



The Causeway Gazette

www.CausewayGazette.com

Proudly serving Manahawkin, Barnegat, and surrounding communities October 2026 • Number 149

9 FOR 9: CAUSEWAY CARES 5K RAISES \$100,000 FOR NINE LOCAL NONPROFITS

On Sunday, September 20, the Causeway CAREs 5K returned to Southern Regional High School for its ninth annual race, bringing together runners, walkers, families, volunteers, sponsors, and community supporters for a morning focused on giving back.

For nine years, the Causeway CAREs 5K has brought the community together to support local organizations making a difference in the lives of individuals and families throughout Ocean County and the surrounding areas. Since the event began, the race has raised more than \$500,000 for local nonprofits.

This year continued that incredible tradition.

Through registrations, sponsorships, and community support, the 2026 Causeway CAREs 5K raised \$45,600.50. But during the race, Causeway President David C. Wintrode decided to take the impact even further.

“Let’s round up the total to \$100K.”

With that commitment, this year’s fundraising total reached an incredible \$100,000, which was divided among the nine nonprofit beneficiaries. Each organization received \$11,111 to support its ongoing work in the community.

Supporting Nine Local Nonprofits

“In our 9th year we decided to celebrate in a different way,” said Joe Stroppolino, Race Director, “by choosing 9 nonprofit organizations, 9 for 9! The 2026 Causeway CAREs 5K supported these nine organizations serving a wide range of needs throughout Ocean County.

Fulfill NJ works to fight hunger and food insecurity throughout Monmouth and Ocean Counties. The organization provides food through a network of hundreds of food pantries, soup kitchens, shelters, and community partners while also connecting individuals and families with resources such as SNAP assistance, health care, and other programs designed to help people move toward self sufficiency.

Project Home Repair is a community driven initiative created through Causeway CAREs to address critical home repair needs throughout Ocean County. The coalition brings together nonprofit and community organizations to help seniors, veterans, individuals with disabilities, and other vulnerable residents make



Celebrating our \$100,000 impact with a check presentation to our nine nonprofit beneficiaries on race day.



Causeway employees come together to support the 9th Annual Causeway CAREs 5K and nine local nonprofits.

necessary repairs so they can remain safely and comfortably in their homes. Since its launch in 2023, Project Home Repair has completed dozens of critical home repairs totaling more than \$331,000 in support for local families.

Meals on Wheels of Ocean County provides much more than nutritious meals to local seniors. The organization delivers meals to homebound older adults while also providing wellness and safety checks, friendly conversation, community dining, and outreach services. Its programs help seniors maintain food security, independence, and connection while remaining in their own homes.



9th Annual Causeway CAREs 5K winner, Davies Adepoju, with a finish time of 19:20.



9th Annual Causeway CAREs 5K First Female Finisher, Marissa Czahor, with a finish time of 21:30.

Family Promise of the Jersey Shore works with families and individuals experiencing homelessness and economic uncertainty. Through shelter, prevention programs, advocacy, and community support, the organization helps local families overcome housing challenges and work toward sustainable independence. Family Promise partners with community organizations, businesses, schools, landlords, and volunteers to provide support to people facing a housing crisis.

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The Causeway Gazette

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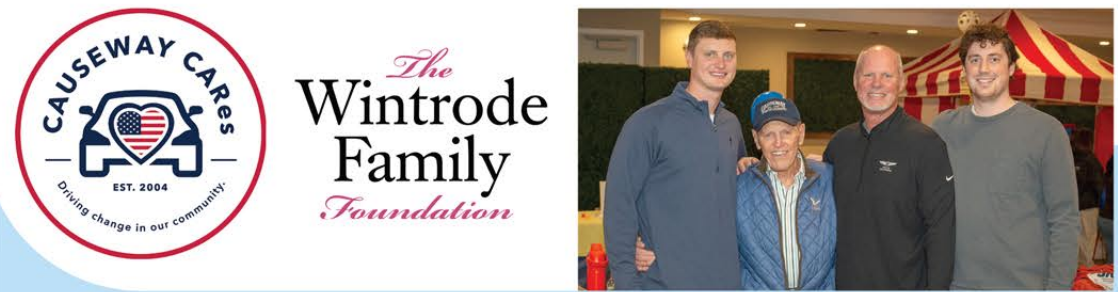
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To learn more about Causeway CAREs, please visit CausewayCares.com or email Joe.Stroppolino@CausewayCars.com.



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.

Family Promise of the Jersey Shore Urgently Needs Your Help With Funding

Our funding is running dangerously low, but the calls for help keep coming.

Family Promise of the Jersey Shore is facing a critical funding shortage at a time when more of our Ocean County neighbors are turning to us for help.

So far in 2026, we have helped more than 7,000 local people stay in their homes or escape homelessness. Through emergency family shelter, short-term motel placements, assistance with mortgage and rental arrears, and goal-focused case management, we have helped families and individuals move from desperate situations toward safety and stability.

But right now, our ability to continue providing that assistance is in jeopardy.

Our funding for critical assistance is extremely limited, with no significant new funding expected for the remainder of the year. Yet every day, the calls continue from families facing eviction, parents struggling to keep a roof over their children's heads, and individuals with nowhere safe to turn.

These are our neighbors. They live and work in our communities. And they need our help now.

Sometimes a relatively small amount of assistance can make all the difference. It can pay the back rent that prevents an eviction. It can provide a safe motel room for a senior citizen who has nowhere else to sleep. It can give someone the time and stability they need to get back on their feet.

But when the funding runs out, our options run out too.

That is the reality we are facing.

Without additional financial support, we risk being unable to help some of the very people who need us most.

We urgently need your help.

Every donation matters. Every business sponsorship matters. Every connection to a potential funder matters. And every person who shares this message helps bring attention to the growing homelessness crisis in Ocean County.

We are asking our friends, neighbors, local businesses, and community partners to step forward now.

Please don't wait. The need is immediate, and your support can make a difference in someone's life today.

Family Promise of the Jersey Shore has helped thousands of our neighbors find safety and stability. With your support, we can continue that work.

Together, we can make sure that when someone in our community reaches out for help, there are resources available to answer that call.

Thank you for standing with our neighbors in need.

Here's how you can help right now:

Donations can be mailed to **Family Promise of the Jersey Shore, PO Box 83, West Creek, NJ 08092.**

Donate online: pushpay.com/g/familypromisejerseyshore

Donate by cell phone: Text “give” to 833-975-2970.

For more information about our mission, visit www.familypromisejerseyshore.org.

Thank you.

Jim Lowney
Public Affairs Manager
jim@familypromisejerseyshore.org



Ways to Give

- Text the word "give" to (833) 975-2970
- Scan QR Code
- Online giving link: pushpay.com/g/familypromisejerseyshore



Causeway CARes Canned Food Drive

This holiday season, all Causeway showrooms are coming together to help support our neighbors experiencing food insecurity.

Through the end of November, Causeway Ford, Lincoln, Honda, Hyundai, and Nissan will be collecting canned food items to support Fulfill and help provide food to local families in need.

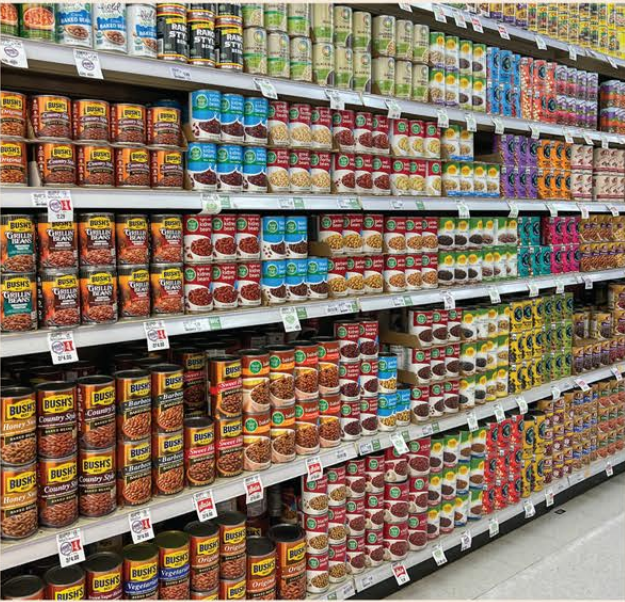
If you're visiting any Causeway showroom, consider bringing along a canned food item to donate. Every can makes a difference and helps put food on a neighbor's table.

Together, we can make an impact in our community.



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UPCOMING EVENTS

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This fall, The Free School continues The Faces of Faiths: A Journey through World Religions with an in-depth exploration of one of the world's most influential and diverse religious traditions: Buddhism.

Mondays, November 2, 9, 16 & 23 at 6:00pm



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



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CAUSEWAY CARES 5K

Continued from **page 1**

Ocean Partnership for Children supports youth and their families through community based care and support. The organization serves young people up to age 21 who may be experiencing behavioral health, mental health, substance use, intellectual, or developmental needs. Through individualized care management and its wraparound approach, Ocean Partnership for Children works with families and their support systems to help young people remain connected to their homes and communities.

Ocean County YMCA works to strengthen the community through programs focused on youth development, healthy living, and social responsibility. The Y provides opportunities for children, teens, adults, and seniors through programs that promote health and wellness, child care, youth activities, education, connection, and community involvement.

Bright Harbor Healthcare provides comprehensive health and wellness services to individuals and families throughout the Jersey Shore. Its services include mental health care, substance use treatment and recovery programs, crisis services, primary care, counseling, residential support, and specialized programs for children and families. The organization is focused on providing compassionate, inclusive care while helping individuals work toward wellness and recovery.

Southern Regional Education Foundation supports programs that benefit students of the Southern Regional School District. The foundation helps provide resources that nurture the interests, aptitudes, and talents of students and has supported educational opportunities and technology that enhance teaching and learning.

The HOPE Center, House of HOPE of Ocean County, provides assistance to individuals and families experiencing a crisis. Its services include a client choice food pantry, emergency shelter assistance, utility and rental assistance, transportation, advocacy, and connections to other community resources. The organization works to

address basic needs while helping individuals move toward greater stability and self sufficiency.

A Community Effort

While the fundraising is at the heart of the Causeway CAREs 5K, the event would not be possible without the many people who volunteer their time to make race day a success.

A special thank you goes to the Southern Regional High School Key Club, which once again volunteered to help with the race, just as they have for so many years. The Key Club has been a longtime supporter of the Causeway CAREs 5K and continues to show up year after year to lend a hand. Causeway CAREs is incredibly grateful for their continued partnership and commitment to giving back.

The event also would not be possible without the generosity of the many businesses, organizations, and individuals who sponsored this year's race. Their support helped make the \$100,000 donation possible and allowed Causeway CAREs to continue supporting nine local nonprofits.

The Causeway CAREs 5K is more than a race. It is an opportunity for the community to come together and support organizations that are making a difference in the lives of local individuals and families. From the runners and walkers crossing the finish line to the volunteers, sponsors, staff, and supporters behind the scenes, every person who participated played a role in making this year's event possible.

After nine years, more than \$500,000 raised, and \$100,000 distributed to nine local nonprofits this year alone, the Causeway CAREs 5K continues to demonstrate the impact that can happen when a community comes together.

9 Years. 9 Nonprofits. \$100,000. One Big Impact.

Thank you to everyone who helped make the 9th Annual Causeway CAREs 5K a success and helped us make every mile matter.



Historian Curt Watts paints the porch posts. The blue lines are painter's tape. (Barnegat Historical Society)

Pole Striping Returns To Historic Barnegat Barbershop

Veronica Flesher, Patch Staff

BARNEGAT, NJ — When you picture a traditional barbershop, you probably imagine one of those striped poles out front. Those stripes have been restored to a local historic barbershop that dates back to the late 1800s.

The Barnegat Historical Society announced that the striping on the porch posts at the George Hopper Barber Shop has been properly restored.

The restoration was completed by the society's historian, Curt Watts.

This barbershop sits in a building that was constructed in 1880 as a real estate office and opened as a barbershop in 1898 by George Hopper.

Hopper operated the business on South Main Street/Route 9 in Barnegat, according to the historical society.

Now, it serves as part of the Barnegat Historical Society's Heritage Village and Museum. Guests can walk around and imagine what it was like to get a shave and a haircut in the past while being surrounded by historical artifacts.

The village is located on East Bay Avenue (type "Heritage Village and Museum Barnegat Historical Society" into your GPS). They also have a thrift shop located at 106 Railroad Ave., right by the rail trail. Shopping here supports the Barnegat Historical Society. Check out their Facebook page for information about open houses and future events.

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What Does It Actually Take to Be America’s Most Iconic Company?



By Peter Schultz, Mustang GTD Program Management Supervisor at Ford.

What does it mean to be iconic?

I was thinking about this exact question as I approached Michigan Central Station for TIME Magazine’s celebration of its most iconic American companies. Earlier this year, TIME officially awarded Ford Motor Company the No. 1 spot on that list, a credit to its enduring values, commercial success, and role in shaping American culture and society over its 123-year history. But to be iconic is to carry the pride of the past while taking all that history and putting it to work for tomorrow.

As a Ford employee, I get to be part of that pursuit.

Cars have a way of inspiring passion and excitement in a way few other things do, and they had a hold of me at an early age. Today, I’m working to deliver the most iconic version of the most iconic vehicle that America’s most iconic company has ever produced: the Ford Mustang GTD.

So, walking into a room full of CEOs, industry leaders, entrepreneurs, and innovators, I couldn’t help but reflect on my journey from being a car-obsessed kid on a Wisconsin dairy farm to where I am today.

On this particular evening, TIME Magazine’s Jessica Sibley hosted Ford Executive Chair Bill Ford, along with Google Chief Investment Officer Ruth Porat and United Airlines Chief Executive Officer Scott Kirby, to discuss what it takes to build an iconic company and how to make it last.

As the three discussed their respective companies’ vision, struggles, and ambitions, four key elements to building an iconic company stood out to me.

1. Values

For 123 years, Ford has been driven by a simple-but-powerful set of values. As the fourth member of his family to lead the company, Bill Ford emphasized, “it’s about taking care of each other, our communities, and our country.”



“Any company is always as good as its people.”

Bill Ford, Ford Executive Chair

While time marches on and culture evolves with it, those core values are what have sustained the company across generations and into the future. But for Ford himself, it’s personal. “Our family name is on every vehicle we sell, and I don’t take that lightly,” he said. “So if there’s ever something that could harm that reputation, I have to address it.”

2. People

Every panelist agreed that reaching iconic status comes down to a team that’s genuinely proud of the work they do. “If you can get people excited and believing in the future and believing in the vision of where you’re going, you can really do anything,” said Scott Kirby, CEO of United Airlines.

Ford punctuated that sentiment. “We have fourth-, fifth-, even sixth-generation employees working at our company, and they love our company,” he said. “We didn’t go bankrupt during the financial crisis when our two biggest competitors did. But it wasn’t because of anything we did; it was because our employees simply wouldn’t let us fail.”

He continued: “Any company is always as good as its people. If you get the best and brightest, you have a chance to win.” This mindset has driven Ford’s investments in innovation, attracting excellence to Detroit, and giving employees the right environments to tackle the industry’s biggest challenges.

3. Customer Experience

Iconic companies don’t stand the test of time without earning people’s trust again and again. “One of the reasons we were one of the TIME 100 companies ... is the fact that people love our company,” Ford said. “They love our products. They like the way we behave in the communities.” But Ford also has his eye on the future. “What gets me most excited is the fact that we will still be the most American car company 125 years from now and that we’ll be making our customers’ lives better and hopefully giving them back their most



TIME Magazine’s Jessica Sibley hosted Ford Executive Chair Bill Ford, along with Google Chief Investment Officer Ruth Porat and United Airlines Chief Executive Officer Scott Kirby to discuss what it takes to build an iconic company and how to make it last.

precious asset, which is time” Kirby also stressed the importance of continuously upping the ante for customers. “Your job is ‘wow’ ... and we need to ‘wow’ [our customers] consistently,” he said.

4. Impact

Ford’s impact is undeniable. It revolutionized manufacturing, brought individual transportation to the masses, built the Arsenal of Democracy, mobilized amid a global pandemic, and has supported families and businesses across America for generations.

“Any company should only exist if it’s making people’s lives better,” Ford said during the panel. Porat also emphasized a company’s obligation to better its community, saying iconic companies have a responsibility to “deliver the upside ... and protect [the community] from the downsides.”

Leaving the event, it struck me how the recently renovated Michigan Central Station truly was the perfect answer to my original question. For decades, its imposing structure has been one of the most recognizable sites in Detroit. But it was never just a place to catch a train. It has always stood as a true symbol of the city’s resilience. It’s this transcendence that makes an icon. As a Ford employee, I feel privileged to be here at such an exciting time in the company’s history, and I can’t wait to see how this iconic company will continue to grow.

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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 arrival, three dinners, all admissions and sightseeing. Please call for a day-to-day itinerary. Rate per person based on double occupancy is \$3,499.00. Four more seats are available.

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.

Canada and New England Fall Foliage with Princess Cruise round trip NY (October 16-23, 2027) Experience leaf peeping on a voyage along the grand coasts of New England and Canada. Cruise rate includes: balcony cabin, all meals (specialty dining additional), all beverages, pre-paid gratuity and on-board credit. Rate per person is \$2335.00. Transfers will be offered from Home Town Travel for a nominal fee.

Check out our website for additional group departures for 2027/2028 and informational events and dates.

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RECORD-BREAKING DRIVE: A Need We Feed Hosts Most Successful Golf Outing to Date at Pine Barrens

JACKSON — Ocean County golfers took to the greens for a purpose on Monday, September 21st, helping local nonprofit A Need We Feed achieve its most successful golf outing to date.

Hosted at the private Pine Barrens Golf Club in Jackson, the 4th Annual Golf Outing brought together players, volunteers, and local business leaders to raise vital funds for area residents facing food insecurity. Proceeds from this year’s record-breaking event far surpassed previous totals, directly supporting the organization’s mission to deliver freshly prepared meals to Ocean County’s homebound seniors, Veterans, low-income families, individuals with disabilities, and unsheltered neighbors.

The day featured spirited competition across the course, with golfers testing their skills in Beat the Pro, Whack the Duck, closest-to-the-pin, longest-drive, and hole-in-one contests. Off the green, participants gathered for a gift auction, silent auction, and 50/50 raffle, capping off the event with an evening cocktail hour and awards dinner.



The event’s impact was made possible through the generous backing of lead sponsors, including Railroad Construction Company, Facility Solutions Group, NJSPBA 347 Bay Head and Mantoloking, A&F Technical Resources,

AnnieMac Home Mortgage, RMS Title & Appraisal, and Frank’s GMC.

Additional local support was proudly provided by McCarthy & DeLuca; Charlie’s Pizza; Arctic Air Conditioning; Law Office of John P. Murdoch II, Esq., LLC; Obsidian Wealth Advisors; Stevens & Lee; J. Fletcher Creamer & Son, Inc.; A Shore Smile LLC; Rosetto Realty; Ian Kansky, CFP®, ChSNC®, CExP; and Meant to Move Personal Training.

With special thanks to the Pine Barrens Golf Club staff for their hospitality, A Need We Feed is already looking forward to returning next fall to continue the tradition of golf and giving back.

To learn more about meal programs, volunteer opportunities, or upcoming events in Ocean County, visit aneedwefeed.org



October is One of My Favorite Months of the year!

By Danielle Natale - Causeway Honda Sales Consultant



There are so many wonderful things to do in October! It’s actually hard to narrow it down to just a few activities when there are so many fun things happening throughout the month.

I absolutely love October! Between hayrides,

apple picking, pumpkin picking, corn mazes, sunflower farms, and all the Halloween festivities, there just aren’t enough weekends to fit everything in!

We decided to kick off our October adventures with a visit to a sunflower farm. But this wasn’t just any sunflower farm!

We were surrounded by beautiful rows of purple salvia, colorful dahlias, gladiolus, and, of course, rows of sunflowers! Everywhere we looked, there was something beautiful blooming.

If you haven’t visited Holland Ridge Farms in Cream Ridge, New Jersey, I highly recommend adding it to your fall bucket list! We had previously visited during their tulip festival in the spring and loved it so much that we were excited to return for their fall flowers!

One of my favorite parts of our visit was watching my daughter fall in love with the dahlias. She is now completely obsessed with them and has decided that next year she wants a garden dedicated entirely to dahlias of different colors, shapes, and sizes! I have to admit, I love the idea, too. It looks like we already have another gardening project planned for next spring!

That’s one of the things I enjoy most about visiting places like this. Not only do we get to spend time together and enjoy the beauty of the season, but we always seem to come home with a little inspiration for our own garden.

Next on our October adventure list is something a little different and definitely a bit spookier!

We’re planning a visit to the famous “Spy House,” otherwise known as the Seabrook-Wilson House, which has a reputation for being one of the most haunted houses in America!

What better time than October to explore a little local history mixed with some ghost stories?

Between the beautiful fall flowers and the spooky adventures ahead, October is already shaping up to be one of my favorite months of the year!



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Thank you for your support for the St. Francis Food Pantry!

All-New Nissan Rogue Hybrid named to 2026 Wards 10 Best Engines & Propulsion Systems

NASHVILLE, Tenn. – As the all-new 2027 Nissan Rogue Hybrid prepares to go on sale in the U.S., its innovative e-POWER technology has been named a 2026 Wards 10 Best Engines & Propulsion Systems award winner. The only hybrid in its class with a 100% electric drivetrain, Rogue Hybrid is the first U.S.-market application of Nissan’s e-POWER technology.

This marks the 25th time a Nissan Group vehicle has been named to the annual Wards 10 Best Engines & Propulsion Systems list, which recognizes the top powertrains in the U.S. market for innovative engineering, power, torque and efficiency voted by a panel of four judges.

“The all-new Rogue Hybrid delivers more of what customers have been asking for, combining the functionality and technology of our best-selling Rogue with an advanced hybrid powertrain that is smoother, quicker and quieter than the competition,” said Ponz Pandikuthira, senior vice president, chief product and

planning officer, Nissan Americas. “Every part of Rogue Hybrid’s e-POWER technology was designed around the customer, redefining the standard for hybrid compact SUVs.”

A new type of hybrid in its class

The 2027 Nissan Rogue Hybrid features the latest evolution of Nissan’s hybrid e-POWER technology. Nissan has proven and developed e-POWER over three generations, with nearly 2 million e-POWER equipped vehicles sold globally in 68 countries since 2016. Engineers specifically tuned e-POWER for North American driving conditions, speeds, road surfaces and customer habits.

e-POWER hybrid technology’s unique 5-in-1 design uses a dedicated gas engine that operates as a generator and shuts off entirely when the battery has sufficient charge. The dual electric motors drive the wheels directly; because there is no transmission to shift, Rogue Hybrid delivers smoother,

more responsive acceleration and a seamless driving experience.

Rogue Hybrid SR delivers an estimated 41 mpg city, 36 mpg highway and 38 mpg combined.

A more refined drive

Rogue Hybrid features class-exclusive technologies to ease stop-and-go driving. First-in-class Smooth Stop technology automatically modulates brake pressure at the end of a stop, reducing head-toss and creating a more controlled, seamless stopping experience. Rogue Hybrid also is the only vehicle in its class with e-Pedal for true one-pedal driving; using the one-pedal regenerative braking feature, drivers can slow the vehicle all the way

to a full stop simply by lifting off the accelerator pedal.

The 2027 Nissan Rogue Hybrid reaches dealers in fall 2026, initially launching with the stylish and well-equipped all-wheel drive SR with SR Technology Package with limited availability. The full model range (SV, SR and Platinum) is expected in early 2027 with Manufacturer’s Suggested Retail Prices (MSRP) starting at \$35,490 for the SV grade.

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 [Volunteer.UWCJ.org](#)





Nancy Rodriguez

Celebrating 21 years at Causeway!

By Nancy Rodriguez
Causeway Nissan Sales Consultant

Celebrating 21 years at the Causeway Family of Dealerships as a salesperson is a milestone that feels like more than a number—it’s proof of relationships, hard work, and trust built one customer at a time. Over the years I’ve helped customers find the perfect vehicle for their lives: the commuter who needed reliability, the family searching for comfort, the first-time buyer stepping into something new and the longtime customer who came back because they knew they would be treated with respect.

In a job that moves with the times—new models, new technology, changing seasons of the market staying consistent matters. It means listening closely, being honest about what fits and making sure the experience feels as good as the new keys in someone’s hand. It’s the follow-up calls, the service visits, the referrals and the genuine conversations that make the work more than just sales.

On September 6th I celebrated 21 years—not only for the deals, but for the people who have become family and friends. Thank you to everyone who’s walked into the showroom, trusted me with their decision, and helped make these years something I’m truly proud of. Here’s to the next chapter.



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Venue at Lighthouse Station Women’s Club Hard at Work Giving Back to the Barnegat Community

The Venue at Lighthouse Station Women’s Club, located on Lighthouse Drive in Barnegat, has been busy throughout the year planning events, raising funds, and giving back to the local community.

The Women’s Club is preparing for its Holiday Craft & Gift Fair, which will be held on Sunday, October 18, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Venue Clubhouse, located at 85 Butler Drive in Barnegat. The Fair will feature a variety of crafters and gift vendors, making it a great opportunity to get a head start on holiday shopping while supporting a worthwhile local cause. All proceeds from the Holiday Craft & Gift Fair will be added to the Women’s Club Scholarship Fund.

The Women’s Club invites you to stop by the Holiday Craft & Gift Fair on October 18, enjoy the day, support our vendors, and help us continue our mission of giving back to the Barnegat community.

The Women’s Club began the year by collecting books, crayons, markers, small plush toys, and candy from its members. The generous donations were used to assemble 60 Easter Backpacks for Barnegat school children. The remaining candy was packaged and

donated to the Barnegat Food Pantry and Thrift Shop on Main Street. On September 27th, the Women’s Club held its fourth annual Breast Cancer Awareness Walk, raising more than \$2,000. The funds will be donated to the CMC Foundation – Cancer Center, part of RWJ Barnabas Health’s Community Medical Center. The donation will benefit The Inspiration Boutique, located inside the J. Phillip Citta Regional Cancer Center, which provides support and resources to cancer patients.

The Women’s Club is also continuing its partnership with the Barnegat Police Department for its third year of collecting donations for Thanksgiving Baskets for Barnegat residents. Thanks to the generosity of Club members, the baskets will include \$20 gift cards to help families purchase turkeys, along with candied yams, marshmallows, white potatoes, gravy, corn, string beans, cranberry sauce, macaroni and cheese, cookies, candy, plates, and napkins.

Another important ongoing project is the Women’s Club Scholarship Fund for Barnegat High School students. In 2026, two students each received a \$1,000 scholarship to help further their



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education. Fundraising for the 2027 scholarships is already underway. The Club’s June Tricky Tray raised \$1,500, and the upcoming Brown Bag Auction, being held at the October 15th Women’s Club meeting, will provide another opportunity to raise funds for next year’s scholarship recipients.

The members of the Venue at Lighthouse Station Women’s Club are proud to continue making a difference in the Barnegat community. Through fundraising, donations, community partnerships, and volunteer efforts, the Club remains committed to helping local children, families, and students.

Clash of Champions: World’s Top Thoroughbreds Converge at Keeneland for 2026 Breeder's Cup

By Wallace Moore
Sales Manager at Causeway Honda

The 2026 Breeder’s Cup World Championship ascends on Keeneland this year October 30-31st, the world’s best horses meet to determine year end honors and bragging rights on which countries have the best race horses!! The European contingent as always will be well represented in the turf division led by the possibility of the back to back Arc winner Daryz looking to cap an amazing career and becoming just the second runner to pull off the Arc/BC Turf double. If Daryz doesn’t run the 3 year old filly Diamond Necklace could be very live after finishing a solid 3rd in the Arc this year.

Minerat Station and Burnham Square may be the top American contenders for a very wide open BC Turf. The BC Sprint appears to be on paper a two horse race with the Englishman the 3 year old sensation taking on the emerging Japanese star T O Elvis, Nakatomi owns a home field advantage as well and could catch a piece if the top two should falter. In the Distaff Nitrogen looks to be a heavy favorite her front end running style should be a perfect fit for Keeneland, coming in on a 3 race win streak Fully Subscribed looks to be a the logical 2nd choice.

I would look for Regaled coming in off a second Del Cap win to run well at a decent price. Ways and Means

is the clear cut leader in the Filly and Mare Sprint division and looks to wrap up and Eclipse award with a win in the F&M Sprint, R Disaster has a pace edge and could use that to her advantage and steal the race on the front end. Other contenders include Evanesence 3 for 3 at Keeneland coming off a win in the TCA, also Kerry’s Kiss coming in this race on a four race winning streak since entering the Saffie Joseph barn.



In the Classic Forever Young looks to join Tiznow as the only back to back winner, he comes into the race off of a great tune up in the Jockey Club Gold Cup and is the logical favorite, second choice will most likely be whichever horse Bill Mott enters (Sovereignty or Knightsbridge) the latter of the two coming in off a romp in the Pacific Classic.

Napoleon Solo ran very well in the Travers after a jockey switch to Johnny V and has been training great for this race and can be improving at the right time. Golden Tempo the Derby winner has had a great year and could lock up HOY with a win in the Classic, also Magnitude looks to bounce back off a disappointing Whitney but he has the ability to run with the best of them when he fires his best shot!

The other races also offer plenty of value especially in the 2YO division, I’m going with my best bet as Ways and Means and my value play as Napoleon Solo in the Classic. Good luck to everyone playing the Breeders Cup!

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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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SENIOR CORNER

Bringing Nutrition Education to Ocean County Seniors

At Meals on Wheels Ocean County, our work is More Than Meals. In addition to delivering more than 1,000 meals each weekday, we help support the health, safety, and independence of the seniors we serve through wellness checks, connection, and nutrition support.



Nutrition plays an important role in helping older adults remain strong, independent, and well at home. Seniors can be at risk of malnutrition for many reasons, including changes in appetite, health conditions, limited mobility, difficulty preparing meals, or living alone. With the right support and education, malnutrition can often be prevented.

That is why Meals on Wheels Ocean County is excited to continue expanding nutrition education for

participants and community groups throughout Ocean County. Jennifer Dettlinger, our dietitian, brings more than 10 years of experience working with seniors and a passion for helping older adults understand how food can support health, strength, and mobility.

Through nutrition education, Jennifer can speak with senior communities, caregivers, and local groups about practical topics such as hydration, malnutrition prevention, eating well on a budget, fueling strength and mobility, and making everyday meals more balanced. Her approach focuses on what seniors can include in their daily eating patterns to help them feel their best.

“So often, nutrition messages focus on restriction,” Jennifer shared. “I



want to help change that thought process for our seniors and encourage them to fuel themselves in a way that supports their health, strength, and mobility.”

Meals on Wheels Ocean County also provides nutrition counseling to participants who may benefit from additional guidance. Through this support, Jennifer can answer questions, help seniors better understand their nutritional needs, and provide practical education that

supports their overall well-being.

Through meals, wellness checks, nutrition education, and connection, Meals on Wheels Ocean County continues to deliver Community, Care, and Connection to seniors across Ocean County.

If your community group is interested in learning more about senior nutrition or having Jennifer speak at an upcoming event, please email nutrition@csimow.org or call 848-288-9902.

6 Centenarians Celebrated In Southern Ocean County

By Veronica Flesher, Patch Staff

LITTLE EGG HARBOR, NJ — The Terraces at Seacrest Village in Little Egg Harbor recently honored six residents who are 100 years old or will reach that milestone by the end of 2026 in conjunction with National Centenarian's Day, observed annually in late September.

The assisted living community said the celebration included Little Egg Harbor Mayor Kenneth Laney Jr. and Deputy Mayor Dan Maxwell.

The honorees were Esther Gerber, 100, Hilda Gordon, 102, Maryanne Rauth, 103, Eleanor Quirk, 102, Dorothy Kirschner, who turns 100 this month, and William Winterberg, who will turn 100 in November. The day included a gourmet luncheon in Seacrest's private dining room, according to the announcement. After the luncheon, Laney presented each resident with an honorary certificate

on behalf of Little Egg Harbor Township.

The event was coordinated by Bianca Sutlovich, director of life enrichment at The Terraces at Seacrest Village.

“It was a wonderful privilege to honor these six extraordinary and unique individuals, and we thank Mayor Laney and Deputy Mayor Maxwell for spending the day with them and hearing their stories,” said Sutlovich. “We are proud to have this group as part of the Seacrest family, and grateful for the wisdom, stories and joy they share with our staff and fellow residents every day.”

One of the honorees, Winterberg, was noted in the announcement for a long list of accomplishments. The community said he is a World War II veteran who served as a U.S. Navy Seabee. It also said he has been a member of the Barbershop Harmony Society for 75 years and has



The Terraces at Seacrest Village's centenarian residents with Little Egg Harbor Mayor Kenneth Laney, Jr. (left) and Deputy Mayor Dan Maxwell (The Terraces at Seacrest Village)

performed at Carnegie Hall.

The Terraces at Seacrest Village is located at 281 Mathistown Road in Little Egg Harbor. The

community said residents have access to apartments, dining, activities and rehab care through Seacrest Rehabilitation & Healthcare Center.

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EMPOWER YOURSELF AGAINST FRAUD AT THE WARETOWN LIBRARY

WARETOWN – Have you ever been approached with a fraudulent offer or been a victim of identity theft? Learn to protect yourself against these threats at 2 p.m. Thursday, November 5 at the Waretown Branch of the Ocean County Library.

The AARP Fraud Watch Network will share resources and tools to help you spot and avoid identity theft and fraud. Arm yourself with the latest data on fraud trends and provide tips and resources to protect yourself and your family. A Q&A session will follow the presentation.

Registration is required for this free program. To register, visit tinyurl.com/WaretownFraud, call 609-693-5133, or stop by the branch at 112 Main Street.

THE OCEAN COUNTY LIBRARY HOSTS GRAND OPENING OF NEW STAFFORD BRANCH

STAFFORD, NJ – The Ocean County Library hosted a grand opening for the new Stafford Branch on Monday, October 5.

Ocean County Commissioner Director Frank Sadeghi, Deputy Director Jennifer Bacchione, liaison to the Ocean County Library system, and Commissioner Sam Ellenbogen joined Ocean County Library staff, Stafford Township officials, project partners, and community members to celebrate the grand opening of the branch, located at 179 South Main Street in Manahawkin.

The ceremony featured remarks from Ocean County Library Director Susan Quinn, Deputy Director Bacchione, Ocean County Library Commission Chair Henry J. Mancini, NJ 9th District Assemblyman Grey Myhre, New Jersey State Librarian Jennifer Nelson, and Stafford Mayor Robert E. Henken. The Ocean County Sheriff's Office commemorated the occasion with a ceremonial flag raising.

The branch offers expanded collections and spaces designed for learning, creativity, and connection, including a large children's area, teen space, intergenerational space, STEAM makerspace, sensory space, and state-of-the-art technology.



The project was supported by funding through the New Jersey Library Construction Bond Act, administered by the New Jersey State Library.

Stafford Branch library hours are as follows:

Monday – 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Tuesday – 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Wednesday – 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Thursday – 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Friday – 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Saturday – 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Sunday – 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Pumpkin Chocolate Chip Cookies

Ingredients:

1 cup canned pumpkin puree
1 cup white sugar
½ cup vegetable oil
1 large egg
1 teaspoon baking soda
1 teaspoon milk
2 cups all-purpose flour

2 teaspoons baking powder
2 teaspoons ground cinnamon
½ teaspoon salt
2 cups semisweet chocolate chips
½ cup chopped walnuts (Optional)
1 tablespoon vanilla extract



allrecipes.com

Directions:

- Step 1:** Preheat the oven to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C). Grease a baking sheet; set aside.
- Step 2:** Mix pumpkin, sugar, oil, and egg together in a large bowl. Stir baking soda and milk together in a small bowl until baking soda dissolves. Stir into pumpkin mixture until well combined.
- Step 3:** Stir flour, baking powder, cinnamon, and salt together in a medium bowl. Add flour mixture to pumpkin mixture until well combined. Fold in chocolate chips, walnuts, and vanilla extract until just combined.
- Step 4:** Drop by spoonful on the prepared baking sheet; bake in the preheated oven until golden and firm, about 10 minutes.
- Step 5:** Let cool on the baking sheet for 2 minutes; transfer to a wire rack to cool completely.

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VETERANS RESOURCE FAIR COMING TO THE TOMS RIVER BRANCH

TOMS RIVER – Are you or a loved one a veteran? On active duty preparing to transition out of service? Come connect with local and state organizations, VA representatives, and community services offering support for veterans and their families during the Veterans Resource Fair from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, November 21 at the Toms River Branch of the Ocean County Library.



Veterans, active-duty service members, their families, and supporters can explore resources for benefits, healthcare, employment, housing, and other services.

Some of the attending organizations include Ocean County Veterans Service Bureau, NJ Office of Women Veterans, and Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW), Veterans Benefits Administration, and the Veterans Health Administration among others.

This program is hosted by the Ocean County Library's Voices for Veterans Committee.

Registration is not required to attend this free event. For more information, call 732-349-6200, or stop by the branch at 101 Washington Street.

HEAR FIRSTHAND STORIES FROM VIETNAM VETERANS AT THE BRICK LIBRARY

BRICK – Join volunteers from the New Jersey Vietnam Veterans' Memorial & Museum for a special presentation at 11:15 a.m. Wednesday, November 4 at the Brick Branch of the Ocean County Library. The volunteers will include US Army veterans Allen Rothman, Bill McClung, and Bill Liepold, and US Coast Guard veteran Joe Foster.



New Jersey Vietnam Veterans' Memorial and Museum

The presenters will tell their experiences in the Vietnam War. The program will also include A Place of Honor, an award-winning, 31-minute documentary which recounts the lived experiences of veterans and Gold Star family members before, during, and after the Vietnam War. The film also follows how they found renewed purpose through the creation of the Memorial and Museum.

Located in Holmdel, the New Jersey Veterans' Memorial & Museum honors New Jersey's 1,566 fallen heroes from Vietnam, preserves their memories and stories, and educates future generations about the Vietnam War and era. It provides a place for remembrance, historical education, firsthand testimony, and continued dialogue about one of the most complex periods in modern American history.

Registration is required for this free program. To register, visit tinyurl.com/BrickVietnam, call 732-477-4513, or stop by the branch at 301 Chambers Bridge Road.

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Seniors 60 years of age and over who meet income requirements receive a monthly food box of items like these:



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3	\$32,318	\$2,694	
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 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.

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BARNEGAT SCHOOLS SPORTS BEAT



Soccer

Congratulations Barnegat Boys Soccer for earning D South Champion status!



Challenger League

Barnegat Challenger competed at Jackson Township. Had a great basketball & kickball game with one of our favorite opponents. Great job everyone!!



Field Hockey

Congratulations #LadyBengal Emery Dobbin on her 100th save!



Band

Congratulations to the Marching Bengals: 1st Place in Group 1 Open with a score of 81.400 at the TOB Southern Regional HS Competition!



Cross Country

Congratulations to Angelina Colavita on her 1st Place B-South Cross Country!



Ambassadors

2026-2027 Shore Conference Barnegat High School Student Ambassador seminar Nick Malinowski and Emma Freitas.



Soccer

Congratulations to Nate Scisco - he tied Ryan Flaherty (2017) as Barnegat's All-Time leader in points at 112! Also pictured, Coach Peters and Palmieri



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2	\$3,261
3	\$4,109
4	\$4,957
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*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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A Magical Christmas Tradition Returns to Beachwood

Edward Bankel of Causeway Honda

It's that magical time of year again! The Bankel family is bringing Christmas cheer back to Beachwood with festive decorations, miniature train rides, pictures with Santa, and a special opportunity to give back to children in need.

Last year, the Bankel family welcomed countless visitors to their home, creating wonderful holiday memories with train rides, candy canes, and photos with Santa. Beyond the Christmas fun, the most meaningful part of the event was its charitable mission. Every penny raised went to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, helping support its important work for children and their families.

With tremendous support from the community, the Bankel family is excited to welcome everyone back for another year of holiday festivities!

Visitors can enjoy a ride on the miniature train, take pictures with Santa, and sit in a real, restored sleigh. The entire house will be decorated for Christmas, with even more festive decorations planned for this year. Toys will also be available for younger children, adding a little extra magic to the experience.

The event is free and open to everyone. Monetary donations will be accepted, with all proceeds benefiting St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. Whether you come for the train ride, a photo with Santa, or simply to enjoy the Christmas spirit, your visit can help make a difference in the lives of children who need it most.

The Bankel family invites the entire community to stop by, celebrate the season, and help make this another memorable year of giving.



Event Details

Location: 610 Forecastle Avenue, Beachwood, NJ

Dates: Friday, December 11, through Sunday, December 13, 2026
& Friday, December 18, through Sunday, December 20, 2026

Time: 5 p.m. to 9 p.m.

**Come enjoy the holiday magic and help spread Christmas cheer!
Merry Christmas from the Bankel family!**

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Fulfill Names Kim Simers Vice President of Community Impact

Fulfill, a leader in alleviating hunger and food insecurity in Monmouth and Ocean counties, has named Kim Simers, MHA, as Vice President of community impact, strengthening the organization's focus on food, health and community well-being.

"Food security is foundational to the health and strength of our communities, and Kim understands that connection deeply," said Triada Stampas, President and CEO of Fulfill. "The causes and consequences of food insecurity range from health and education to employment. Kim's collaborative leadership will help us grow and strengthen partnerships to create lasting community impact and ensure our neighbors have the resources they need to thrive. We're thrilled to have her on our executive team leading this work."

For more than four decades, Fulfill

has been at the forefront of addressing food insecurity across Monmouth and Ocean Counties. As the need for food assistance continues to evolve, Fulfill is taking a broader approach to food security by working with healthcare providers, community organizations and other partners to connect neighbors with food, benefits, education and other resources that support long-term health and stability.

Most recently, as assistant Vice President of integrative health at CentraState Healthcare System, Simers advanced health equity by integrating health-related social needs into patient care and building community-based systems of care. Through partnerships with grassroots organizations, municipalities, and other agencies, she helped connect residents to services that supported chronic and acute condition management and extended the hospital's

impact beyond what it could achieve alone. Her work included large-scale initiatives such as diabetes screenings, community and corporate wellness programs and the hospital's COVID-19 community response plan, which spanned education, outreach, vaccine administration, and long COVID screenings.

Earlier in her career, Simers served as Vice President of strategic planning and business development at Shore Memorial Hospital, where she developed community-focused programs, assessed gaps in access and built strategic partnerships. Her experience in community healthcare, as well as her master's in health administration, has equipped Simers with a deep understanding of how partnerships can expand access to

WELCOME KIM SIMERS



VICE PRESIDENT OF COMMUNITY IMPACT

essential resources. "I'm excited to join Fulfill at a time when the connection between food, health and community well-being has never been more crucial," said Simers. "Fulfill has a history of meeting people where they are and responding to the needs of our community. I look forward to building on that work and helping strengthen the partnerships and programs that make a meaningful difference in the lives of our neighbors."

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Whale Shark Spotted Off The Jersey Shore

By Shawn Michaels, WOBN

Have you ever heard of a whale shark? These gentle giants are the largest fish in the world, growing more than 40 feet long!

Despite their size, they're generally harmless to people and feed mostly on plankton and tiny fish. Their beautiful, spotted bodies make them easy to recognize.

Pretty amazing when you think about it: one of the biggest fish in the ocean, and they're not out looking for trouble!

According to a Patch report, "A group of anglers fishing offshore for tuna were treated to a rare sighting when a whale shark circled the boat they were fishing aboard. The Jamaica, a 125-foot vessel that sails from Brielle, was fishing at the Hudson Canyon for tuna on Saturday when a whale shark surfaced and circled the boat."

Personally I have never seen a Whale Shark, not unless it slipped past me and I didn't see it lol.

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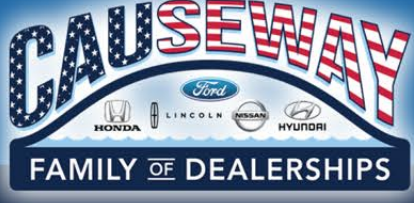
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Southern Ocean Chef Nominated For NJ Chef Of The Year Award

By Veronica Flesher, Patch Staff

WARETOWN, NJ — The chef at a popular Southern Ocean restaurant has been nominated for the 2026 Chef of the Year award by the New Jersey Restaurant & Hospitality Association (NJRHA).

Allen Walski, chef at Clemmy's in Waretown, is one of eight finalists.

Clemmy's opened in 2024 and quickly became one of the most acclaimed restaurants in the area, even being named one of the best restaurants in New Jersey in its first year of being open.

Public voting opened Oct. 12 and runs through 5 p.m. on Oct. 23. The winner will be announced and honored during NJRHA's 41st Awards Ceremony on Nov. 5 at John Henry's Stone Terrace in Hamilton (Mercer County). Votes may be cast online at njrha.org/the-njrha-awards.

"New Jersey has an incredible culinary community, and these eight finalists reflect the creativity, dedication and passion that make our state's restaurants so special," NJRHA President and CEO Daniel Klim said. "Behind every great dining experience is a talented team, and these chefs help set the standard through their leadership in the kitchen and the experiences they create for guests."



The 2026 Executive Chef of the Year finalists are:

- Cliff Crooks – Viv & Jules, Hoboken
- Aishling Stevens – The Grand Tavern, Neptune
- Dennis Foy – de floret, Lambertville
- Allen Walski – Clemmy's, Waretown
- Joseph Sergentakis – Revell Hall, Burlington
- Nick DeRosa – Black Sheep, Garwood
- Conor Browne – Lula, Ridgewood
- Sam Stymest – Sam's Table, Montclair

The Chef of the Year Award is among several honors to be presented during the Nov. 5 ceremony.

This year's honorees include the Bonfiglio Family and Triple T Hospitality (Restaurateur of the Year), Jeanne Cretella of By Landmark (Lifetime Achievement Award), Steve Sanders of Sea Breeze Syrups (Hospitality Award), Senator Vin Gopal (Friend of the Industry), Crystal Springs Resort (Hotelier of the Year), Adventure Aquarium (Attraction of the Year), Trenton Area Soup Kitchen (Community Impact Award) and Rory Philipson of Mercer County Technical Schools (ProStart Teacher of the Year).

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Little sister Sprite follows her brother Turbo around wherever he goes. They love playing ball and hunting down the occasional fly together! Turbo is more of a lap kitty, while Sprite enjoys any game that involves chasing something. They both love hiding in paper bags.

Turbo and Sprite are four months old, microchipped, up to date on all age-appropriate shots, neutered and spayed.

If you're interested in meeting this wonderful pair of kittens at their foster home in Manahawkin, please fill out an application at [FOSOCAS.org](https://www.fosocas.org)



Meet Cookie!

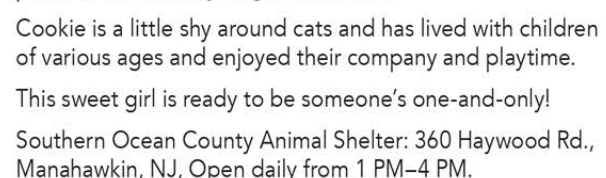
Cookie is a 4-year-old sweetheart who is friendly, playful, social, and housebroken! She loves attention, knows sit and paw, and is a smart girl eager to please.

She can be a little strong on leash and would benefit from some additional leash-manners training. She's not reactive to other dogs and is even playful with them but she would prefer to be the only dog in her home.

Cookie is a little shy around cats and has lived with children of various ages and enjoyed their company and playtime.

This sweet girl is ready to be someone's one-and-only!

Southern Ocean County Animal Shelter: 360 Haywood Rd., Manahawkin, NJ, Open daily from 1 PM-4 PM.



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Diamond does not care for cats, so she would do best in a cat-free household. But when it comes to toys, she has one very important requirement: they must squeak! If it doesn't squeak, Diamond isn't interested. She knows what she likes!

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Age _____

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Samantha

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Entry Deadline: November 7th

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House Red or White Wine (Montepulciano or Pinot Grigio)

\$8 FOOD SPECIALS AT THE BAR

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ITALIAN FAVORITES:
STEAKS & CHOPS
SEAFOOD
THIN CRUST PIZZA

ON & OFF PREMISES
CATERING AVAILABLE
ON PREMISE PARTIES
FOR ALL OCCASIONS

2 LARGE PIES (TOPPINGS EXTRA)
\$24.99
THIN CRUST OR
TRADITIONAL HAND-TOSS
Valid Sunday to Thursday
One coupon per visit. Not valid on holidays.
Coupon may not be combined with any other offer. With coupon only. Expires 11/21/2026.

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