a location for several important government services as well.

It will be located at 179 Main St., next to the Ocean County Southern Service Center, which houses a number of Ocean County services including a main nutrition site for seniors, the Ocean County Clerk's Office, Office of Senior Services, Department of Human Services and Veterans Service Bureau.

"A library is not a school or a university, but it is still a special place of learning. Having the library built here will tie everything together nicely and make a one-stop resource center for the Southern part of Ocean County," Mayor Greg Myhre said.

The new building will provide educational resources and community spaces, state of the art technologies, public computers



Officials break ground on the new library facility. (Ocean County Public Information)

and shelving for 40 to 50 percent more books and materials. It also includes larger areas for children's programs, an intergenerational space for senior citizens to socialize and enjoy library services, a new teen area, study rooms, maker space for STEAM educational activities, and a sensory space to provide a welcoming environment for people with autism, Alzheimer's or other sensory processing needs.

Costs for the new branch are offset by a \$4.8 million grant in the second round of funding for the Library Construction Bond Act which allocates \$37 million to 36 library projects from 13 counties across New Jersey.

The Ocean County Board of Commissioners on April 5 awarded a contract to Newport Construction Management Corp, Pennsauken, to construct the new branch. The total contract cost is \$9,488,700, offset by the above grant.

The branch should be completed in Sept. 2024, according to county officials.

"We deeply appreciate the work of the Ocean County Board of Commissioners, the Stafford Township Mayor and Council, the Library Commission, the state Library Construction Bond, the library staff and the County staff as we all work together to bring the best services and programs to the residents," said Ocean County Library Director Susan Quinn. "The new library will be a field of dreams and possibilities. It holds an exciting future for all of us at the Ocean County Library."

patch.com

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STAFFORD TOWNSHIP – Get ready for the Ocean County Library’s Summer Reading theme, “All Together Now,” by meeting our community helpers who keep us safe. You’ll have the opportunity to explore emergency vehicles during First Responders Day at the Ocean County Library Stafford Branch, 10 AM Thursday, June 29.

Everyone will gather in the Branch parking lot to greet a Stafford Township fire truck, ambulance, and police patrol car, then meet township first responders led by Community Policing Officer Lawrence.

Police, fire, and emergency medical technicians will conduct tours of their vehicles, and will describe the purposes of the tools that they use.

First Responders Day at the OCL Stafford Branch is a free, drop-in activity for all ages. No registration is required.



OCL Stafford Branch First Responders Day 2022



In case of rain, the event will be rescheduled to 10 AM Friday, June 30. For more information, visit the Branch, 129 North Main Street, Manahawkin, or call (609) 597-3381.

## MARVEL AT PAPER CUTTING MASTERY AT THE LONG BEACH ISLAND BRANCH



Photos Courtesy of Hou-Tien Cheng



SURF CITY – Without sketching, in the wink of an eye, Hou-Tien Cheng takes ordinary paper and cuts it into images that spark the imagination. The Ocean County Library is pleased to present his Master paper cutting demonstration, 2 PM Tuesday, June 27.

The 1976 U.S. Master of Paper Cutting has demonstrated his dexterous art for more than 50 years in libraries, schools and museums throughout the United States, and devoted four years to conducting workshops at the American Museum of Natural History.

According to weebly.com, the Jersey Shore-based illustrator, designer, performer and instructor is capable of re-creating a human likeness in less than a minute.

Please register at [www.theoceancountylibrary.org/events](http://www.theoceancountylibrary.org/events) for this free program. For more information, visit the OCL Long Beach Island Branch, 217 South Central Avenue, Surf City, or call (609) 494-2480.

## BIG BARGAINS, RIVETING READS: FRIENDS' BOOK SALE AT LONG BEACH ISLAND BRANCH

SURF CITY – Stock up on great beach reads and find listening and viewing bargains galore during the Friends of the Island Library’s Big Book Sale at the Ocean County Library Long Beach Island Branch, 9 AM until 4 PM Friday and Saturday, June 23 and 24.

Browse among gently-used hardcovers, paperbacks, and audio books, compact discs, and DVDs for all ages in the Branch meeting room. Transactions will be in cash only. All proceeds support the Friends of the Island Library, who contribute to Branch activities, sponsor fundraisers, and serve as community advocates.

Those wishing to join the Friends may obtain membership brochures and application forms during book sales, donation days, and sponsored programs. Annual membership fees are \$5 for individuals, \$10 for families, and \$50 for businesses. Applications are also available at <http://theoceancountylibrary.org/oclfriends/membership>.

The Friends of the Island Library Big Book Sale is open to the public. No registration is required. For more information, visit the OCL Long Beach Island Branch, 217 South Central Avenue, Surf City, or call (609) 494-2480.

## NEW PICKLEBALL COURTS NOW OPEN IN STAFFORD

By Veronica Flesher, Patch Staff

STAFFORD, NJ — Looking to get outside? There are several new ways to do so in Stafford.

Pickleball fans will be pleased to know that Stafford’s newest pickleball courts are officially open.

The six new courts are at Lighthouse Park in Ocean Acres. This park is also home to a bike trail, playground, roller hockey rink and a walking track.

Families can also play at Stafford’s newest park, Park of the Pines.

This park is located in Stafford Park, off

Campbell Boulevard, next to the water tower.

The majority of it was built by the Walters Group as part of the redevelopment agreement for Stafford Park.

New docks have also opened on Jennifer Lane in Beach Haven West.

[patch.com](http://patch.com)



Ramil Gibadullin / stock.adobe.com

# 4th of July SALE-A-BRATION



2009 Nissan Altima 2.5 S  
Y9N429327  
**\$9,990\***



2012 Nissan Sentra 2.0 SR  
YCL627938  
**\$10,990\***



2014 Kia Soul Plus  
FE7046297  
**\$13,990\***



2017 Nissan Altima 2.5 S  
NHN362831  
**\$15,990\***



2017 Nissan Rogue S  
YHP549326  
**\$16,990\***



2008 Ford E-150 Commercial  
FLH301972  
**\$16,990\***



2018 Kia Optima LX  
NJG269711  
**\$16,990\***



2017 Ford Transit Connect XL  
HH1303317  
**\$17,990\***



2016 Kia Sorento SXL  
YGG027177  
**\$17,990\***



2017 Jeep Compass High Altitude  
NHD111115  
**\$17,990\***



2019 Nissan Altima 2.5 Platinum  
FKC134192  
**\$18,990\***



2014 Honda Accord EX-L  
HEA033141  
**\$18,990\***



2017 Hyundai Tucson SE  
NHU539273  
**\$18,990\***



2017 Hyundai Tucson SE  
YHU326330  
**\$18,990\***



2020 Nissan Sentra SV  
NLY254554  
**\$20,990\***



2018 Hyundai Tucson Value  
YJU701741  
**\$20,990\***



2021 Honda HR-V Sport  
HMM703259  
**\$20,990\***



2016 Ford Explorer XLT  
HGA73993  
**\$22,990\***



2019 MINI Cooper Signature  
YK2D72509  
**\$23,990\***



2019 Honda HR-V Sport  
NKG731225  
**\$23,990\***



2016 Acura RDX Base AWD  
HGL007684  
**\$24,990\***



2020 Ford Explorer XLT  
FLGB89212  
**\$28,990\***



2016 Audi A5 2.0T Premium quattro  
FGN009500  
**\$29,990\***



2018 Lincoln MKX Reserve  
FJBL38115  
**\$29,990\***



2018 Nissan Titan S  
NHN536839  
**\$29,990\***



2019 Ford Edge ST  
FKBB52027  
**\$29,990\***



2020 Honda CR-V EX  
FLH625210  
**\$30,990\***



2022 Hyundai Kona N Line  
YNU838933  
**\$31,990\***



2020 Honda Ridgeline RTL-E  
HLB007295  
**\$40,990\***



2022 Toyota Tacoma SR V6  
FNT076593  
**\$42,550\***



2019 Ford F-150 XLT  
FKFD24796  
**\$42,990\***



2021 Ram 1500 Big Horn / Lone Star  
HMN701912  
**\$43,990\***



2020 Ford F-150 XLT  
FLKE18061  
**\$47,990\***



2020 Ford F-150 Platinum  
P84452  
**\$48,990\***



2022 Jeep Wrangler Unlimited Sahara  
NNW255795  
**\$49,990\***



# BURGER 25'S NEW LBI LOCATION IS NOW OPEN

Enjoy a Reef and Beef or just a classic cheeseburger now that Burger 25 has opened their new Ship Bottom location.



The Vetter family outside of their new Ship Bottom location. Photo from Burger 25.

Steve Vetter said the family chose LBI because of the beach vibe of the mom-and-pop shops and people walking around.

Burger 25 will continue to collaborate with local businesses as they do in their Toms River location. The June burger of the month, an Angus beef burger, with bacon, egg, and cheese, on an Ob-Co's glazed donut, will be recreated in Ship Bottom, with Ferrara's Island Bakery.

The new location has a walk-up shake window and lots of parking, a rarity on the island.

A grand opening will be held later in the month, once daughter Alexis and new son-in-law Robert Wasilick return from their delayed honeymoon. The day after the wedding, they immediately headed down to LBI for the finishing touches.

When friends recommended they take a break, Denise Vetter replied, "There is no time for breaks. We are going all in!"

Residents and visitors alike have been eagerly

anticipating the new location for months, poking their heads in to ask if Burger 25 is open yet.

"We are so excited for this Thursday when we can say - Yes we are!" Denise Vetter said.

Reach new heights this summer!

Waretown Farmingdale

Lead U Summer Camp Take Over at Camp Sacajawea  
August 21st - 25th  
gsFun.org/Camp

By Veronica Flesher, Patch Staff

SHIP BOTTOM, NJ — Burger lovers of Long Beach Island, rejoice! Burger 25's newest location in Ship Bottom is officially opened on June 8.

For the uninitiated, this family-owned Toms River spot has become famous for its fantastical milkshakes, community collaborations and of course, having some of the best burgers in the state.

The new spot is located at 1915 Long Beach Blvd. It is open daily from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. in the summer, with the possibility of late

night hours. And yes, it will be open year-round.

Denise and Steve Vetter, along with children Alexis and Aaron, began their burger journey nearly a decade ago.

"Building a brand was not initially a dream of ours. But when my husband started to lose his hearing, and worried that he would no longer be able to work in the mortgage business, we needed a Plan B; so we bought a little burger joint. We've come a long way from that first building. It may not have been in our plans, but it sure has become our passion!" Denise Vetter said.

**Save The Date**

**BREWS & BITES**

Icarus Brewing  
1790 Swarthmore Ave., Unit 3  
Lakewood, NJ 08701

**\$55.**

11:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Saturday, September 23rd

Beer & Donut Pairing  
Entertainment & Games  
Gift Auction & Food

Additional beer and food will be available for purchase.

Purchase tickets at [www.aneedwefeed.org](http://www.aneedwefeed.org)

Seating is limited.

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 2016 Hyundai Tucson Limited YGU046657 <b>\$17,550*</b>	 2014 Honda Accord LX HEA071570 <b>\$17,990*</b>	 2018 Toyota Corolla SE NJC098178 <b>\$17,990*</b>	 2017 Nissan Rogue SV HHP504657 <b>\$17,990*</b>	 2018 Ford Escape SE FJUA46975 <b>\$17,990*</b>	 2013 Lincoln MKX Base FDBL24482 <b>\$17,990*</b>	 2018 Buick Encore Preferred HJB679006 <b>\$17,990*</b>
 2020 Ford EcoSport SE FLC314833 <b>\$18,990*</b>	 2016 Chrysler 300 Limited HGH243939 <b>\$19,990*</b>	 2016 Lincoln MKX Select FGBL27319 <b>\$19,990*</b>	 2017 Hyundai Sonata Hybrid SE HHA057600 <b>\$19,990*</b>	 2014 Honda CR-V EX NEL017372 <b>\$19,990*</b>	 2015 Lincoln MKC Select FFUJ14944 <b>\$19,990*</b>	 2017 Hyundai Santa Fe Sport 2.4 Base NHH009883 <b>\$20,990*</b>
 2011 Jaguar XJ Base FBLV14431 <b>\$24,990*</b>	 2020 Nissan Rogue Sport SV YLV381387 <b>\$24,990*</b>	 2016 Ford F-150 XLT NGFB80394 <b>\$26,990*</b>	 2016 Ford F-150 XLT FGFB96681 <b>\$26,990*</b>	 2021 Honda HR-V Sport YMM740372 <b>\$26,990*</b>	 2017 Lincoln MKX Select FHBL40385 <b>\$26,990*</b>	 2022 Honda Civic Sport FHBL40385 <b>\$28,990*</b>
 2020 Honda Pilot EX-L FLB046900 <b>\$33,990*</b>	 2020 Jeep Wrangler Sport S FLW273983 <b>\$34,990*</b>	 2018 Ford Explorer Sport FJGC61253 <b>\$34,990*</b>	 2019 Mercedes-Benz GLE 400 4MATIC® P84485 <b>\$37,990*</b>	 2018 Mercedes-Benz C-Class C 300 4MATIC® FJF681817 <b>\$38,990*</b>	 2021 Jeep Gladiator Sport FML504104 <b>\$39,990*</b>	 2017 Lincoln Navigator Select FHFL02985 <b>\$39,990*</b>
 2021 Ram 1500 Laramie FMN790421 <b>\$52,990</b>	 2022 Ford F-150 XLT FNK079338 <b>\$58,990*</b>	 2022 Ford Mustang Mach 1 P84455 <b>\$59,990*</b>	 2020 Ford F-450SD XL DRW FLEE52701 <b>\$68,990</b>	 2019 Ford F-250SD Lariat FKED59366 <b>\$68,990*</b>	 2019 Ford F-350SD Lariat FKEE08135 <b>\$68,990*</b>	 2022 Ford F-350SD Lariat FNE037422 <b>\$79,990*</b>



# KIDS COLORING CONTEST!

You Could Win a \$50 Target® Gift Card!



Simply have your child color the page, fill out the form, and either stop in to any Causeway location to drop off or mail to the address below.

**Entry Deadline: July 7th**

**Congratulations to Last Month's Kid's Winner!**



**Ariana**



Mail to: Causeway Coloring Contest • PO Box 547, Manahawkin, NJ 08050

Child's First Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Age \_\_\_\_\_  
 School \_\_\_\_\_  
 Parent's Name and Phone \_\_\_\_\_



# ADULT COLORING CONTEST!

You Could Win a \$50 Dollar Gift Certificate to East Bay Italian Grille in Barnegat!



**Congratulations to Last Month's Adult Coloring Contest Winner!**



**Lisa T**

Must be 18 years or older. Simply color the above picture, fill out the form, and either stop in to any Causeway location to drop off or mail to the address below.

**Entry Deadline: July 7th**

You could win a \$50 Gift certificate to Sweet Jenny's!

Mail to: Causeway Coloring Contest  
 PO Box 547, Manahawkin, NJ 08050

First Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Last Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone number \_\_\_\_\_  
 Residence: \_\_\_\_\_

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