



# The Causeway Gazette

www.CausewayGazette.com

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## Honoring Jim Sigurdson’s 27 Years of Service to Meals on Wheels Ocean County

For 27 years, Jim Sigurdson has led Meals on Wheels Ocean County with dedication, compassion, and an unwavering commitment to the seniors we serve. During his time as Executive Director, Jim has served thousands of seniors and supported the daily delivery of millions of meals throughout Ocean County. As he prepares for retirement, we take this opportunity to honor the extraordinary legacy he leaves behind.

Under Jim’s leadership, Meals on Wheels Ocean County has grown into a lifeline for older adults across the county. Through every meal delivered, every wellness check completed, and every moment of connection provided, Jim has helped ensure that seniors are not only nourished, but safe, supported, and remembered.



“Jim’s dedication, leadership, and compassion have shaped Meals on Wheels Ocean County into the organization it is today,” said Wyatt Earp, Chair of the Board of Directors. “His remarkable legacy will continue to guide our work as we carry forward the mission he has served so faithfully for 27 years.”

His leadership has been especially evident during times of crisis. In the aftermath of Superstorm Sandy, Jim helped prioritize seniors and Sandy victims who needed immediate support, working to get drivers back on the road and meals back into the hands of those who depended on them. During one of Ocean County’s most difficult times, Meals on Wheels Ocean County remained focused on serving those most vulnerable because of Jim’s relentless dedication.

Years later, during the COVID-19 pandemic, that same commitment never wavered. While many services were forced to pause or scale back, Meals on Wheels Ocean County continued to serve seniors every day. The organization did not miss a single day of service due to Jim’s laser focus. Meals were delivered, wellness checks continued, and staff remained a lifeline for participants who were isolated, uncertain, and at greater risk.

At that time, Meals on Wheels Ocean County also helped provide more than meals. Donated toilet paper, household supplies, and other essential items were collected and delivered to seniors along with their meals. For many participants, that knock at the door was not only a delivery. It was reassurance that someone was still showing up, still checking in, and still caring.



(Above - JBJ Vehicle Donation - January 15, 2026) Left to Right: Corey Gellis - General Sales Manager of Causeway, Chris Varner - Used Vehicle Merchandising Manager of Causeway, Joe Stroppolino - Director of Advertising and Marketing for Causeway Cars/CARes, Nicole Dority - JBJ Program Manager, Emily Yasi - JBJ Executive Chef, Rob Wood - JBJ Assistant General Manager, Heather Goldfarb - JBJ Executive Director, Jim Sigurdson - Executive Director of Meals on Wheels of Ocean County and David Wintrode - President of the Causeway Family of Dealerships/ Causeway CARes. (Left) Dave Wintrode, President of the Causeway Family of Dealerships and Jim Sigurdson, Executive Director of Meals on Wheels of Ocean County

But Jim’s impact cannot be measured by meals and wellness checks alone. It can be seen in the thousands of seniors who were able to remain independent at home, the families who had peace of mind, the volunteers who found purpose in service, and the staff who were inspired by his commitment to the mission.

As Jim is making his retirement plans, including a well-deserved cruise in his future, Meals on Wheels Ocean County is preparing for a thoughtful and stable transition. Heather deJong has been named the next Executive Director, effective January 1, 2027. Jim and Heather are working closely together to ensure a seamless transition and continued commitment to the seniors, families, volunteers, donors, community partners, and elected officials who make this mission possible.

“Heather and I will continue working closely to ensure that our programs and services are uninterrupted,” said Jim Sigurdson.

“I want to thank Ocean County, my many Board Members, community partners, staff, and those we served for an amazing 27 years. “Homes are memory galleries, where holidays are celebrated and disappointments are comforted. That is what goes to the heart of our mission, and it has been the privilege of my professional life.”

“Meals on Wheels Ocean County is the Community, Care, and Connection in thousands of seniors’ lives,” said Heather deJong. “For the last 27 years, Jim’s main focus has been what is best for our seniors and keeping them safe and well, where they want to be: home. I am honored by the Board’s confidence to continue in his footsteps, profoundly thankful for the precedence Jim set, and grateful for the opportunity to serve as Executive Director of Meals on Wheels Ocean County.”

Because of Jim’s leadership, Meals on Wheels Ocean County has delivered More Than Meals to generations of seniors across Ocean County. As he prepares to retire, Meals on Wheels Ocean County celebrates not only his years of service, but the lasting difference he has made in the lives of older adults across our community. Jim’s legacy is one of service, resilience, and heart.

Causeway CARes and The Wintrode Family Foundation have enjoyed a longstanding partnership with Meals on Wheels Ocean County,” said David C. Wintrode, President of the Causeway Family of Dealerships and Causeway CARes. “Jim Sigurdson’s leadership has made a lasting impact on countless seniors throughout Ocean County, and we are grateful for everything he has done to strengthen our community. We congratulate him on an incredible career and wish him nothing but the best in retirement. “

One of the most unique aspects of our partnership with Meals on

Wheels Ocean County has been the donation of more than 25 retired Meals on Wheels vehicles over the years,” said Joe Stroppolino, Director of Marketing and Advertising for the Causeway Family of Dealerships and Causeway CARes. “Through Causeway CARes, we’ve been able to refurbish those vehicles and place them with other local nonprofits, allowing Jim’s commitment to serving the community to continue reaching even more people. It’s a partnership we’re incredibly proud of.”

We invite our community to join us for an evening honoring Jim’s 27 years of leadership and service at our upcoming Legacy Event on November 12 at The Mainland in Manahawkin. To learn more, purchase tickets, or support the event, please scan the QR code included with this article.



SCAN HERE

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To learn more about Causeway CARes, please visit [CausewayCARes.com](http://CausewayCARes.com) or email [Joe.Stroppolino@CausewayCars.com](mailto:Joe.Stroppolino@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).



# 9 for 9: Nine Local Organizations to Benefit from the 9th Annual Causeway CAREs 5K

The countdown is on for the 9th Annual Causeway CAREs 5K, taking place Sunday, September 20, 2026, and this year's event is making an even bigger impact with a special 9 for 9 initiative.

In celebration of the 9th annual race, proceeds will support nine local organizations making a difference across our community: Fulfill NJ, Project Home Repair, Meals on Wheels of Ocean County, Family Promise of the Jersey Shore, Ocean Partnership for Children, the Ocean County YMCA, Bright Harbor Healthcare, Southern Regional Education Foundation, and The Hope Center.

Each organization plays an important role in helping local individuals and families, from providing access to food and essential resources to supporting children, families, seniors, students, and those facing difficult times. Together, these nine organizations represent the many ways our community comes together to help those in need.

As Causeway CAREs continues preparing for race day, we are also looking for local businesses and organizations to join us as sponsors. Sponsorship support helps make the 5K possible while giving local businesses an opportunity to directly support organizations serving our community.

Over the past eight Causeway CAREs 5Ks, participants, sponsors, and supporters have helped raise more than half a million dollars for local causes. Now, as we prepare for our ninth race, we hope to make this year's event our biggest impact yet.

Whether you lace up your shoes, become a sponsor, or help spread the word, there is a place for everyone at the 9th Annual Causeway CAREs 5K.

Join us Sunday, September 20, 2026, and be part of 9 for 9.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

PRESENTED BY



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### 2026 SUP THE RIVER

Make a splash for Ocean County College! Join OCC and the Kiwanis Club of Greater Toms River at the Toms River Yacht Club. Awards to the top three finishers in each category and gender, and a kid-friendly short course to wrap up the races! This competition is open to all levels.

**Saturday, September 19, 2026 at 7:30am**



### A CONVERSATION WITH LAURIE HERNANDEZ

Don't miss an intimate discussion with Olympic Champion, bestselling author, and advocate Laurie Hernandez as she shares her story of resilience, passion, and pursuing your dreams.

**Tuesday, September 22, 2026 at 6:00pm**



### ANNUAL OCC VIKING 5K AND FUN RUN

Lace up your running shoes in support of Ocean County College! This event is an annual tradition aimed at supporting the Foundation's mission of enhancing access to higher education for Ocean County residents through scholarships and awards.

**Sunday, October 4, 2026 at 7:30am**



### THE 25TH ANNUAL GOLF CLASSIC

Tee off for a good cause at Pine Barrens Golf Club. This annual event assists the Foundation in its mission to make higher education more accessible to Ocean County residents through scholarships and awards.

**Tuesday, October 13, 2026 at 9:30am**



### A CONVERSATION WITH TRAVIS MILLS

An inspiring evening with retired U.S. Army Staff Sergeant, veteran advocate, and bestselling author Travis Mills as he shares his powerful journey of resilience, overcoming adversity, and recalibrating life.

**Monday, November 9, 2026 at 6:00pm**

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



OCEAN COUNTY COLLEGE FOUNDATION

**Ocean County College Foundation**  
College Drive, Toms River, NJ 08754  
[occfoundation.org](https://occfoundation.org) | 732.255.0492



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## 13TH ANNUAL CELEBRATION OF HOPE WALK



8:00AM • SATURDAY

# SEPT. 12 2026

RAIN OR SHINE

### Celebrate Recovery & Support Awareness of Substance Use Disorder

Every year, since 2013 Hope Sheds Light has sponsored the annual Hope Recovery Walk. This event, which is centered around a two-mile walk, is an awareness and fundraising effort to benefit the mission of HOPE Sheds Light. The walk highlights resources for family members and friends impacted by addiction, inspirational speakers, a Tree of Hope, onsite vendors, a raffle and more!



HOPE Sheds Light

SCAN HERE TO REGISTER



[HOPEShedsLight.org](https://HOPEShedsLight.org)  
732.244.0783 • [rise@HOPEShedsLight.org](mailto:rise@HOPEShedsLight.org)  
Toll-Free Helpline: 855.850.HOPE



# New Board Members Join Fulfill as Organization Expands Its Fight Against Hunger

NEPTUNE, NJ – Fulfill, a leader in alleviating hunger and building food security in Monmouth and Ocean counties, has appointed John Salata, Stephanie Taylor Ayers and Nancy Riordan to its Board of Trustees, adding decades of experience in finance, corporate leadership, education and community service as the organization works to strengthen food security across Monmouth and Ocean counties.



“As the need for food assistance continues to evolve, strong leadership has never been more important,” said Susan Kyrillos, Board Chair of Fulfill. “We’re thrilled to welcome John, Stephanie and Nancy to our Board of Trustees. Their diverse backgrounds, strategic expertise, and shared commitment to serving others will help position Fulfill to meet today’s challenges while building a stronger, more food-secure future for Monmouth and Ocean Counties.”

For more than four decades, Fulfill has been at the forefront of addressing food insecurity across Monmouth and Ocean counties, helping ensure neighbors have access not only to nutritious food, but also to the resources they need to build long-term stability. As demand continues to rise amid evolving federal nutrition policies, Fulfill is working alongside community partners to strengthen the region’s food security through advocacy, benefits enrollment, workforce development and investments that expand access to healthy food.

Salata brings more than 40 years of financial, governance, and strategic leadership experience from Deloitte LLP, where he served as a senior leadership partner before retiring in 2024. He advised some of the nation’s largest retail organizations and developed deep expertise in financial management, business transformation, mergers and acquisitions, technology implementation, and corporate governance. He also served on Deloitte’s U.S. and Global Boards of Directors, including as Chair of the U.S. Board’s Audit Committee and Governance Committee.

Taylor Ayers has extensive experience in telecommunications, product development and

operational leadership from her career at Verizon Communications. As a National Senior Group Manager, she led initiatives focused on process improvement, stakeholder collaboration and the development of new data service offerings. Throughout her career, Taylor Ayers has been recognized for her leadership and performance, including receiving Verizon’s Masters Award, which honors the company’s top one percent of sales and marketing employees. Beyond her professional work, she volunteers at Fulfill’s Audit Committee and Mobile Pantry and assists with Pilgrim Baptist Church’s community dinner.

Riordan is a retired educator, former school board member and longtime business owner with more than three decades of experience in education, public service and real estate. During her career as an educator, she led grant-funded initiatives, chaired school improvement programs and collaborated with families, administrators and community partners to support student success. She previously served three elected terms on the Brielle Board of Education, where she helped lead a successful



L-R: Joe Stroffolino III, Vice-Chair; Nancy Riordan; John Salata; Stephanie Taylor Ayers; Susan Kyrillos, Board Chair

school expansion referendum and authored an award-winning district nutrition policy. Through her leadership and community involvement, Riordan holds a deep belief that nutritious food is fundamental to health, dignity, and opportunity – essential principles to Fulfill’s work.

“Each new trustee brings fresh ideas, thoughtful leadership and a passion for making a difference,” said Joe Stroffolino III, Vice Chair of Fulfill. “We look forward to the contributions they’ll make as Fulfill continues working toward a future where everyone in our community has reliable access to nutritious food.”

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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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## OCEAN COUNTY LIBRARY

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



### TRANSPORT YOURSELF BACK TO THE GOLDEN AGE OF RADIO AT THE TOMS RIVER BRANCH

TOMS RIVER – Return to the era when families gathered around the wireless set for “theater of the imagination.” The Toms River Branch of the Ocean County Library will host a live presentation by WREP: When Radio Entertained People from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Wednesday, August 26. A trivia game will take place before the show at 6:30 p.m. The performance will begin at 7 p.m. Join us for an evening “broadcast” of skits from the Golden Age of radio, performed live by WREP’s veteran actors.

Take a seat with some musical entertainment, test your memory in the trivia contest, and enjoy skits from Abbott & Costello and The War of the Worlds, complete with sound effects.

WREP consists of eight talented performers who re-enact scripts from radio’s Golden Age of the 1940s and 1950s. Michael Glenn Miller, who has entertained local audiences since 1972, leads the cast of professionals with backgrounds in television, film, and live theater. The troupe has performed regularly at the Ocean County Library since its inception in 2008.



This program is generously sponsored by the Friends of the Ocean County Library – Toms River. The Friends are volunteers who support the Library as a community resource through fundraising, programs, and advocacy. New members are always welcome. Applications are available at all OCL branches and reading centers and on the OCL website.

Registration is required for this free program. To register, visit [tinyurl.com/WREPOclAugust](http://tinyurl.com/WREPOclAugust), call 732-349-6200, or stop by the branch at 101 Washington Street. See the full schedule of library programs in the online Calendar of Events.

### MAKE HANGING POCKET BASKETS IN A CRAFT WORKSHOP COMING TO THE WARETOWN LIBRARY

WARETOWN – Are you looking to do a craft that is both fun and practical? The Waretown Branch of the Ocean County Library will host “Handmade Craft Workshop: Hanging Pocket Basket” from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. Monday, August 24.



Instructor Steven R. Carty will lead you through the basics of basket weaving while creating your very own beautiful and functional hanging pocket basket. The baskets will be

perfect for holding mail, greenery, or small household items. Come unwind, get creative, and take home a handmade piece you will be proud of. All materials will be provided. No previous crafting experience is needed. Participants should be comfortable following multi-step directions and completing the project independently, as this is a detailed hands-on weaving workshop with limited one-on-one assistance available.

Registration is required for this free program. To register, visit [tinyurl.com/WaretownBaskets](http://tinyurl.com/WaretownBaskets), call 609-693-5133, or stop by the branch at 112 Main Street. Registration will open August 10.

### THE SOUNDTRACK OF RESILIENCE: EXPLORE MUSIC’S ROLE IN POST-9/11 AMERICA AT THE LACEY LIBRARY

FORKED RIVER – In honor of Patriot Day, the Lacey Branch of the Ocean County Library will host “The Soundtrack of Resilience: Music and 9/11” at 2 p.m. Thursday, September 10.

Melissa Ziobro, Curator of the Bruce Springsteen Center for American Music at Monmouth University, will tell how music played a powerful role in helping Americans mourn, remember, and heal after 9/11.

This multimedia presentation explores how both existing songs and new music resonated deeply with the public in this somber period – from the emotional impact of Whitney Houston’s stirring national anthem to the inspirational message of “Hero” by Mariah Carey. At the center of the discussion is “The Rising,” in which Bruce Springsteen



Melissa Ziobro

captured the grief, courage, and hope that defined the months following the attacks.

Registration is required for this free program. To register, visit [tinyurl.com/ResilienceOCL](http://tinyurl.com/ResilienceOCL), call 609-693-8566, or stop by the branch at 10 East Lacey Road, Forked River. Registration will open on August 27.

### THE JERSEY SHORE REMEMBERS 1776 ART EXHIBIT AND RECEPTION COMING TO THE LBI LIBRARY

SURF CITY – Stop by and meet various artists of the Jersey Shore from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Wednesday, September 16 at the Long Beach Island Branch of the Ocean County Library. Their exhibit The Jersey Shore Remembers 1776 will be available to view in the branch’s meeting room throughout the months of September and October.

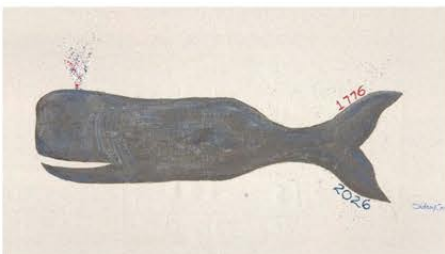
This exhibit showcases landmarks and events during 1776 at the Jersey Shore in celebration of America’s 250th anniversary. It includes paintings, photos, maps, and collections about the heroes of the Jersey Shore by local artists, photographers, historians, and collectors.

Light refreshments will be served at the reception.

This free, program is open to all ages and registration is not required. For more information, call 609-494-2480, or stop by the branch at 217 South Central Avenue, Surf City.



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We have been in business locally for over 45 years. Please call or email to be added to our bi-monthly newsletter and find out about all our current groups and our informational nights on our upcoming tours. We specialize in land packages, cruises, destination weddings, family vacations and much more. Give Tara a call to plan your next getaway. All information is posted to our website. Some of our current groups:

#### Iceland Christmas Markets (December 3-7, 2026)

Famed by snow and sometimes crowned by the northern lights, Reykjavik in winter is like something from a dream. This adventure includes nonstop airfare from Newark, four nights at the Fosshotel with room check in upon arrival, breakfast daily, afternoon at the Sky Lagoon with admission, private guided tours of the Christmas Markets in Reykjavik and Hafnarfjörður, private Golden Circle tour with lunch and all transportation. Rate per person is \$1,999.00. Local transfers will be provided for a nominal fee. Limited Space.

#### A private tour of the Emerald Isle (April 15-23, 2027)

Ireland is a combination of vast, unspoiled nature, scenic wonders, charming towns and warm hospitality. Spend two nights in Galway, two nights in Killarney, one night in Waterford and two nights in Dublin. Rate includes round trip airfare from Newark, hotel accommodations, professional tour guide, breakfast daily including upon arrival, three dinners, all admissions and sightseeing. Rate per person based on double occupancy is \$3,499.00.

#### Grand Mediterranean from Barcelona to Rome (August 8-15, 2027)

This amazing cruise starts in Barcelona and visits two ports in the south of France, Provence and Villefranche (Nice). Then visit the birthplace of the Renaissance, Florence followed by Salerno and Messina (Sicily), with a day at sea and disembarking in Rome. Rate of \$2,099.00 per person includes: balcony cabin, all meals including 3 specialty dining, Wi-Fi, unlimited open bar, pre-paid ship board gratuities, shore excursion credit and a \$100.00 on board credit. Airfare and pre/post packages are available in September.

#### Upcoming informational nights in September:

Sandals/ Beaches Resorts and Collette tours. Check out our website for additional tours we are doing for 2027/2028 and informational events and dates.

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# Family Promise of the Jersey Shore Helps Our Neighbors Every Day

One of the beautiful things about working for Family Promise of the Jersey Shore is knowing that, at the end of each day, we helped some of our neighbors facing homelessness.

When the day is going sideways or everything seems to be moving too slowly, it’s good for me to pause and think about that. The help looks different every day, depending on the needs of the family or individual.

We may be helping one of our families secure donated furniture for their new home after a long stretch of homelessness. It may mean placing someone in a motel for a short stay while they work toward a more permanent solution.



So when we see a picture of one of our families with the keys to their new home in hand, it really is a moment of joy.

Your continued support helps make these moments a reality. Thank you for being part of the solution. Donations can be sent to Family Promise of the Jersey Shore at PO Box 83, West Creek, NJ 08092.

Or share your gift online by visiting [pushpay.com/g/familypromisejerseyshore](https://pushpay.com/g/familypromisejerseyshore).

To donate by cell phone, text “give” to 833-975-2970.

For more information about our mission, visit [www.familypromisejerseyshore.org](https://www.familypromisejerseyshore.org).

Thank you.  
Jim Lowney  
Public Affairs Manager  
[jim@familypromisejerseyshore.org](mailto:jim@familypromisejerseyshore.org)



## Free Stafford Workshop on Rain Barrels, Water Conservation

*By Veronica Flesher, Patch Staff*

MANAHAWKIN, NJ — Stafford Township is inviting residents to a free rain barrel workshop later this month at Manahawkin Lake, where participants can learn how the systems collect rainwater and help reduce stormwater runoff. The workshop is scheduled for Monday, Aug. 24, 2026, at 6 p.m. at Manahawkin Lake, 48 N. Main St. in Stafford Township.

According to the township announcement, the workshop is aimed at homeowners interested in water conservation and more sustainable home practices. The session will cover how rain barrels collect and store rainwater, how harvested rainwater can be used for gardens and landscaping, the environmental benefits of reducing stormwater runoff and simple ways to conserve water around the home.

The township announcement states that using a rain barrel helps reduce the amount of stormwater entering local drainage systems while also providing a free source of water for outdoor use. The announcement describes it as an easy, practical step that can benefit homeowners and local waterways. The event is free for Stafford Township residents. The first 25 participants receiving rain barrels must register in advance because supplies

are limited, according to the announcement. Residents who plan to attend only for information do not need to register.

The township announcement says the workshop is part of an effort to help residents conserve water, reduce runoff and support healthier local waterways. It also notes that the action counts toward the Green Challenge.

Stafford encouraged residents with an interest in gardening or home sustainability to attend. Registration for residents seeking one of the available rain barrels is being handled through an online form posted by the township.

The workshop will take place at Manahawkin Lake on Aug. 24. Residents who want a rain barrel should register ahead of time, while those attending only to learn more about the program may attend without registering.

*patch.com*



REGISTER HERE

# I grew pumpkins to make a purée!

*By Danielle Natale - Causeway Honda Sales Consultant*



I planted pumpkins this year and had the best success! I will say, I may have planted them a little too early, but since I don’t plan on using them for fall decor, that really doesn’t matter. My goal was to grow pumpkins to make my own pumpkin purée!

I planted just one pumpkin plant, because if you’ve ever grown pumpkins, you know that one plant can easily take over an entire garden—and mine certainly tried! The vines just kept growing and growing, which is when we decided to try something we had seen in pictures of other gardens.



We picked up a couple of pieces of cattle fencing from our local Tractor Supply store and created an arbor for the pumpkin vines to climb. The idea was that the strong vines would grow vertically over the fencing and the pumpkins would eventually hang right from the arbor.

And that is exactly what they did!

Watching the vines climb up and over the arbor and seeing the pumpkins hanging from it has been so much fun for all of us. It also allowed us to grow pumpkins without letting the vines completely take over our small garden space.

This growing experience has been so enjoyable that pumpkins have officially earned a permanent spot in my garden. I definitely plan to grow them year after year!

If you have a smaller garden but have always wanted to try growing pumpkins, I highly recommend giving the vertical method a try next growing season. It was a fun experiment, made great use of our limited space, and turned into one of my favorite parts of the garden this year.

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# Nissan Armada and Murano named segment winners in JD Power 2026 APEAL Study

NASHVILLE, Tenn. – The Nissan Armada and Murano earned fresh accolades as winners of their respective segments in the JD Power 2026 U.S. Automotive Performance, Execution and Layout (APEAL) Study. The Nissan Armada tied for first place in the Large SUV segment and Murano tied for first place in the Midsize SUV segment.

The JD Power APEAL Study measures owner satisfaction across more than 35 attributes, including design, performance, comfort and usability. It is based on survey responses from drivers during their first 90 days of vehicle ownership.

The Nissan Armada thrills owners with effortless capability off-road and exceptional on-road comfort. It was recently named a Consumer Reports Top-Rated Large SUV and was named Best Large SUV for Off-Road in the 2026 U.S. News & World Report Best Adventure Vehicles Awards.

Armada delivers comfort and poise on the road with a twin-turbo, direct-injected 3.5-liter V6 engine rated for 425 horsepower and 516 lb-ft of torque and a standard towing capacity of up to 8,500 pounds. Advanced available camera technologies, including segment-first Invisible Hood View, help drivers spot obstacles when parking or when venturing off-pavement.

Armada also empowers drivers to tackle rough terrain with the model's PRO-4X grade, which is equipped with an electronic locking rear differential, Adaptive Electronic Air Suspension, all-terrain tires, eight selectable drive modes and a metal underbody skid plate. For the 2026 model year, the first-ever Armada NISMO injects even more distinctive style



Nissan Armada and Murano named segment winners in JD Power 2026 APEAL Study

and excitement into the SUV, with NISMO-specific tuning for the suspension, steering, exhaust and engine, delivering best-in-class 460 horsepower (premium fuel required). For more on the 2026 Nissan Armada, including features, specifications, pricing and photos, see the full press kit.

The Nissan Murano is proudly assembled in Tennessee. Murano combines elegant design, powerful technologies and a premium, accommodating cabin to make every drive more convenient.



Murano's welcoming, spacious interior includes premium options like heated, ventilated and massaging front seats; 64-color ambient lighting; and available semi-aniline leather-appointed upholstery. It is available with dual 12.3-inch displays featuring Google built-in, bringing familiar, intuitive apps like Google Maps right to the vehicle's dashboard.

For the 2026 model year, Murano adds the powerful confidence of ProPILOT Assist 2.19. This advanced available technology allows attentive drivers to take their hands off the wheel and feet off the pedals while the system handles steering, acceleration and braking on compatible roads. The system also features Lane Change Assist, which can recommend and help with passing slower-moving vehicles.

usa.nissannews.com



*On Behalf of Carol Stillwell and Stillwell-Hansen Inc., please join us for the United for Impact Wine Event.*

*Thursday, September 10, 2026 | 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM*

*Patricia's of Holmdel*  
*2132 NJ-35, Holmdel, NJ 07733*



*Scan to Purchase Tickets and Packages*

## Celebrating 7 Nissan Awards of Excellence



Congratulations to **Charlie Coopey** on being named a Nissan Award of Excellence winner for the seventh time! This prestigious recognition celebrates outstanding performance and dedication to Nissan customers. We're proud to have Charlie on the Causeway team and congratulate him on this incredible achievement!

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Sun: Closed

\*Not all buyers will qualify. Any pricing is plus tax, tags, doc fees, bank fee. See dealer for complete details on all offers.



Scan For New Nissans



# Honda Adds Google Gemini, a Helpful AI Assistant, to Civic, Accord, CR-V, Pilot and More Vehicles with Google built-in

Honda is adding Google Gemini, a helpful AI assistant, to Honda vehicles equipped with Google built-in, giving drivers a more conversational, hands-free voice experience across select Civic, Accord, Prelude, CR-V, Passport and Pilot models. A seamless upgrade to Google Assistant, Gemini can engage in more intelligent, conversational interactions by maintaining context across multiple exchanges while enabling drivers to keep their eyes on the road and their hands on the wheel providing a more personal, connected driving experience.

"Connected technology is no longer a convenience for Honda customers – it's an essential part of the driving experience," said Jessika Laudermilk, Assistant Vice President of Honda National Auto Sales. "The integration of Google Gemini reflects our commitment to providing technology that enhances every journey to help Honda drivers stay informed, connected, and productive."

Accessible when signed into their Google Account, Honda customers can communicate with Gemini naturally, without relying on exact commands or repeating information they have already provided. Gemini will improve automatically over time to recognize nuanced requests, seek clarification when needed, and respond to layered

instructions, creating an experience that feels more like a genuine conversation than a traditional voice command system. Previously, Honda drivers needed to use specific requests, such as "Hey Google, find the nearest restaurant for lunch." With Gemini, Honda drivers can make more nuanced requests, such as "Hey Google, I need to grab a bite, find some good taco places along the way. When does [name of place] close? Great, let's go there" By understanding context and handling more conversational requests, Gemini helps create a more seamless and intuitive in-vehicle experience.

In addition, the integration of Gemini Live brings a new level of conversational assistance to the driving experience that goes well beyond the handling of everyday vehicle-related requests. Honda drivers can activate this new hands-free feature with a simple prompt such as, "Hey Google, let's talk," and engage in a natural free-flowing conversations. In this way, Gemini Live can assist with a wide range of tasks, from planning a weekend getaway and finding family-friendly activities to summarizing the latest news or helping brainstorm for an upcoming meeting, enabling Honda drivers to stay informed, organized and engaged while on the road.

*hondanews.com*



Google Gemini in 2026 Honda Pilot

## Honda Models with Google built-in and Google Gemini

| Model Year     | Model           | Trim                 |
|----------------|-----------------|----------------------|
| 2023 – Current | Accord          | Touring Hybrid       |
| 2025 – Current | Civic Sedan     | Sport Touring Hybrid |
| 2025 – Current | Civic Sedan     | Si                   |
| 2025 – Current | Civic Hatchback | Sport Touring Hybrid |
| 2024 – Current | Prologue        | All trims            |
| 2026 – Current | Pilot           | All trims            |
| 2026 – Current | Passport        | All trims            |
| 2026 – Current | CR-V            | Sport Touring Hybrid |
| 2026 – Current | Prelude         | All                  |

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FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2026

St. Mary of the Pines - Parish Center  
100 Bishop Way, Manahawkin, NJ

DOOR PRIZES

Ticket Price: \$40.00 (non-refundable - includes 12 games)  
Tickets available on August 10, 2026 - cash, check or credit card (3% fee for credit card use)

Additional cards are \$15.00 (advance) \$20.00 (at the door)  
Super Bingo Game - \$5.00 per card with \$500 cash prize!

Pick up tickets - Interfaith Health & Support Office  
56 Nautilus Drive, Manahawkin  
Monday - Thursday, 10:00am-2:00pm / 609-978-3839

50/50

More details available at [www.InterfaithSOC.org](http://www.InterfaithSOC.org)

Doors open: 4:45pm      Bingo Starts: 6:15pm

Doors will be locked once Bingo begins, and no one will be permitted to enter once games begin.  
You must be 18 to participate. Tables will be assigned at time of ticket purchase.

10<sup>th</sup> Annual  
Marty Aronow  
Charity Golf Classic

Wednesday, October 7, 2026

LBi National Golf & Resort  
99 Golf View Drive  
Little Egg Harbor Township, NJ 08087

OCEAN COUNTY BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

To benefit CAREing for Children

FEATURES and PRIZES

CAREing for Children

We at Ocean County Business Association are pleased to again present the Tenth Annual Marty Aronow Charity Golf Classic.

Last year's outing raised \$22,000. Those funds were used to buy gifts and food boxes which are donated to under privileged children and families. These gifts have been distributed by CAREing for Children (CFC) to charitable organizations in Ocean County.

Because CFC is run strictly on a volunteer basis, there are no overhead costs as 100% of all donations go to support those in need. Additionally, 100% of the Golf Classic's net proceeds are funneled directly to CFC. Over the first 9 years of the event, we have raised and donated over \$182,000 worth of food and children's toys to the community. Additionally, in both 2024 and 2025 we donated 100 backpacks stuffed with school supplies to children in need.

Many thanks for joining us and enjoy a fun day of good golf and fellowship.

Team Prizes

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Hole in One Contest

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# SENIOR CORNER

## Volunteers Needed to Help Meals on Wheels

Every meal we deliver starts with someone willing to give their time.

At Meals on Wheels Ocean County, the need for our services continues to grow. More seniors are relying on us for nutritious meals, wellness checks, and the Community, Care, and Connection that help them remain safe and independent at home. But in order to feed more people, we need more volunteers.

Our work is More Than Meals. Each delivery is a meal, a check-in, a safety response when something does not seem right, and often the only personal interaction a senior may have that day. But none of that can happen without the volunteers who help bring our mission to life.

Volunteer drivers are especially important. Drivers do not simply leave a meal at the door. They must see each participant, check in, and make sure they are okay. That visit brings nourishment, reassurance, and peace of mind to families who know someone is regularly checking in on their loved one.



There are many other ways to help. Volunteers support our kitchen, assist at our Community Cafés, make Telephone Reassurance calls, provide Friendly Visits, and help with special projects. Every role matters, and every hour given helps us serve more older adults who are counting on us. We are also looking for community members to serve on our Advisory Committee, a volunteer opportunity for those

who want to share their experience, ideas, and connections to help strengthen our programs and expand our reach.

Volunteering does not have to be a major time commitment. Even a couple of hours a month can make a real difference. Whether you can give one morning a week, a few hours a month, or support where help is needed most, your time helps us reach more seniors across Ocean County.

Right now, the need is urgent. We need our community to step forward so we can continue reaching the seniors who depend on us. If you have ever wanted to do something meaningful for your neighbors, this is the moment.

Help us deliver More Than Meals. Help us reach more seniors.

To learn more about volunteering, visit [csimow.org](http://csimow.org), email [volunteer@csimow.org](mailto:volunteer@csimow.org), call 732-953-1296 or scan the QR code above.



## A 12 Foot Tiger Shark Weighing Nearly 800 Pounds Was Caught Off Ocean County Beach

By Shawn Michaels, WOBN

According to reports, a tiger shark that was 700 to 800 pounds and around 12 feet long was captured off the coast off Ocean County.

According to Patch, “The shark was caught outside a guarded area at Island Beach State Park on Saturday, August 8th.”

According to reports, the tiger shark was released by fishermen after being caught.

Tiger sharks are definitely sharks you want to respect. They’re big, powerful predators that can grow well over 10 feet long, and they’ll eat just about anything they can find.

They’re also responsible for several shark attacks, but that doesn’t mean they’re out there

hunting people. Encounters are still pretty rare.

So, are tiger sharks dangerous? Absolutely. But there’s no reason to panic every time you hit the beach. Just remember, when you’re swimming in the ocean, you’re in their backyard.

So what do you do if you’re swimming and spot a tiger shark? Stay calm! Don’t start splashing or swimming toward it. Keep your eye on the shark and slowly make your way toward shore or a boat. Don’t try to get a picture—yeah, I know, it would make a



Tropicalens / stock.adobe.com

crazy photo, but it’s definitely not worth it!

Give the shark plenty of room and get out of the water as calmly as you can.

wobm.com



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## When Will NJ Turn Its Clocks Back an Hour This Fall?

By Buehler WOBN

I can’t believe we’re already talking about the idea of Daylight Saving Time coming to an end, but it’s hard to deny. Just over the weekend, I noticed that the sun had set and was gone before 8 PM. Granted, it was a cloudy evening, but still, the sun is starting to set noticeably earlier every night.

So, the next natural question is “when do we set our clocks back this year?” However, the real question is “Are we going to set our clocks back an hour this year?” After the idea of the Sunshine Protection Act was introduced and passed in the House, there’s a chance we could stay in Daylight Saving Time year-round in America.

### Has The Sunshine Protection Act Been Signed Into Law Yet?

As of now, the bill is still waiting for approval from the Senate before it can make its way to the President’s desk for his signature, and the Senate is on recess until mid-September, so sadly, we won’t know if the bill will become a law or not for a few more weeks.

### What Time Would The Sun Set, If The Sunshine Protection Act Was Passed?

I would love to see a world where we don’t have to worry about changing our clocks anymore, and having the sun set at 5:30 PM in the winter as opposed to 4:30 PM would work wonders for my self-diagnosed seasonal depression.

The issue with the Sunshine Protection Act, though, is that there are parts of America that wouldn’t see the sunrise until 9:30 AM, according to NJ.com.

### When Do We Set Our Clocks Back An Hour In 2026?

But let’s say the bill doesn’t pass, and we’re turning our clocks back an hour this fall; it would occur on November 1st, at 2 AM.

### Here’s What The Time Change Can Do To Your Body

Time changes are stressful on the human body, even when we fall back an hour. According to Yahoo.com these are 5 things that could happen to your body when daylight savings time ends.

#### 1. Increased Risk Of Strokes

Yahoo.com reports that when we gain an hour of sleep in the fall, there is an increased risk of strokes in the first 48 hours after the time change. The risk was mainly seen in those 65 and older.

There is some good news though!



rabbitti / stock.adobe.com

#### 2. A Decreased Risk Of Heart Attack

It’s fairly common knowledge that the risk of heart attack increases when we lose an hour of sleep, but Yahoo.com reports that when daylight savings time ends the risk of heart attack goes down.

#### 3. Car Crashes

This one we can’t get away from. Yahoo.com reports that even when we gain an hour of sleep the risk of car crashes increases.

It could be from some drowsiness, or because it gets dark earlier.

#### 4. Drowsiness

Any time your circadian rhythm is thrown off, you’ll be drowsy. So yes, you gained an hour of sleep but the time has still changed, and your body will be affected by that.

#### 5. Seasonal Depression

Yahoo.com reported that the cases of depression increased following the first month of daylight savings time ending. With shorter and darker days it’s easy to understand why this may occur.

wobm.com

## Greek Potato Salad



allrecipes.com

### Ingredients:

24 ounces unpeeled bite-sized potatoes  
1 stalk celery, diagonally sliced  
1/2 cup pitted and sliced Kalamata olives  
1/2 cup diced red onions  
1/3 cup roughly chopped fresh dill  
1 (2 ounce) jar diced pimiento, drained

1/2 cup olive oil  
3 tablespoons freshly-squeezed lemon juice  
1 teaspoon dried oregano  
1/2 teaspoon salt  
freshly ground black pepper to taste  
1/2 cup roughly crumbled feta cheese, or to taste

### Directions:

**Step 1:** Place potatoes in a large pot, and cover with salted water by about an inch. Bring water to a boil, and simmer just until fork tender, 15 to 20 minutes, depending on potato size.

**Step 2:** Drain potatoes, cool just slightly, cut in half, and transfer to a large bowl. Add celery, olives, red onions, dill, and pimiento, and stir until incorporated.

**Step 3:** Whisk olive oil, lemon juice, oregano, salt, and pepper together in a small bowl, and drizzle over the warm potato salad. Sprinkle feta on top, and gently toss. Serve warm, at room temperature, or chilled.

**Note:** It’s important not to overcook the potatoes, and to add the dressing while potatoes are still warm.

**Step 5:** If you have time, set aside for an hour or so to allow the flavors to meld. Serve and enjoy!

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| 4                                        | \$39,000      | \$3,250        |
| 5                                        | \$45,682      | \$3,807        |
| for each additional household member add | \$6,682       | \$557          |

**• For seniors:** Interested in finding out if there's a distribution site near you? Go to [fulfillnj.org/seniorstaples](http://fulfillnj.org/seniorstaples) or call 732-918-2600.

**• For senior residences and senior-serving organizations:** Interested in bringing this program to the seniors you serve? Call Lynette Hargrove at 732-918-2600.

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.

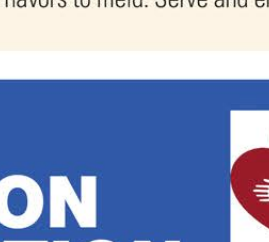
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email: [djaramillo@oceanic.org](mailto:djaramillo@oceanic.org)

**O.C.E.A.N., Inc community Action PARTNERSHIP**  
Helping People. Changing Lives.



# Masquerade Murder Mystery & Silent Auction

The evening's silent auction will feature exclusive experiences, local dining, entertainment, travel packages, wellness experiences, and unique gifts generously donated by businesses throughout New Jersey. Local businesses and community members are encouraged to participate by attending, becoming event sponsors.

Proceeds from the event will support Ocean Partnership for Children's programs and services that empower youth, strengthen families, and access to mental health across Ocean County. Services are always free and based on need, rather than insurance or

Tickets, sponsorship opportunities, and silent auction donation information are available by contacting [Development@oceanpartnership.org](mailto:Development@oceanpartnership.org) or visiting [oceanpartnership.org/supportus](http://oceanpartnership.org/supportus) or scanning QR code in advertisement at left. Visit OPC at [oceanpartnership.org](http://oceanpartnership.org) or Follow on social media @OceanPartnership.



Ocean Partnership for Children serves more than 1,100 youth every day through care management, family support, youth empowerment groups, crisis planning, and linkages to vital community resources. Since opening its doors in 2005, the organization has positively impacted the lives of more than 10,000 youth and their families across Ocean County. Behind every mask is a child who deserves to feel seen and supported. This event is more than a fun night out, it's an opportunity for the community to come together and invest in brighter futures for local youth.

A close-up photograph of two people's forearms. The person on the left is wearing a red shirt, and the person on the right is wearing a white shirt. Both have a white band-aid with a red heart on their inner forearm. The background is a solid light blue.

## patch.com

# Campfire Queso



*allrecipes.com*

**Ingredients:**

- 8 ounces ground beef
- 8 ounces bulk Italian sausage
- 1/2 cup chopped red onion
- 1/2 cup chopped red bell pepper
- 1 jalapeno pepper, seeded and minced
- 1 10-ounce can diced tomatoes and green chiles (such as RO-TEL®)
- 8 ounces pasteurized cheese product (such as Velveeta®), cubed
- 1 (8-ounce) package cream cheese, softened and cubed
- 8 ounces shredded Pepper Jack or Monterey Jack cheese
- 3/4 cup no-salt added canned black beans, rinsed and drained
- 1/2 cup frozen corn
- 3/4 cup diced avocado
- 1/4 cup sour cream
- 2 tablespoons chopped fresh cilantro
- tortilla chips for serving

**Directions:**

**Step 1:** Heat a 10-inch cast-iron skillet on a grill grate over a fire. You can also preheat an outdoor grill to medium-high heat (375 degrees F to 400 degrees F (190 degrees C to 200 degrees C)) .

**Step 2:** Add beef, sausage, onion, bell pepper, and jalapeño to the skillet. Cook, stirring to break up lumps, until meat is browned, about 8 minutes. Pour off grease. Stir in tomatoes with green chiles, cheese product, cream cheese, pepper Jack, beans, and corn. Cover skillet with foil and cook for 8 minutes.

**Step 3:** Uncover skillet; continue cooking, stirring occasionally, until cheese is melted and bubbly, 2 minutes more.

**Step 4:** Top with avocado, sour cream, and cilantro. Serve with tortilla chips.



# Hyundai Tucson Hybrid Named Top Finisher in Cars.com 2026 Best Cars for Car Seats Report

FOUNTAIN VALLEY, Calif., July 30, 2026 – Hyundai Motor America today announced that the Hyundai Tucson Hybrid has been named a Top Finisher in the Cars.com 2026 Best Cars for Car Seats annual report. For a second year in a row, the Tucson Hybrid delivered an excellent performance in the online automotive marketplace’s car seat evaluations, earning Top Finisher honors on the strength of its car seat report card with four A’s and a single B.

Top Finishers designation recognizes vehicles that performed exceptionally well in Cars.com’s Car Seat Checks, a hands-on car seat fit evaluation of different seat types, including infant and booster seats. Both rear- and front-facing seat fitments are judged, as well as the accessibility of LATCH anchors. Cars.com’s recognition of Tucson underscores Hyundai’s commitment to safety and the importance of designing a vehicle’s interior and seats for proper car seat compatibility and performance. Fifty-six model-year 2026 vehicles were tested by Cars.com’s expert staff to determine this year’s Best Cars for Car Seats honor roll.

“As families set out on summer vacations and longer road trips, Hyundai is here to help keep them protected,” said Ricky Lao, director, product planning, Hyundai Motor North America. “We’re proud of the Tucson Hybrid’s car seat ranking by Cars.com, and its other recent safety accolades, including a 2026 IIHS TOP SAFETY PICK+ and a 2026 NHTSA 5-Star Overall Safety Rating. These important industry recognitions give consumers greater confidence in the advanced driver assist technologies and safety features Hyundai vehicles offer.”

The Tucson Hybrid includes a full roster of standard safety features including Forward Collision Warning Assist, Lane Departure Warning, Lane Keep Assist,



High Beam Assist, Driver Attention Warning, Forward Attention Warning, Hillstart Assist, and Rear Occupant Alert (door logic). Additionally, front and rear outboard passenger seatbelts feature standard pretensioners and load limiters.

“The 2026 Hyundai Tucson Hybrid is a great fit for smaller families,” said Jennifer Newman, Cars.com editor in chief and certified child passenger safety



technician. “This two-row SUV easily fits two car seats and received high marks in Cars.com’s Car Seat Check, making it a top finisher in our 2026 Best Cars for Car Seats Report. And while the Tucson Hybrid received top marks this year, it has appeared on our Best Cars for Car Seats list three previous years (2021, 2022, 2025).”

hyundainews.com

## Creamy Corn Soup

### Ingredients:

|                                 |                                              |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| ½ onion, chopped                | 1 cup chicken broth                          |
| ¼ cup chopped fresh parsley     | 2 (12-ounce) cans whole kernel corn, drained |
| 1 tablespoon butter             | 2 ½ tablespoons cream cheese                 |
| 1 clove garlic, minced          | 1 teaspoon garlic salt                       |
| 3 tablespoons all-purpose flour | 1 teaspoon ground black pepper               |
| 2 ½ cups milk                   | cayenne pepper to taste                      |

### Directions:

- Step 1:** Gather all ingredients.
- Step 2:** Combine onion, parsley, butter, and minced garlic in a large pot over medium heat; cook and stir until onions are tender, about 5 minutes.
- Step 3:** Whisk in flour to make a thick paste; whisk in milk and chicken broth until soup thickens slightly.
- Step 4:** Stir in corn and cream cheese until heated through.
- Step 5:** Add garlic salt, black pepper, and cayenne pepper to taste; stir until combined.



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Moose is curious, playful, active, on the go, and very loving. He needs to be adopted with a friend kitten or a home with another cat that will play with him.

Moose is neutered, microchipped, up to date on all vaccines, and FIV and FeLV negative. Apply online at FOSOCAS.org to have a meet and greet at his foster home in Manahawkin!



Moose

## Meet Kas!

Kas is only about a year old, yet somehow he has already learned what it feels like to be discarded.

Like so many young Huskies, Kas wasn't given the time, training, or guidance he needed during the most important months of his life. Now he's paying the price for mistakes that were never his to make.

Kas is still working on his housebreaking and basic commands, and he will need a family willing to invest the patience, structure, and consistency that every dog deserves. What breaks our hearts is knowing that none of this is his fault.

Despite everything, Kas has not given up on people.

He adores being close to his humans and wants nothing more than to be loved. He'll chase a ball around the play yard, but he'd much rather lean into you for pets, affection, and companionship. Beneath his striking Husky looks is a sweet, affectionate young dog who is desperately hoping someone will finally see his worth.

Kas is looking for a home with Husky experience—someone who understands the breed and is willing to help him become the dog he was always meant to be.

Please don't let Kas spend another day wondering why no one has chosen him.



## Meet Apollo!

At just 3 years old, Apollo has had to say goodbye to the only home he knew when his family moved and couldn't take him along. Now, this handsome boy is hoping someone will open their heart and give him a second chance.

Apollo is housebroken, crate trained, knows all his basic commands like sit and come, and loves spending time with his people. He is good on a leash and enjoys his daily walks.

Apollo previously lived with children and did wonderfully with them. Because of his size, we recommend a home with children 7 and older. He has never lived with other animals, so slow introductions will be important.

Apollo isn't looking for perfection—just a family to love and a place to belong.



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

**609-978-0127** or go to **www.fosocas.org**

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# Ocean County Waterways Set For \$8.4M Dredging Project

By Veronica Flesher, Patch Staff

STAFFORD, NJ — A maintenance dredging project is underway in the Beach Haven West Complex in Ocean

County, where New Jersey Department of Transportation officials said several channels will be restored to their authorized depths.

According to NJDOT, the \$8.4 million project covers the Harvey Cedars, Harvey Cedars 2, Margos, Beach Haven West Mill Creek, Cedar Run and Little Egg channels in Harvey Cedars, Stafford, Eagleswood and Long Beach. NJDOT said its contractor, H&L Construction LLC, began hydraulic dredging operations in July 2026. The work is expected to continue 24 hours a day, seven days a week until completion in December 2026.

NJDOT said the project will restore the channels to authorized depths ranging from 5 feet to 8 feet at mean low water. The stated goal is to ensure safe navigation and access to channels in Barnegat Bay.

All material removed from the channels will be transported by pipeline and placed into Dredged Hole 61, according to NJDOT. The department said the pipeline will be marked with buoys and lights to help boaters navigate the area safely.

Channel closures are not expected, according to NJDOT. If closures become necessary, NJDOT said they will be announced through the Local Notice to Mariners and on social media. The department also advised that State Aids to Navigation will be removed as necessary during the project.



dechevmi / stock.adobe.com

NJDOT is advising the public to stay alert for the pipeline, buoys, dredge and other maritime construction equipment in the area. The department asked that no one approach the construction site or any other project-related equipment.

Boaters should use caution when traveling through active work zones, according to NJDOT. The department said boaters can contact the contractor for meeting and passing arrangements on Channel 63. NJDOT also said no wake speed should be observed in active work zones for the duration of the project.

Questions about the project can be directed to the NJDOT Community Relations Office at 609-963-1982 or dot-ccr.communityrelations@dot.nj.gov, according to the announcement. NJDOT said updates also are available on its X account, Facebook page and Instagram account as the work continues toward its expected December completion.

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| <div><b>Pickup</b></div> <div><b>\$65,928</b></div> <p><b>2026 Ford F-350 Super Cab 4WD</b><br/>ST#F60666, 10-Speed Auto, Power Stroke 6.7L V8 DI 32V OHV Turbodiesel, Snow Plow/Camper Package &amp; More!</p>                  | <div><b>Service Utility Van</b></div> <div><b>\$66,824</b></div> <p><b>2026 Ford Transit 350 RWD</b><br/>STK#F60015, 10-Speed Auto with Overdrive, 3.5L V6 Flex Fuel, Backup Camera, Navigation &amp; More!</p>                         | <div><b>Service Utility Van</b></div> <div><b>\$66,825</b></div> <p><b>2026 Ford Transit 350 RWD</b><br/>STK#F60014, 10-Speed Auto, with Overdrive 3.5L V6 Flex Fuel, Navigation System, SYNC 4 &amp; More!</p>                           | <div><b>Box Truck</b></div> <div><b>\$67,839</b></div> <p><b>2026 Ford F-350 Regular Cab RWD</b><br/>STK#F60058, 10-Speed Auto, 7.3L V8 PFI OHV 16V Federal 335hp, GVWR: 14,000 Lb Payload Package &amp; More!</p>                              |

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## Help Clear The Shelter By Adopting Pets In Manahawkin

County-run shelters in Jackson and Manahawkin will offer half-off dog and cat adoptions Aug. 29-30.

By Veronica Flesher, Patch Staff

MANAHAWKIN, NJ — Ocean County’s animal facilities in Jackson and Manahawkin will again take part in the national Clear the Shelters pet adoption campaign, with the effort running from Aug. 1, 2026, through a special half-off adoption weekend on Aug. 29 and Aug. 30, according to the Ocean County Health Department.

The county described Clear the Shelters as the largest adoption initiative of the year for its animal facilities. The event is aimed at helping prospective pet owners adopt dogs and cats while opening space for local shelters to care for more animals in need.

“Clear the Shelters is a wonderful opportunity for families to meet incredible animals that are ready to become loyal companions,” said Jennifer Bacchione, Ocean County Commissioner Deputy Director and Liaison to the Ocean County Board of Health. “We always encourage anyone considering a pet to visit one of our facilities and see the difference adoption can make.”

Throughout the monthlong campaign, visitors can meet dogs and cats of different ages, breeds and personalities, according to the county. The county said each animal is looking for a permanent home.

To boost adoptions at the end of the campaign, fees for all dogs and cats will be reduced by 50 percent during the special adoption weekend, Aug. 29-30. The county said every pet available for adoption has been spayed or neutered, microchipped, vaccinated as age-appropriate, and examined and cared for by the shelter’s veterinarian.

The county also said each adopted pet will go home with a complimentary goody bag with treats, toys and other items throughout the duration of the event.

“Our staff and volunteers work tirelessly to care for every animal that comes through our doors,” said Daniel Regenye, Ocean County Health Department Public Health Coordinator. “There is nothing more rewarding than seeing a pet leave the shelter with a family that is excited to give them the love and stability they deserve. We hope this event inspires more people to discover that their perfect pet may already be waiting for them.”

The Ocean County Health Department is also urging residents to think carefully before adopting. The department said bringing home a pet is a long-term commitment and encouraged families to consider their lifestyle before making a decision.

“We want every adoption to be a successful, lifelong match,” Regenye added. “Taking the time to choose the right pet for your home benefits both the family and the animal. Our team is here to help guide adopters through the process and answer any questions along the way.”

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| <div></div> <div>Stock #: F60524</div> <div>NEW 2026 FORD<br/>F-150 LARIAT®<br/>4WD, 10-Speed Auto, 3.5L V6 EcoBoost, Backup Camera, Fog Lights, Heated and Power Seats, Keyless Entry, Navigation, Chrome Bumpers and Grille, Tow Package and More!</div> | <div></div> <div>Stock #: F50951</div> <div>NEW 2025 FORD<br/>BRONCO BASE<br/>4WD, 10-Speed Automatic, 2.3L EcoBoost I-4, Backup Camera, Bluetooth, Keyless, WiFi Hotspot, Price includes: \$4000 - Model Year Closeout Bonus Cash and More!</div> | <div></div> <div>Stock #: F60596</div> <div>NEW 2026 FORD<br/>F-150 LARIAT®<br/>4WD, 10-Speed Automatic, 3.5L V6 EcoBoost, Leveling Kit, Wheels, Tires, Tint and Spray Liner, Backup Camera, Fog Lights, Heated Seats, Navigation, Sunroof and More!</div> |
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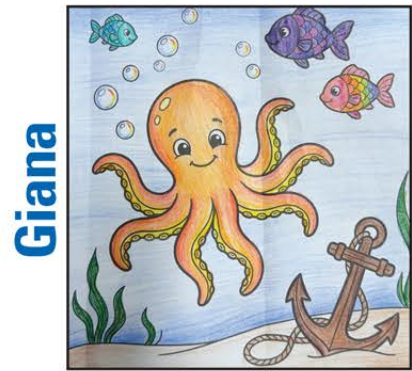
Have your child color the page, fill out the form, and either stop in to any Causeway location to drop off or mail to the address below.

**Entry Deadline: September 7th**

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



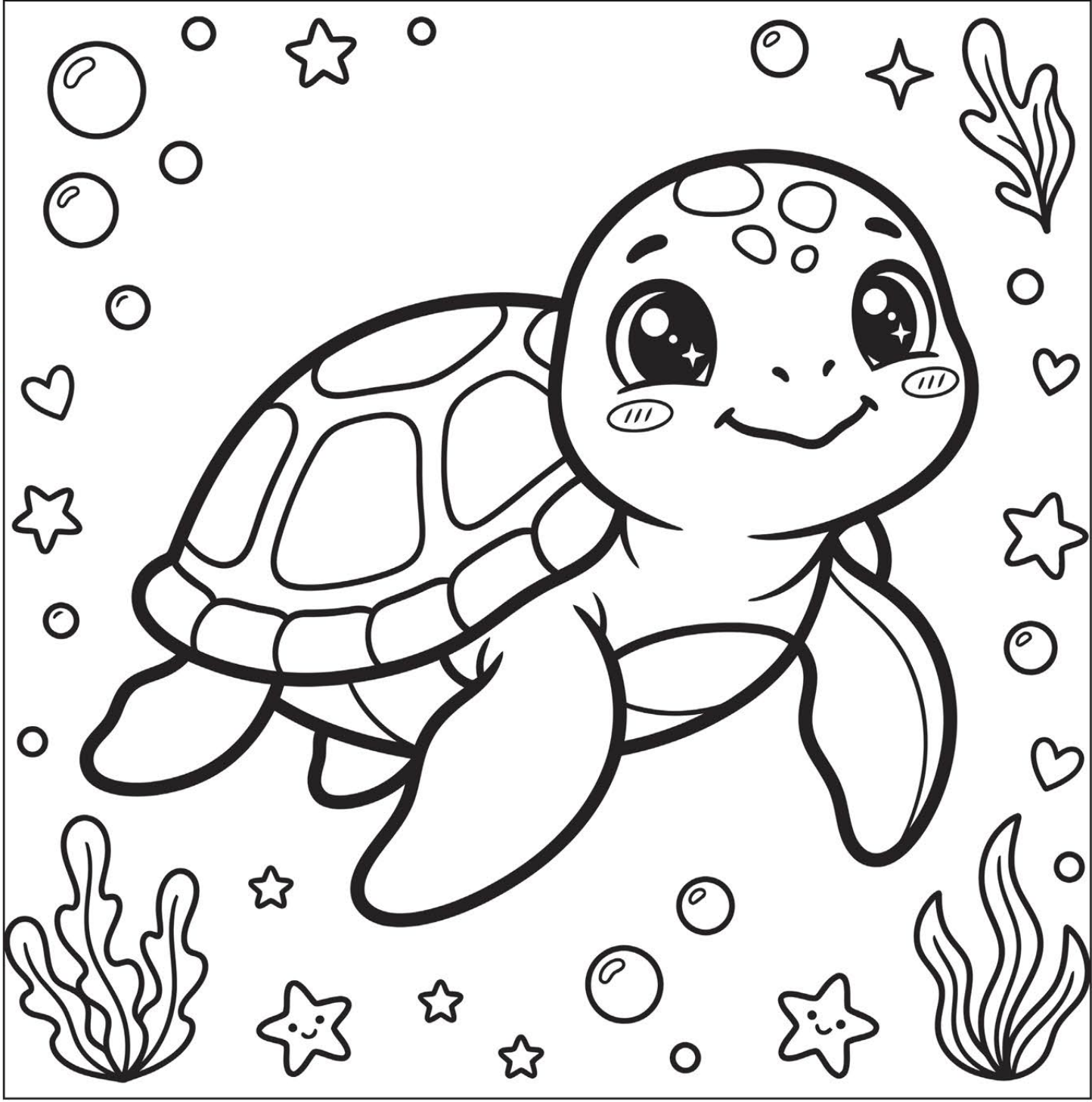
Leah



Giana



Mason



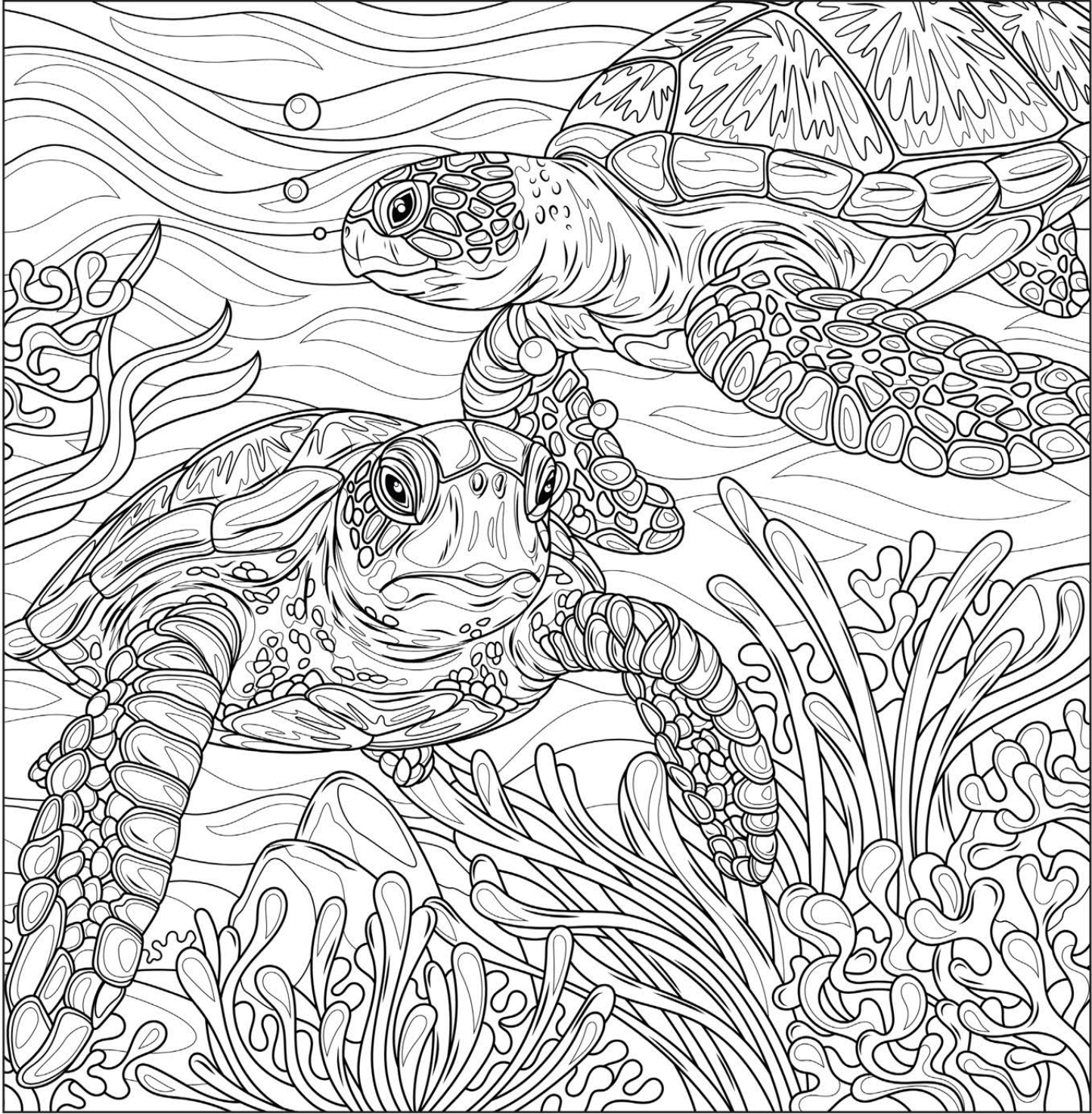
**Mail to:** Causeway Coloring Contest • PO Box 547, Manahawkin, NJ 08050

Child's First Name \_\_\_\_\_

Age \_\_\_\_\_

School \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Name and Phone \_\_\_\_\_



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: September 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 \_\_\_\_\_

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