



# The Causeway Gazette

www.CausewayGazette.com

Proudly serving Manahawkin, Barnegat, and surrounding communities

April 2026 • Number 143

## Autism Awareness is Every Day at Ocean Partnership for Children

As communities across the country recognize April as Autism Awareness Month, there is no better time to spotlight Ocean Partnership for Children (OPC), an organization working tirelessly to support individuals and families navigating Autism Spectrum Disorder. Serving all of Ocean County, OPC stands at the forefront of quietly and consistently transforming lives for youth and families, through an individualized, collaborative, holistic approach to services and treatment. Services rendered are offered at no cost to families when youth are in need, with neither insurance coverage nor income posing barriers to assistance.



On average, OPC serves more than 1,100 youth daily across all of Ocean County: assisting youth facing mental health, substance use, legal involvement, and/or behavioral health needs. Within that population, approximately 20% are youth with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD), the majority of whom have an autism diagnosis. Behind these numbers are real children, teens, young adults, and families navigating complex systems, complicated insurances and services, seeking understanding, and working toward stability and success. OPC's role is not just to provide services, but to ensure no one is left to face these challenges alone.

Central to this work are dedicated Care Management teams focused specifically on supporting young people with I/DD needs, managed by Director Alyssa Christman and I/DD Supervisors Melinda Santiago-Owens, Sean Giarratana, and Jessica Perez. These specialized teams are comprised of professionals who bring not only compassion, but deep expertise in the disability field. Staff members are certified in Developmental Disabilities through Rutgers University, equipping them with the knowledge and skills necessary to address the unique and evolving needs of this population. This level of training ensures that families receive informed guidance, individualized care planning, and advocacy rooted in best practices.

What truly sets OPC apart is its ability to listen: to families, to youth, and to the community. Consistently seeking feedback, OPC responds with innovative, meaningful solutions. Over the



Celebrating our amazing staff captured during Connections and past Autism Awareness Months, bringing dedication, compassion, and community to everything they do.

years, OPC has identified persistent gaps in services and access, particularly for individuals with developmental disabilities. Rather than accepting these gaps as unavoidable, the organization has taken action to bring necessary solutions to the county.

In 2020, OPC created a groundbreaking I/DD Specialist position to address one of the most significant barriers individuals with I/DD needs and their families face: navigating the state's eligibility systems. Applying for and securing Developmental Disabilities (DD) eligibility for youth under 21 or Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD) eligibility for individuals over 21, can be a lengthy, confusing, and often overwhelming process. The paperwork is extensive, the requirements are strict, and delays can leave families without critical services. Often, mandatory evaluations and testing can be difficult to acquire, with insurance coverage barriers, high deductibles and costs, and long waitlists.

The I/DD Specialist was designed to change that experience. Serving as both a guide and an advocate, this role supports individuals and families throughout the entire application process; from gathering documentation, completing submissions, following up with state agencies or just providing guidance on how to access the online portal. In the calendar year 2025, the I/DD Specialist served 483 individuals, each at a different stage of the eligibility journey. When asked about the benefits of this position, Santiago-Owens, who also supervises this position, stated, "The benefit

is having someone sit with you, listen, and help navigate a world that is not made to understand. She [Corie Hometchko, I/DD Specialist] helps explain "the why" that a lot of people never take the time to discuss."

As impactful as this role has been, OPC's commitment to innovation did not stop there. In 2021, as communities emerged from a period of unprecedented isolation brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic, OPC recognized another urgent need. Many youth with special needs had experienced heightened isolation, disrupted routines, and increased anxiety. Opportunities for socialization had become limited or nonexistent. Two OPC staff members, Liz Menges and Jess Pepe developed a social, emotional and physical wellness curriculum in response to the Ocean County Department of Human Services' county-wide request for proposals to formulate a hybrid program for youth with disabilities.

OPC launched Connections, a program specifically designed to support individuals with special needs who were struggling with isolation and social barriers. What began as a targeted initiative quickly grew into a vital community resource. Connections provides a safe, inclusive space where youth can build relationships, develop social skills, and engage in meaningful activities. Through structured group sessions, recreational opportunities, and peer interaction, participants are encouraged to step out of seclusion and into connection, in a way that feels comfortable and empowering.

Continued on page 2

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### WHAT'S INSIDE

- Family promise Hold Key to Helping Local Families..... PAGE 2
- Meals On Wheels Celebrates Community Champions..... PAGE 3
- Ocean County Library News and Events..... PAGE 4
- Southern Regional Sports Beat..... PAGE 5
- \$37.26 Million Budget Approved For Barnegat..... PAGE 6
- Stafford Presents \$64.1 Million Budget..... PAGE 7
- 8 Stretches That Could Help You Live Longer..... PAGE 8
- Learn to Navigate the Division of Developmental Disabilities..... PAGE 9
- Barnegat High School Sports Beat..... PAGE 10
- Excited to Plant First Tree in New Garden Space..... PAGE 11
- Super Nachos Recipe..... PAGE 12
- Causeway x Jetty Sweatshirts Are Here!..... PAGE 13
- Furry Friends to Take Home..... PAGE 14
- Homerun Savings Pre-owned Event..... PAGE 15
- Coloring Contests - Win a Prize!..... PAGE 16

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



The Wintrode Family Foundation



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).

The Causeway Gazette Editor: Joe Stroffolino Assistant Editor: Kaitlyn Strohmeier Publisher: Jayme Hill-Gardner Creative/Comp: Theresa Maye Marketing: Brianna Kennedy © 2026. All rights reserved.

# Supporting Family Promise of the Jersey Shore is the Key to Helping Local Families

Recently I was fortunate to witness the moment a family was no longer homeless.

Actually, I was blessed to see that moment play out twice in one day with two of our families receiving the keys to their new home after experiencing homelessness.

There wasn't much fanfare. The neighborhoods were quiet, business as usual. Boxes were unloaded from the cars. Belongings in black trash bags were hauled in.

But the smiles didn't quit. A feeling of relief was tangible. The unpacking was real and final. They had the keys in their hands. They were home.

Scenes like this are the usual ending for families who complete our Emergency Family Shelter Program.

Seventeen years ago this month Family Promise of the Jersey Shore began helping local families facing homelessness with this one program. By bringing the community together, using existing resources and the gift of compassionate volunteers we began creating that moment when a family got the keys to their home.

Today we offer more programs and help more families and individuals facing homelessness. Last year alone, we prevented or ended homelessness for 796 people in Ocean County.

But our Family Shelter Program remains the essence of Family Promise of the Jersey Shore. Working with community partners and amazing volunteers, families receive compassion and guidance in a safe place while getting a hand up out of their situation.

Your support is vital to helping more families move out of homelessness. You can help them get the keys to a brighter future.



Family Promise Giving Day on April 22 is a perfect opportunity. The day is the apex of an online campaign to raise funds to support local families and individuals experiencing homelessness

Giving Day is a rallying point but you can make a difference with your gift at any time, on any day. Every act of generosity, no matter the size, directly impacts everyone we help to have a home.

To donate please text "give" to 833-975-2970 or visit [pushpay.com/g/familypromisejerseyshore](https://pushpay.com/g/familypromisejerseyshore) to share your gift. Our mailing address is PO Box 83 West Creek, NJ 08092

Please help us to continue helping those who reach out for help and hope everyday.

You make handing over the keys to a better life possible.

Thank you,  
Jim Lowney  
Public Affairs Manager  
Family Promise of the Jersey Shore  
[jim@familypromisejerseyshore.org](mailto:jim@familypromisejerseyshore.org).

## Autism Awareness

from page 1

Over time, the program has evolved to meet the changing needs of its participants. The year-long program meets twice a month and focuses each session on one or more of four pillars: emotional wellness, social wellness, physical health and caregiver/family connection. Now entering its fourth year as a grant-funded program, Connections continues to expand its reach and impact, with Pepe and Kelly Joseph as Lead Facilitators. Sessions throughout the year include community partnership days (i.e. A visit from Insectropolis, financial literacy with OceanFirst Bank, or lessons from a local dental hygienist), family nights (i.e. BBQ at Ocean County Youth Center or Family Night at the Jersey Shore BlueClaws), and a pen pal program to focus on conversational skills and empathy. The year culminates with a special Connections Gala to celebrate the youth and their families in the program. Joseph states, "I love getting to see the growth being made without the youth even realizing it. And the fact that the group really lives up to its name in allowing the youth to make Connections in a safe, fun environment that's just for them is so important."

Families report not only improved social engagement among participants, but also increased confidence, independence, and overall well-being. A parent reported during a recent anonymous survey, "It's a great opportunity for [my son] to get out of the house and socialize with individuals in similar situations. I feel this is a very generous group. My wife and I are very satisfied – thank you to the folks that put all the effort in to keep the program running." A youth attending group reported, "I like coming to Connections and riding here in the car," while another wrote, "I feel good about [coming to group] and the pizza. I like to help other friends."

The success of Connections and the I/DD Specialist are testaments to OPC's ability to adapt and grow alongside the community it serves. It reflects a broader philosophy that defines the organization's work: services should not be static, they should evolve in response to real needs, real challenges, and real lives.

While some parents and caregivers may be daydreaming of their golden years in retirement someday, parents and caregivers of those with special needs are planning for life-long services, supportive and assisted housing options, and navigating complexities that are trusts, applications, guardianship, and other winding roadways in a complex legal landscape. For the families they serve, OPC is more than a service provider. OPC is a partner, an advocate, and a source of hope. And, for the community at large, it is a powerful reminder of what can be achieved when compassion meets action.

During Autism Awareness Month, and year-round, it's essential to move beyond awareness alone and toward true understanding, acceptance, and inclusion. Organizations like Ocean Partnership for Children exemplify this by pairing compassion with action, innovation, and commitment. As we recognize this month, we celebrate both the individuals and families impacted by autism and the dedicated work happening every day in Ocean County to support them.

To learn more about Ocean Partnership for Children, how to access services, or how to be a supporter of the mission, visit their website [www.oceanpartnership.org](http://www.oceanpartnership.org) and follow on social media @OceanPartnership

## You're Invited!



The HOPE Center's

# 5th Annual Golf Classic

## May 7, 2026

Bey Lea Golf Course  
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Join us for a day on the green to make a difference in our community.

The HOPE Center's 5th Annual Golf Classic is a day filled with prizes, raffles, great food, and a lot of fun for an amazing cause!

All proceeds benefit the mission of The HOPE Center, which is to serve individuals and families in crisis with dignity and compassion, providing for their basic human needs and striving to empower each person to achieve his or her greatest level of self-sufficiency.


Register your foursome today and golf for good!  
Sponsorships are also available.

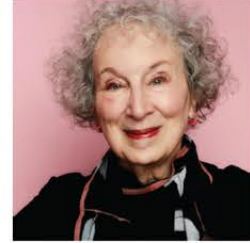


[houseofhopeocean.org/golf](http://houseofhopeocean.org/golf)

# UPCOMING EVENTS

PRESENTED BY






A CONVERSATION WITH MARGARET ATWOOD

Margaret Atwood is a celebrated Canadian writer, poet, and literary critic known for her numerous awards and works like *The Handmaid's Tale*. Her writing frequently explores themes of gender, identity, religion, and environmental issues.


Thursday, April 23, 2026 at 6:00PM




ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP CELEBRATION

Save the Date for our Annual Scholarship Celebration, taking place on the campus of Ocean County College. Honorees and more information coming soon.

Thursday, June 4, 2026



Learn More: [OCCFoundation.org](http://OCCFoundation.org)



Ocean County College Foundation

College Drive, Toms River, NJ 08754

[occfoundation.org](http://occfoundation.org) | 732.255.0492

# MOWOC's Spring of Community Champions

Each spring, Meals on Wheels Ocean County celebrates the people and partnerships that help make our mission possible. We call this our Spring of Community Champions, a time to shine a light on the individuals, organizations, and local leaders who support older adults in our community.



importance of ensuring older adults have access to nutritious meals and the support they need to remain safe and independent at home.

In addition, we hosted several site visits, inviting partners and community members to tour our kitchen, where over 1,000 meals are prepared each weekday. Visitors also had the opportunity to see our volunteers in action and experience the welcoming environment of our Community Cafe, where seniors can share a meal, participate in activities, and connect.

Spring of Community Champions is a reminder that it truly takes a community to deliver More Than Meals. From volunteers and staff to local leaders and supporters, each person plays a role in helping us provide not just nourishment, but the community, care, and connection our seniors rely on. To learn more or support our mission, please visit [csimow.org](http://csimow.org).



"MOWOC staff, Heather deJong, accepting a Resolution from Ocean County Commissioner Robert Arace and Senior Services Director Maria LaFace"

# Stafford Wins Healthy Town Designation Again

By Veronica Flesher, Patch Staff

STAFFORD, NJ — Stafford Township has been named a 2025 Healthy Town winner through the Mayors Wellness Campaign, marking the third year in a row the Ocean County community received the designation.

The New Jersey Health Care Quality Institute announced the winners Thursday in Princeton. The Mayors Wellness Campaign is a program of the Quality Institute in partnership with the New Jersey State League of Municipalities. This year, 45 towns received Healthy Town designations, while 12 were named Healthy Town to Watch and four were designated Healthy Town Up-and-Coming.

According to the announcement, participating communities complete a comprehensive Healthy Town application that outlines the research done to identify local health needs and explains how local Mayors Wellness Campaign committees are organized. The application also highlights actions

towns have taken to make their communities healthier places to live, work, age and play.

Stafford was recognized in part for its Mobile Community Outreach Event, which brings health and wellness resources directly to residents. According to the announcement, the effort is aimed at reducing barriers for underserved populations and making programs and services more accessible. The township said those efforts help create opportunities for community members to engage in healthy living.

"Each year, the Mayors Wellness Campaign continues to raise the bar for what local leadership can accomplish to strengthen the health and wellness of their communities," said Julie DeSimone, Vice President of Community Health at the Quality Institute. "The record number of Healthy Town designations in 2026 reflects a deep commitment from municipal leaders across New Jersey to prioritize health in ways that are both meaningful and measurable."

"We are proud to partner with the Quality Institute to support this important work and to celebrate the towns

leading the way," said Executive Director of the New Jersey State League of Municipalities Mike Cerra.

Mayor Robert Henken said Stafford's participation in the campaign has helped the township review and improve local health efforts.

"Although Stafford Township had a commitment to health prior to the participation in the MWC, these past five years have shown a true commitment from our Township as we continue to diligently focus on the programs that keep our residents healthy and well," Henken said. "The MWC has undoubtedly helped our Township examine and improve the local initiatives that can support the members of our community on a physical, mental, and spiritual level. Whether it's our annual Green Fair that promotes healthy living, the Pathfinders program, our many various educational seminars throughout the year, or even continually investing in our open space and recreational areas, Stafford Township is prepared to continue our participation in the amazing MWC for years to come." *patch.com*.

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## Interfaith

Health & Support Services of Southern Ocean County

WWW.INTERFAITHSOC.ORG

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Volunteers are needed to help provide friendly support to our Seniors - a few hours per month, your choice of schedule. Our Volunteers are truly "Neighbors helping Neighbors", serving others with love, respect, hope and compassion.

Interfaith Health & Support Services is a non-profit, volunteer based organization partnering with community faith based communities and local businesses to provide free services & support to Seniors living at home independently in Southern Ocean County. Service area includes Forked River south to Tuckerton, and all of LBL.

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If you are interested in volunteering, or receiving services please contact us at: **609-978-3839**



## OCEAN COUNTY LIBRARY

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



### LEARN THE PERILS OF PLASTIC POLLUTION DURING DOCUMENTARY SCREENING AT THE LBI BRANCH

**SURF CITY** – The Long Beach Island Branch will host a screening of the documentary film *We're All Plastic People Now* at 2 p.m. Wednesday, April 29.

*We're All Plastic People Now* investigates the hidden story of plastic and its effects on human health. A panel discussion will follow the film, featuring John Weber of Oceana, Amy Williams of Alliance for a Living Ocean, and Daniel Krupinski of the LBI Health Department.

Introduced by actor and environmentalist Ted Danson, the film examines plastic pollution's toxic effect on our lives. In an era of throw-away ease, convenience has cost us our well-being. This film asks the question, how much evidence do we need before we decide to take action?

"The public is increasingly aware of microplastics in the environment, but this film takes a sobering look at what happens when microplastics get into our bodies," said John Weber, Senior Mid Atlantic Field Representative with Oceana.

The run time for *We're All Plastic People Now* is 56 minutes. The Environmental Committee of the Garden Club of LBI will provide light refreshments. Please visit [oceana.org](http://oceana.org) to learn more about this international

organization focused solely on protecting and restoring oceans on a global scale. Since its founding, Oceana has won more than 325 victories and protected more than 4 million square miles of ocean. Alliance for a Living Ocean champions every step towards living a life with less plastic. From hosting beach cleanups to educating on the harmful effects of plastic pollution in our oceans, their mission is to safeguard our shores for future generations.

Registration is required for this free program. To register, visit [tinyurl.com/PlasticLBI](http://tinyurl.com/PlasticLBI), call 609-494-2480, or stop by the branch at 217 South Central Ave., Surf City.

Registration will open April 4.



### NAVIGATE NEW JERSEY'S SYSTEM OF CARE FOR ADULTS WITH INTELLECTUAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES AT THE OCEAN COUNTY LIBRARY

**TOMS RIVER** – If you have a child with IDD, you may be anxious about their transition from PerformCare to the New Jersey Department of Developmental Disabilities. The Toms River Branch of the Ocean County Library will host "Preparing for 21+: A Practical Guide to NJ's System of Care for Adults with IDD" at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 29 in the branch's Home Town Dairy Room.

During this workshop, Pat Llewellyn of the Center for 21+ will explain the process in clear, easy-to-understand language that will ease your concerns. Llewellyn will discuss the crucial step of applying for Medicaid, the four pathways to obtaining coverage, and steps to take to ensure that the coverage continues. He will describe the NJ DDD application process, documents that must be submitted for approval, and the variety of services that the agency provides.

Participants will receive handouts providing brief summaries of the NJ DDD, SSI, and Medicaid.

Pat Llewellyn has dedicated the last 20 years to supporting individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities and the families who stand behind them. He began his career as a Direct Support Professional in a group home, later becoming a behaviorist, and



went on to spend more than a decade with the New Jersey Division of Developmental Disabilities.

In the years that followed, Llewellyn worked as a private consultant and advocate, helping families navigate complex systems, solve difficult problems, and support the services their loved ones needed. He now coordinates adult services for the Center for 21+, continuing his mission of guiding families through every phase of adulthood.

Registration is required for this free program. To register, visit [tinyurl.com/Prep21OCL](http://tinyurl.com/Prep21OCL), call 732-349-6200, or stop by the branch at 101 Washington Street.

### LEARN TO LIVE MORE WITH LESS AT THE LONG BEACH ISLAND LIBRARY

**SURF CITY** – If you are contemplating a move or downsizing your home, usually the first thing a realtor will suggest is that you "de-clutter" and "depersonalize" your home. The Long Beach Island Branch of the Ocean County Library will host "De-cluttering and Depersonalizing: Living with Less Can Be Good" at 1 p.m. Saturday, April 25.

In this light and fun program,



Mike Ivankovich

Mike Ivankovich will provide over 100 tips for de-cluttering and depersonalizing to help lighten your load.

This program is generously sponsored by the Friends of the Island Library.

Registration is required for this free program. To register, visit [tinyurl.com/DeclutterLBI](http://tinyurl.com/DeclutterLBI), call 609-494-2480, or stop by the branch at 217 South Central Ave., Surf City. Registration will open April 4.

### OSTEOPOROSIS JEOPARDY PROGRAM COMING TO OCEAN COUNTY LIBRARY LBI BRANCH



## LONG BEACH ISLAND HEALTH DEPARTMENT

"SERVING THE ENTIRE ISLAND"

**SURF CITY** – Did you know there are approximately 10 million Americans living with osteoporosis? The Long Beach Island Health Department will host a program on this bone-weakening disease at 2 p.m. Tuesday, April 28 at the Long Beach Island Branch of the Ocean County Library. Learn how to prevent, test, and treat osteoporosis

by playing Jeopardy. This program is sponsored by the Long Beach Island Health Department.

Registration is required for this free program. To register, visit [tinyurl.com/OsteoLBI](http://tinyurl.com/OsteoLBI), call 609-494-2480, or stop by the branch at 217 South Central Ave., Surf City.

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# SOUTHERN REGIONAL SPORTS BEAT



## Softball

Congratulations, Southern Softball Alum Emily Evans on being named, New Jersey Athletic Conference Softball POTW. Continued success this spring. Photo Credit: New Jersey Athletic Conference Instagram Page



## Track

Congratulations, Southern Girls XC/Track athlete Adrianna Zitzner on her commitment to continue her education and running careers at Delaware Valley University. Best of luck.



## Track

Congratulations, Southern XC/Track athlete Leo Staub on his commitment to continue his education and running careers at Batten University in Virginia. Leo is pictured with his family and Coach Scott Baker. Best of luck.



## Multi-sport

Congratulations Southern Senior Athletes, Logan Transue & Kaedyn Lipowski on being named Shore Conference Sportsmanship representatives for the 2025-2026 school year. Both, student athletes, will be honored by the Shore Conference at a banquet on Sunday, May 31, 2026, at the RWJ Barnabas Arena in Toms River, NJ. Thank you for all you have done for Southern.



## Baseball

Great picture of Nolan Nitahara, Ryan Dietrich, and Harrison Grose at the Shore Conference Baseball Coaches Association Sportsmanship Banquet on Wednesday, March 11, 2026. Best of luck this spring.



## Wrestling

Congratulations Southern Boys Wrestling on an outstanding NJSIAA Region Tournament at Williamstown High School. Rams will send 9 to Atlantic City - Boardwalk Hall. 1st Place: Jonas Lusker 106, Cade Collins 120, Anthony Mason 126, Vincent Esposito 165, Levi Foote 190. 2nd Place: Attila Vilgilante 144. 3rd Place: Nick Banos 113, Nick Dadonna 175. 4th Place: Anthony Molinaro 150. 5th/6th Place: Dion Mesanko 132, Henry Zimmerman 138, Colton Gearl 157. Best of luck.



## Football

Congratulations, Southern Football Joe Spina on being named National Football Foundation Scholar Athlete of the Year, on Sunday, March 29, 2026 at the Carriage House in Galloway, NJ. A well deserved honor. Special congratulations to Alum, JT Cornelius, Monmouth University on being named the chapter's College Player of the Year. JT joins fellow Southern alumni Clark Harris and Mike Gesicki who were also named the chapter's College Player of the Year in 2007 and 2017, respectively. They are pictured with the Southern Regional Coaching Staff. Congratulations!



## Wrestling

Congratulations, Southern Wrestling, Attila Vilgilante on being named the Alex Sebahie - Never Back Down Foundation Regional Scholarship Award winner. Attila is pictured with Southern Regional Head Coach Dan Roy.

## Golf

Final Score in Boys Golf on Thursday, March 19, 2026. Mainland - 151, Southern - 169. Special, congratulations Paul Reilly on his Hole in one. 1st Hole in one in program history since 1995. Excellent shot. Continued success!



## Wrestling

Congratulations Southern Wrestling winners at the NJSIAA State Individual Wrestling Tournament at Atlantic City Boardwalk Hall, Thursday, 3/12/26 through Saturday, 3/14/26. Congratulations to our following wrestlers: 120lbs Cade Collins - 3rd Place, 106lbs Jonas Lusker - 4th Place, 126lbs Shae Lyn Guido - 6th Place Girls. Thank you wrestlers and coaches on another successful season of Southern Wrestling.



## Multi-sport

Congratulations Southern #MultiSport athlete Abigail Krill on her commitment to continue her education and softball career at Stonybrook University. Continued success!

## Tennis

Congratulations, Southern Boys Tennis, Nate Kripinski on being named the 2025-2026 NJSIAA Scholar Athlete of the Year for Southern Regional High School. Well-deserved honor.



## Football

Congratulations, Southern Regional Football, Ben Recker on his commitment to continue his education and playing career at Chestnut Hill College. Best of luck.



## Golf

Congratulations Southern Boys Golf on winning the 2026 Pinelands Wildcat Invitational on, Monday, March 30, 2026. Paul Reilly placed 1st out of all golfers. Jackson Bodony finished in Top 5 individually. Big shoutout to Parker Kriews on helping the Rams to the crown. Continued Success Southern.

## Basketball

Congratulations, Southern Girls Basketball Shore Conference "B" South Division All Stars, Mia Pratola, Mikayla Blahut and Mackenzie Sininsky.



## Basketball

Congratulations Southern Boys Basketball players named to Shore Conference "A" South All Division Team. Jake Sliwinski 1st Team, Noah Perna 1st Team, Gavin Gerckens 2nd Team.



## Track

Congratulations Southern Boys and Girls Indoor Track athletes placing at the NJSIAA Meet of Champions on Sunday, March 8, 2026. Kara Davis finished 7th overall in the 55dash with a new school record 7.15 seconds. Kara also placed 5th in the 200m dash. Garron Smith placed 7th in the Pole Vault. The Girls 4x400 relay team placed 12th. Congratulations on a solid winter season. Best of luck in the Spring.



## Golf

Congratulations Southern Girls Golf team on placing 2nd at the 2026 Wildcat Invitational on Wednesday, April 1st. Reese Beirne placed 3rd individually, Alina VanVorst placed 10th individually Well, done Southern! Continued Success.



## Wrestling

Congratulations Southern Girls Wrestling on a successful Region Tournament at Absegami High School, on Sunday, March 8, 2026. Shae-Lyn Guido 1st place - 126, Makayla Vigilante 3rd place - 120, Lilliana Bedle 6th place - 145, Emily Ramon Aquino 6th place -185, Rams will send 2 Wrestlers to Atlantic City Boardwalk Hall.

# \$37.26M 2026 Budget Approved In Barnegat

By Veronica Flesher, Patch Staff

BARNEGAT, NJ — The Barnegat Township Committee adopted the township’s 2026 municipal budget after a public hearing, approving a spending plan of \$37,259,260.59 and a tax increase of 1.97 cents. Based on the average assessed home value of \$275,003.57, the increase amounts to about \$54.35 for the year, according to the budget presentation.

The budget was presented by township CPO Tom Lombarski, who said it would be the last one he presents before retiring. He said the budget process included meetings with department heads to review prior-year spending, line items and changes in needs for 2026, including capital requests such as trucks and vehicles. He also said the introduced budget had been posted on the township website and that the adopted budget and a user-friendly budget would also be made available there.

During the presentation, Lombarski said this was the 11th straight year the budget had been submitted on time. He said the spending plan is “a sound and prudent budget” that will meet pension and debt obligations and complies with state appropriation cap and levy cap calculations. He also said the township was self-examined this year and did not need state

review before adoption, though the budget was sent to the township auditor for review.

The budget uses \$4,750,000 in surplus to help balance the spending plan. Other figures read into the record included \$4,273,045.30 in miscellaneous revenues anticipated, \$625,000 in receipts from delinquent taxes and \$27,611,215.29 to be raised by taxation for municipal purposes.

On the appropriations side, general appropriations within caps for operations, including contingent, total \$26,605,262. Deferred charges and statutory expenditures total \$4,505,855. Operations excluded from caps total \$1,197,580.30, while capital improvements are \$1,825,000 and municipal debt service is \$2,002,000. Deferred charges outside the cap total \$83,500, and the reserve for uncollected taxes is \$1,040,063.29.

During public comment, a speaker identified as Christopher Velder of Barnegat thanked the finance officer for his work. Velder said, “I think that you have done a fantastic job.” He also said, “You pinch every penny.”

The committee unanimously approved the budget.

patch.com

## Four Nissan models recognized in latest IIHS Safety rankings

NASHVILLE, Tenn. – Four 2026 Nissan models have earned safety honors in the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety (IIHS) latest round of rankings, reinforcing Nissan’s commitment to deliver vehicles that meet the highest standards for crashworthiness and overall safety performance.

The all-new 2026 Nissan Sentra has earned its first ever TOP SAFETY PICK+ designation, joining the 2026 Murano and 2026 Pathfinder, which both maintain their TOP SAFETY PICK+ ratings from the previous year. The 2026 Armada adds a TOP SAFETY PICK rating. Together, these models join the 2026 Rogue, which received a TOP SAFETY PICK designation in October 2025, bringing Nissan’s total to five 2026 models recognized for excellence in IIHS evaluations.

The all-new 2026 Nissan Sentra makes everyday driving more exciting with a blend of uplevel styling, effortless connectivity and the confidence of Nissan Safety Shield® 360 safety technologies. Sentra has a starting Manufacturer’s Suggested Retail Price (MSRP) of just \$22,600 and delivers outstanding value with the most standard features of any sedan in its class.

The 2026 Nissan Murano combines elegant design, powerful technologies and a refined, accommodating cabin. Murano has standard Intelligent All-Wheel Drive for increased driver confidence and standard Nissan Safety Shield® 360 safety technologies. Its



refined interior is available with massaging, heated and cooled front seats and the convenient connectivity of Google built-in.

The 2026 Nissan Pathfinder continues to help drivers and families do more of what they love with a fresh look, more convenient technologies and additional features. Pathfinder’s powerful look is enhanced for 2026 with updated front and rear fascias, satin exterior badges and a new available color, Baltic Teal.

The 2026 Nissan Armada continues to make its mark on the full-size SUV segment with supreme comfort, premium interior features, confident handling, effortless off-road capability and the latest Nissan technologies. There is an Armada grade for every adventure, including the rugged PRO-4X, the dynamic NISMO and the Platinum Reserve.

usa.nissannews.com



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**Seven Night Alaska Hubbard Glacier Cruise aboard the Celebrity Solstice (July 26 to August 2, 2026)**  
Fly to Vancouver to begin your Alaska adventure. Visit Icy Straight Point cruise by Hubbard Glacier, go on to visit Juneau and Ketchikan, and cruise the Inside Passage before returning to Vancouver. The special rate of \$2,459.00 per person cruise only, includes balcony stateroom, all meals, classic beverage package and Wi-Fi. Pre and post packages and air fare are additional.

**Iceland Christmas Markets (December 3-7, 2026)**  
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# Stafford Presents \$64.1 Million Budget

MANAHAWKIN, NJ — Stafford officials presented a 2026 municipal budget of \$64,060,740, describing a spending plan driven largely by rising operating costs and a property tax reassessment that lowers the local tax rate. The presentation said the budget is up by \$3.3 million from last year.

Township CFO Ashley Darmon said the average residential assessment increased by 109.897 percent. Using one example, she said a home assessed at \$300,000 in 2025 and increased by that average to nearly \$633,000 in 2026 would see its local tax portion rise by \$244.67 for the year. Darmon said actual changes will vary depending on how much a property's assessed value increased.

A central point of the presentation addressed questions about whether taxes would double after reassessment. Darmon said the answer is no. She said the township's total taxable value was \$4,527,082,400 in 2025 and increased to \$9,502,219,800 after the reassessment was completed. Using the total levy divided by the total valuation, the township calculated a 2026 local tax rate of 49.5 cents per \$100 of assessed value, down 46.7 cents from 2025.

According to the budget presentation, 37 percent of a Stafford tax bill in 2025 went to municipal services. The

township also bills and collects taxes for other entities, including the local school district, the regional high school, Ocean County, the county library and the county health department.

The presentation said the largest share of 2026 budget appropriations is insurance and employee benefits at 24.78 percent. Public health and safety account for 23.8 percent, followed by

**Stafford said reassessment raised taxable value townwide, lowering the tax rate even as the levy increased by \$3.4 million.**

capital and debt service at 19.81 percent and public works and landfill tipping fees at 14.49 percent.

On the revenue side, the presentation said local taxes make up 73.37 percent of anticipated revenue. Surplus, described as fund balance or cash on hand, makes up 14.99 percent of the budget, compared with 14.12 percent in 2025. The presentation said Stafford reached its surplus target at the end of

2024 under a surplus policy adopted early last year and is no longer building surplus above that target, instead using excess funds to pay down debt.

The presentation also said the budget remains under New Jersey's spending and levy caps. It said the township is under the spending cap by \$41,000 and under the levy cap by \$45,000.

Budget materials also outlined debt trends. The presentation said Stafford did not issue any bonds in 2025 and paid down more than \$6 million in serial bonds. It said total debt is expected to decline in coming years as excess fund balance is used to pay down debt and grant funding comes in for projects now

being financed by the township. The presentation also reviewed the 2026 water-sewer utility budget. It said debt service accounts for 35.77 percent of spending and other expenses account for 33.45 percent. User fees make up about 81 percent of anticipated revenue, while 13.97 percent of the budget is funded by surplus. The presentation said the utility budget has stayed relatively stable compared with last year, although other expenses rose in part because \$1 million is due under an emergency order tied to the Route 72 Manahawkin Bay Bridge area.

patch.com



2026 IONIQ 9

## Hyundai Earns Seven 2026 TOP SAFETY PICK Awards from IIHS

FOUNTAIN VALLEY, Calif., March 24, 2026 – Hyundai earned six 2026 TOP SAFETY PICK+ (TSP+) and one 2026 TOP SAFETY PICK (TSP) awards from the Insurance Institute of Highway Safety (IIHS), highlighting the brand's commitment to crashworthiness and occupant protection. The 2026 IIHS evaluations now require a good rating in the moderate front overlap test for both awards and feature stricter standards for back seat passenger safety. The Hyundai 2026 TSP+ awarded vehicles include the 2026 IONIQ 5, IONIQ 9, Sonata, Kona, Tucson, and Santa Fe, while the 2026 Elantra received a TOP SAFETY PICK. The 2026 IIHS TSP/TSP+ awards highlight safe vehicles within each category, helping consumers make informed choices.

Five 2026 Hyundai SUVs (2026 IONIQ 5, IONIQ 9, Kona, Tucson, Santa Fe) and the 2026 Sonata sedan were awarded the TSP+ designation in this year's 2026 IIHS awards. This recognition highlights Hyundai's dedication to achieving and maintaining the highest safety standards in the automotive industry. The 2026 TSP+ awards are given to vehicles that meet rigorous criteria set by the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety (IIHS), including advanced crashworthiness and occupant protection requirements.

All 2026 Hyundai vehicles include seven standard SmartSense safety features including Lane Departure Warning, Lane Keep Assist, Driver Attention Warning, Forward Collision Assist, Forward Collision Assist with Pedestrian Detection and Rear Occupant Alert (door logic) and High Beam Assist. The SmartSense suite of optional safety and convenience technologies help drivers look ahead, anticipate driving situations, and provide alerts to help keep drivers and passengers safe. For the 2026 calendar year, IIHS introduced tougher criteria, specifically focusing on the protection of back seat passengers and crash avoidance systems. To earn either top safety award this year, vehicles must achieve a "good" rating in the moderate front overlap test, raising the standard from last year, when only an "acceptable" rating was required for the 2025 TSP honor.

For 2026 TSP+, however, in addition to earning a good rating in moderate

overlap front test, vehicles must also earn a good rating in small overlap front, side, and the pedestrian front crash prevention test and an acceptable or good rating in the updated vehicle-to-vehicle 2.0 front crash prevention evaluation that was introduced last year. Additionally, qualifying front crash prevention systems must be standard for either award in 2026. For more information on the changes to the award criteria, visit [www.iihs.org](http://www.iihs.org).

"This year, we're asking automakers to make excellent protection for back seat passengers the norm," IIHS President David Harkey said. "For TOP SAFETY PICK+, we're requiring crash avoidance systems that are better at preventing pedestrian crashes as well as higher speed crashes with other vehicles."

Additionally, eleven 2026 Hyundai models have received 5 out of 5 stars for overall safety in the 5-Star Safety Ratings program - Elantra (excluding Elantra N), Elantra Hybrid, Sonata, Sonata Hybrid, IONIQ 6 (excluding IONIQ 6 N), IONIQ 9, Tucson, Tucson Hybrid (excluding Plug-in Hybrid), Santa Cruz, Santa Fe and Santa Fe Hybrid. Government 5-Star Safety Ratings are part of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's (NHTSA's) New Car Assessment Program ([www.nhtsa.gov](http://www.nhtsa.gov)). These ratings are an additional testament to Hyundai's safety leadership.

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# SENIOR CORNER

## 8 Stretches That Could Help You Live Longer

Research says flexibility is linked to longevity. Here's how to improve yours.

By Stephanie Watson, AARP

Your doctor may have recommended you get at least 150 to 300 minutes of aerobic exercise a week. That advice is backed by sound science. Research has linked consistent physical activity to a lower risk for conditions like cardiovascular disease. A recent study suggests that having good flexibility might also play a role in longevity.

That study, which was published in the Scandinavian Journal of Medicine & Science in Sports, involved 3,100 people ages 46 to 65. Participants underwent a series of flexibility assessments called the Flexitest.

A sports and exercise physician measured the range of motion in their ankle, knee, hip, trunk, shoulder, wrist and elbow. The researchers assigned each of 20 joint movements a score from 0 to 4. A higher combined score correlated with better flexibility.

After following up with the participants for an average of 13 years, researchers discovered that people with the highest flexibility scores had the lowest risk of dying. The difference was most pronounced in women — those with the lowest flexibility scores were nearly five times more likely to die prematurely than women with the highest scores.

### Research on flexibility and your health

Why might flexibility be a good indicator of longevity? Lead author Dr. Claudio Gil Araújo, a physician at the Exercise Medicine Clinic in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, who has been studying flexibility for almost five decades, doesn't know for sure, but he has some theories.

One possibility is that people with poor flexibility have more problems with common daily activities, like showering and



JackF / stock.adobe.com

combing their hair.

"They start to lose autonomy. They start to be less mobile," Araújo says. Having poor mobility could increase your risk for a fall.

Flexibility in the joints might also be a marker of flexibility elsewhere in the body. A Japanese study published in BMJ Open linked poor flexibility in middle-aged men with hardening of the arteries, known as atherosclerosis. "Those may be related because the connective tissue that restricts your mobility may restrict the mobility of your [blood] vessels," Araújo says.

Before you dive into a stretching routine, thinking it will help you reach centenarian status, know that this study couldn't prove that flexibility increases longevity. It was observational, meaning that researchers only evaluated the outcome. They didn't put participants through a specific stretching regimen to see what happened.

The researchers also didn't account for other factors that might have affected longevity, like diet or exercise. "They didn't evaluate the influence of regular physical activity in the individuals. That, in itself, can be a predictor of

exercises, check with your doctor or physical therapist to make sure they are safe for you.

### How to safely become more flexible

Becoming more flexible doesn't require a major time investment. Five to ten minutes a day should do it, says Araújo. He suggests making flexibility part of your overall fitness "package," along with aerobic endurance, strength and balance.

Sandwich flexibility training between your aerobic and strength training routine, Page suggests. First, walk in place or take a slow ride on a stationary bike to get your blood moving. Then stretch once your muscles are warm. You can do static stretches where you hold the pose or dynamic stretches where you keep moving (like taking big, slow steps with high knees). Finish your workout and then do another set of static stretches for five to ten minutes at the end.

Always stretch safely. Make sure to breathe, especially if you have high blood pressure and/or heart disease. Some people hold their breath while stretching, which can cause a spike in blood pressure. If you have arthritis, warm up your joints with a shower or heating pad first to loosen them up and allow you to stretch further.

It's normal to feel a pulling sensation when you stretch, especially if you haven't done these types of exercises before. "But if you're feeling sharp, shooting pains when you're stretching a muscle, that's not normal," Page says. You shouldn't need to check in with a doctor before starting a new stretching routine, but do reach out if you feel any pain or other symptoms while doing these exercises.

aarp.com

## Learn to Navigate the New Jersey Division of Developmental Disabilities During Virtual Discussion

TOMS RIVER – Looking for assistance for your loved one(s) with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities? The Ocean County Library will host the virtual discussion "Navigating the New Jersey Division of Developmental Disabilities" from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. Wednesday, May 6.

This presentation will focus on how to navigate the process for entry into the adult service system for individuals with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities. Topics will include the application process, an overview of services, and finding a support coordinator to assist you in selecting services. A Q&A will follow the presentation.

Nicholl Vallee, Transition and

Employment Specialist of the NJ Division of Developmental Disabilities' Office of Transition to Adult Life and Employment, will present the program. She is



### Division of Developmental Disabilities

a dedicated advocate for schools, families, and students as they navigate the adult service system and transition into adulthood. Nicholl also worked for the NJ Department of Health, where she served as a board-certified music therapist, working with individuals with mental illness and developmental disabilities.

Registration is required for this free program. To register, visit [tinyurl.com/NavigateNJDDD](http://tinyurl.com/NavigateNJDDD), call 732-349-6200, or stop by your local OCL branch.



allrecipes.com

## Creamy Pesto Shrimp

**Ingredients:**  
 1 pound linguine pasta  
 1/2 cup butter  
 2 cups heavy cream  
 1/2 teaspoon ground black pepper  
 1 cup grated Parmesan cheese  
 1/3 cup pesto  
 1 pound large shrimp, peeled and deveined

**Directions:**  
**Step 1:** Gather ingredients together.  
**Step 2:** Fill a large pot with lightly salted water and bring to a rolling boil. Stir in linguine and return to a boil. Cook pasta uncovered, stirring occasionally, until tender yet firm to the bite, about 8 to 10 minutes; drain.  
**Step 3:** Meanwhile, melt butter in a large skillet over medium heat. Stir in cream and season with pepper; cook, stirring constantly, for 6 to 8 minutes.  
**Step 4:** Stir Parmesan cheese into cream sauce until thoroughly mixed. Stir in pesto and cook until thickened, 3 to 5 minutes.  
**Step 5:** Stir in shrimp and cook until they turn pink, about 5 minutes. Serve sauce over hot linguine.

## Six Tips To Help Prevent Falls

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**Step 1:** Stir together the avocado and lemon juice in a serving bowl; add the green onion and cilantro; mix well. Season with salt and pepper. Serve immediately or store covered in refrigerator with avocado pits in the bowl to keep from browning.

### Ingredients:

- 5 avocados - peeled, pitted, and mashed
- 2 tablespoons fresh lemon juice
- 3/4 cup minced green onion
- 1/2 cup minced fresh cilantro
- salt and pepper, to taste

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# Excited to plant the first tree in the new garden space

By Danielle Natale - Causeway Honda Sales Consultant

When I moved from my charming little old Victorian into my current home, I knew that come spring I would have a lot of landscaping to do. This home has an empty palette for me to create an entirely different backyard wonderland.

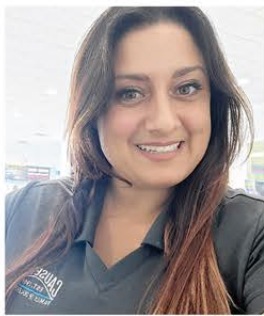
I did begin last fall with a few evergreens as a base, but now that it is spring, I have been searching for my first tree to plant. What was once an empty lot full of trees was cleared for the house we live in now.

My old yard had a 14-year-old mature garden, which I loved and still miss, so it is my goal to get this yard into the same shape.

I was at the garden center the other day, and this tree just fell in its pot right in front of me. I wanted to take my time picking out the right tree, but when I lifted this one back up, it was the most perfect shape, and I knew I had to bring it home.

I wanted something flowering, not too tall when mature, and something with a unique leaf color all season. I had never considered an ornamental flowering plum tree, but it turns out this had everything I needed—with all the wow!

I am so excited going into the next couple of months to see what other plants I can add to my landscape. Happy planting!



2026 Honda Passport TrailSport

## All-New 2026 Honda Passport Named "Best New Car" by Autotrader

The all-new 2026 Honda Passport has been named one of Autotrader's "Best New Cars of 2026," with the publication's editors strongly recommending both the 2026 Passport and the Passport TrailSport to buyers. The adventure-ready SUV was honored for its rugged design, spacious cabin, V6 power and class-leading combination of genuine off-road capability and refined on-road performance.

The award-winning fourth-generation Passport has been a runaway success since its introduction early last year, posting multiple monthly sales records and its best year in 2025, up nearly 70% with Passport TrailSport accounting for around 80% of the trim mix.

In a crowded field of 2-row SUVs, the Honda Passport has never really stood out – until now. Honda brought out the straight edges and gave the Passport a more rugged, boxy exterior and a clean-cut, almost utilitarian interior – without going too far.

"I love the rugged good looks of the Passport, especially in the TrailSport trim, but what really appeals to me is the interior. It's elegant but built to handle the rigors of daily life, spacious, easy to reconfigure, and comfortable," said Senior Editor Allyson Harwood.

Senior Editor Matt Degen is also a fan. "The new Honda Passport looks like it went to the gym and is better for it. Yet even with its rugged attitude, the Passport is still manageable to drive, has all the tech and safety systems you want, and retains a tried-and-true V6 engine," Degen said. "I was also impressed with the sheer amount of room in this thing. If I wanted to go car camping, this would be among my first choices."

To determine the "Best New Cars" of the year, Autotrader's editorial experts test-drive and evaluate hundreds of new and redesigned vehicles, recognizing the most innovative models that deliver exceptional value.

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allrecipes.com

**Super Nachos**

**Ingredients:**

- 1 pound ground beef
- 3/4 cup water
- 1 (1.25 ounce) package taco seasoning mix
- 1 (18 ounce) package restaurant-style tortilla chips
- 1 cup shredded sharp Cheddar cheese, or more to taste
- 1 (15.5 ounce) can refried beans
- 1 (10 ounce) can pitted black olives, drained and chopped
- 1 cup salsa
- 1 cup sour cream, or more to taste
- 4 green onions, diced
- 1 (4 ounce) can sliced jalapeño peppers, drained

**Directions:**

- Step 1:** Set an oven rack about 6 inches from the heat source and preheat the oven's broiler. Line a baking sheet with aluminum foil.
- Step 2:** Gather all ingredients.
- Step 3:** Cook and stir ground beef in a skillet over medium heat until crumbly and no longer pink, 5 to 10 minutes. Drain excess grease. Stir in water and taco seasoning mix; simmer until beef mixture has thickened, 8 to 10 minutes.
- Step 4:** Spread tortilla chips on the prepared baking sheet; top with Cheddar cheese, then dot with refried beans and ground beef mixture.
- Step 5:** Broil in the preheated oven until cheese is melted, 3 to 5 minutes. Top nachos with olives, salsa, sour cream, green onions, and jalapeño peppers.

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**An example of family size and income:**

Household Size	Maximum Allowable Income*
1	\$2,413
2	\$3,261
3	\$4,109
4	\$4,957
Each Additional	+\$848

\*Figures valid October 2025 - September 2026  
Our trained community service aides are here to assist you. Therefore, please ask any questions and take a few minutes to view and fill out a benefits application. We may also be reached at:

**Ocean County Office of Senior Services**  
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Toms River, NJ 08754  
#732-929-2091  
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*Kevin Williams*

Spent 40+ years as a morning fixture on 92.7 WOBN (Ocean County) talking sports and more. His daily feature, "The Hometown View" won several awards and still airs weekly. He was also the Director of the Shore Sports Network which was an online site that covered high school sports. He recently stepped down after 40 years as the founder and director of the WOBN Christmas Classic, one of the largest high school basketball tournaments in NJ. Kevin is a member of several Hall of Fames including the prestigious New Jersey Broadcasters Association. In semi-retirement Kevin spends as much time as possible on the beach and being frustrated by the teams he roots for.

*Alex Williams*



Is a graduate of Penn State University and currently a Vice President at M Booth an award-winning digital PR and creative communications agency in New York City. She lives in Battery Park, and her interests include working out, listening to Taylor Swift, trying new restaurants, and trying to get her father to leave her alone with questions about his computer, phone and more.

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Captain is searching for an experienced owner who can help guide him into becoming his very best self. He's a dog-friendly guy, but like many pups, he prefers the right match and may not click with every dog. Slow, thoughtful introductions will help set him up for success.

When it comes to cats, Captain was a bit unsure during his meet, so we recommend caution and slow introductions, or ideally a home without cats.

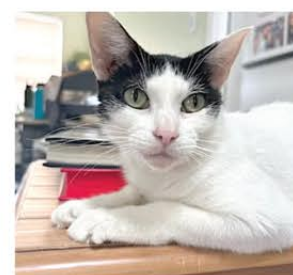
Captain is an active, energetic boy who will thrive in a home that can keep up with his adventurous spirit. Because of his energy level, he would do best in a home with children 15 years or older.

If you're experienced, active, and looking for a strikingly handsome companion with tons of potential, Captain could be your guy. Meet Captain at the Southern Ocean County Animal Shelter located at 360 Hayward Rd., Manahawkin, NJ. The shelter is open daily from 1 PM to 4 PM.



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Sweet Star is a young girl at almost three years old. She has a lovely voice, often talking and even chirping!



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She is spayed, up to date with vaccinations, tested negative for FIV and FeLV, and microchipped. If you would like to meet this wonderful girl, please fill out an application online at Fosocas.org and her foster mom will contact you for a meet and greet at her home in Manahawkin.



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 <p>2025 Honda Civic Sport HSH522628 <b>\$25,874*</b></p>	 <p>2024 Honda HR-V Sport HRM773822 <b>\$25,966*</b></p>	 <p>2022 Toyota RAV4 LE HNC291813 <b>\$26,641*</b></p>	 <p>Scan For Preowned</p>	 <p>2020 Ford Explorer ST FLGB89294 <b>\$26,781*</b></p>	 <p>2024 Ford Bronco Sport Big Bend FRRE89528 <b>\$27,020*</b></p>	 <p>2023 Ford Escape Platinum HPUA04601 <b>\$27,114*</b></p>
 <p>2022 Lincoln Corsair Standard FNUL08483 <b>\$27,516*</b></p>	 <p>2023 Honda CR-V LX HPH417371 <b>\$28,228*</b></p>	 <p>2023 Honda CR-V Hybrid Sport NPE020280 <b>\$29,964*</b></p>	 <p>2024 Ford Bronco Sport Outer Banks F-P88319-L <b>\$29,994*</b></p>	 <p>2025 Ford Escape Hybrid ST-Line Select FSUA72110 <b>\$30,028*</b></p>	 <p>2024 Ford Bronco Sport Free Wheeling F-P88323-L <b>\$30,141*</b></p>	 <p>2023 Honda CR-V EX-L HPH414217 <b>\$30,896*</b></p>
 <p>2023 Honda CR-V EX-L FPL005518 <b>\$31,789*</b></p>	 <p>2023 Honda Ridgeline RTL HPB056355 <b>\$31,942*</b></p>	 <p>2023 Honda CR-V Hybrid Sport Touring NPE003858 <b>\$32,103*</b></p>	 <p>2023 Honda CR-V Hybrid Sport Touring HPE004688 <b>\$32,322*</b></p>	 <p>2024 Honda CR-V EX-L YRH420293 <b>\$32,398*</b></p>	 <p>2024 Ford Bronco Sport Badlands F-P88320-L <b>\$33,133*</b></p>	 <p>2023 Honda CR-V Hybrid Sport Touring HPE024986 <b>\$33,235*</b></p>
 <p>2023 Honda CR-V Hybrid Sport Touring HPE005990 <b>\$33,333*</b></p>	 <p>2022 Lincoln Aviator Standard FNGL19555 <b>\$33,405*</b></p>	 <p>2023 Honda CR-V Hybrid Sport Touring HPE023814 <b>\$33,871*</b></p>	 <p>2022 Lincoln Corsair Reserve FNUL35199 <b>\$33,990*</b></p>	 <p>2025 Honda CR-V EX-L HSL006033 <b>\$34,311*</b></p>	 <p>2023 Honda Ridgeline RTL-E HPB064818 <b>\$34,374*</b></p>	 <p>2025 Honda Passport EX-L HSB003497 <b>\$34,408*</b></p>
 <p>2023 Ford F-150 XL FPKE54091 <b>\$34,471*</b></p>	 <p>2022 Lincoln Nautilus Reserve FNBL24008 <b>\$35,989*</b></p>	 <p>2023 Ford F-150 XLT YPPA67299 <b>\$36,300*</b></p>	 <p>2025 Honda Passport EX-L NSB006718 <b>\$36,765*</b></p>	 <p>2025 Honda CR-V Hybrid Sport-L HSL032602 <b>\$37,649*</b></p>	 <p>2023 Lincoln Nautilus Reserve FPBL01952 <b>\$38,017*</b></p>	 <p>2023 Toyota Tacoma SR5 V6 NPT142029 <b>\$38,477*</b></p>
 <p>2021 Ram 2500 Big Horn HMG627768 <b>\$39,989*</b></p>	 <p>2025 Honda Pilot EX-L HSB013487 <b>\$39,989*</b></p>	 <p>2022 Lincoln Aviator Reserve FNGL15786 <b>\$41,168*</b></p>	 <p>2022 Ford Bronco Big Bend FNLB40210 <b>\$41,990*</b></p>	 <p>2023 Ford Expedition XLT FPEA13382 <b>\$45,968*</b></p>	 <p>2021 BMW M4 Competition FMC660195 <b>\$58,085*</b></p>	 <p>2024 Lincoln Navigator Reserve FREL00911 <b>\$66,566*</b></p>

\*Pricing is plus tax, tags, doc fees, bank fee. Stock images are for illustration only. See dealer for complete details.

# KIDS COLORING CONTEST!



Win One of Three \$25 Target Gift Cards!

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: May 7th**

**Congratulations to Last Month's Winners!**

Cameron



Charlotte



Mila



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 Winner!**



Toni

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: May 7th**

You could win a \$50 Gift certificate to East Bay Italian Grille!

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

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

**NOW SERVING HAPPY HOUR!**  
 Sunday to Friday 12 PM TO 6 PM  
 Saturday 2 PM TO 5 PM  
 Excludes Holidays

**DRINK SPECIALS**  
 \$3.50 Domestic Drafts or \$4 Bottles  
 \$5 Imported or Craft Drafts or \$5 Imported Bottles

**\$5 DRINKS**  
 All Well Drinks | Suriside | High Noon | White Claw  
 Our Signature Sangria (Red or White)  
 House Red or White Wine (Montepulciano or Pinot Grigio)

**\$8 FOOD SPECIALS AT THE BAR**

DOORDASH WE DELIVER GRUBHUB

**WE NOW SERVE YOUR FAVORITE WINE, BEER & COCKTAILS!**

**NOW OPEN 7 DAYS FOR LUNCH & DINNER**

We are open for Mother's Day! Now taking reservations

Serving a Buffet from 12pm to 6pm

ITALIAN FAVORITES: STEAKS & CHOPS SEAFOOD THIN CRUST PIZZA LIVE ENTERTAINMENT ON SATURDAYS

ON & OFF PREMISES CATERING AVAILABLE

ON PREMISES PARTIES FOR ALL OCCASIONS

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 LARGE PLAIN PIZZA & PITCHER OF MILLER LITE OR YUENGLING

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One coupon per visit. Tuesdays only. Toppings additional. Dining room only. With coupon only, expires May 15, 2026.