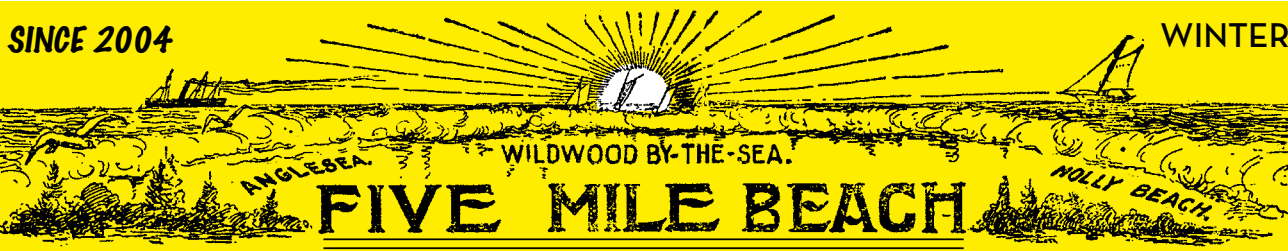


Dorothy McMonagle Kulisek, So You'll Know, LLC © 2023

THROWING IT BACK SINCE 2004

WINTER HOLIDAY ISSUE 2023

The



Sun.

BY-THE-SEA

Happy reading!! Best enjoyed with a hot cup of tea, a quiet mind, a sweet moment of gratitude ☻



"Where yesterday and today meet by the sea"

PRICELESS



EVERYDAY'S-A-HOLIDAY in WILDWOOD BY-THE-SEA

November nods "Thank You!"
embraces a grateful heart
Savors pumpkin-scented salt air
loves "Sweater Weather"
gathers around the seashore table
Shares Summer memories
Watches Hallmark movies gets cozy
Loves the most thankful time of year
walks the empty beach Searches
for Starfish and Sanddollars at low tide
December remembers the Reason
for the Season BELIEVES Prays for
Peace inspires Kindness...
Bakes Pies exchanges cookies
shops local sends handwritten cards
Expects miracles celebrates holy-days
Realizes we don't need more... we just
need to be more THANKFUL
Every Day is truly a holiday!
We already have the Greatest Gift!

New card available at www.sunstore.bigcartel.com

HOLIDAY GIFTS
EXCLUSIVELY AVAILABLE AT

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SINCE 1950

3304 Pacific Ave., Wildwood, NJ 609-522-7604 MSBrownJewelers.com
5 South Main St., Unit 103, CMCH, NJ 609-463-8799

HO HO HURRY!

MOREY'S

Piers AND WATER PARKS

'Tis the season of savings!

OUR BIGGEST SALE OF THE YEAR! SCAN & SAVE



"A miracle is when one plus one equals a thousand." ~Frederick Buechner



HOFFMAN
AGENCY, INC.
REAL ESTATE


Happy Holidays

TO OUR CLIENTS, AND LOCAL COMMUNITY...

WE WOULD LIKE TO WISH EVERYONE A WONDERFUL HOLIDAY SEASON AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR! WE WOULD LIKE TO TAKE A MOMENT TO EXPRESS OUR SINCERE GRATITUDE AND APPRECIATION. FOR OVER 70 YEARS, IT HAS BEEN AN HONOR AND PRIVILEGE TO ASSIST THOSE WHO PUT THEIR TRUST IN US. AT HOFFMAN AGENCY, WE KNOW WHAT MATTERS. OUR CLIENTS MATTER. THEY ALWAYS HAVE, AND THEY ALWAYS WILL.

-HOFFMAN REAL ESTATE TEAM



HAPPY HOLIDAYS

FROM OUR FAMILY TO YOURS! WE WISH YOU JOY & PROSPERITY NOT ONLY THIS SEASON BUT THROUGHOUT THE COMING YEAR.

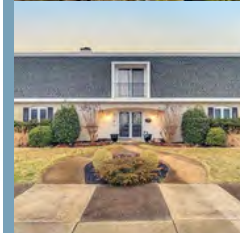


Is a new home on your wishlist this year?
Contact Hoffman Real Estate for all your real estate needs!

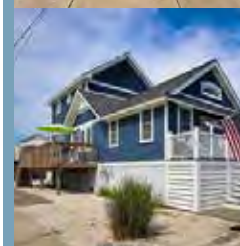
CURRENT LISTINGS



54 Brooks Ave, Swainton NJ
Private and secluded 7 acres with private lake for your single family dream home.



8904 Seaview Ave, Wildwood Crest NJ
Newly renovated 4 BR, 4 Bath Home with salt water pool. Master suite has a den with a fireplace. A must see!



730 W Glenwood Ave, West Wildwood NJ
Seashore living at its best. 3 BR, 2 Bath. This custom home was built from the ground up with no expense spared.



3702 Ocean Ave, Wildwood NJ
Prime location across from beach and boardwalk. Parking lot from Ocean to Atlantic Aves. Commercial zoning. Prime spot for hotel/motel. Ocean Sands Motel must close before 3702 Ocean.



400 E Spencer Ave, Wildwood NJ
Beach block parking lot for 80/100 cars; Bike rental building with inventory included plus 3 BR year round apt w/LR, Kit and 2 Baths. Unlimited possibilities...



Pictured is a Vintage 1929 Ford purchased by Carole Pantalone's father in the 60s. The children pictured with Carole are her nieces and nephews, Kate, David, Maddie and Jack 20 years ago. The car is still owned by the family to this day.

Carole Pantalone, Broker/Owner of Hoffman Agency.
Carole is a lifelong resident of Wildwood Crest. The Wildwoods are truly her home, giving her a deep understanding of the community, its neighborhoods and ever changing property.



There's no place like home for the *holidays*



MAKING DREAMS COME TRUE FOR OVER 70 YEARS





"So whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God." ~1 Corinthians 10:31

The Sun

DOROTHY'S

FIVE MILE BEACH

WHERE YESTERDAY & TODAY MEET BY-THE-SEA

Life is such a wonderful adventure of learning and discovering... of mystery and faith... of being and becoming ... who we're truly meant to be. This summer I came to a beautiful place of rest on this journey of self-discovery... the realization that there is freedom in wanting what I already have in my hands, what I've been generously given... and I would miss it all by reaching for something else.



"... there is freedom in wanting what I already have in my hands!"

Dorothy by @TaylorLynneOlsenPhotography

Along the way it becomes clear that our gifting is less about ourselves and more for others. In my summer editor letter I wrote about my lifelong dream of wanting to paint more, and in order to do that, I was planning on only publishing one issue this year. I then received so many heartfelt notes from readers who were happily enjoying the summer issue of The Sun, equally expressing sadness over my note about cutting down to just one issue. As I always say, your words are like "wind under my wings". They overwhelm me with the thought of how God uses me to bless so many through my magazine. I was so moved and somewhat talked out of my decision that I changed my mind. (because as the saying goes, it is a woman's prerogative to do that, :-)

So in the spirit of Christmas, I can think of no better gift for my fellow Sun lovers than to create this holiday issue for you... (it's been 4 years since I published one.)

Making two issues a year it will be... Summer & Winter... a trip down memory lane meant for reminiscing... beach side or fireside. I came to finally realize I am doing exactly what God created me to do! I realize the paper **is my Art!** It's a combination of so many forms of "art", my painting, my love of creating collages and books, and writing and storytelling and more. My magazine is carefully hand-crafted. Every page. Every edition. It's all about Wildwood! The island I love. And its people all around me. The Sun is my creation. It is my work, but in essence, *The Sun is my calling.* It makes me so happy to help brighten someone's day because the One true Daybrightener himself, Jesus, has so brightened mine.

May Love & Joy Come to You!
Unwrap the wonder...
the sacred, slow unwrapping of the
Season of God!

Gratefully Yours,
Dorothy
artist, editor & publisher
WILDWOOD BY-THE-SEA, N.J.

See what's inside

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JUST FOR YOU DEAR READERS

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The Sun
Artist, Editor & Publisher, Ad Sales
Dorothy McMonagle Kulisek
609.214.5608

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with the help of those listed here:
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Contributors:
Al Alven, Scott Jett, Steve Murray,
Capt. Gary Sloan, David Neff,
Doris Wade, Grace Zambardi

"Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment or religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of people peaceably to assemble and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances."
- 1st AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE U.S.A.



"Miracle shall follow miracle,
and wonders shall never cease."

Salute the Flag! Thank a Vet!

Disclaimer

The Sun by-the-Sea Newspaper© and So They'll Know Inc. cannot pledge the accurateness or comprehensiveness of all editorial content in all of its constituent parts.

"Any society that needs disclaimers has too many lawyers." ~ERIK PEPKE



"And now let us welcome the new year ~ full of things that have never been." ~Rainer Maria Rilke

Wildwood's Winter 2023
Wonderland
 at Holly Beach Park

Sponsored by
 The City of Wildwood Parks & Recreation and the
 Wildwood Fire Department

DECEMBER
 8th, 9th
 15th & 16th
 5pm-9pm
 Enjoy complimentary
 hot chocolate, popcorn
 and a visit from
 Mr. & Mrs. Claus

DECEMBER
 10th-14th
 17th-JAN 1st

the light show will display
 nightly at 6:30pm
 weather permitting

For more information call 609.522.5837
 or visit wildwoodnj.org

2023
WILDWOOD
Christmas
PARADE

Dec 1st Friday 5-9p
Christmas Parade
Tree Lighting
Awards
Carnival Rides
Vendors

Dec 2nd Saturday 10-3p
Carnival Rides
Vendors
Holiday Activities
Entertainment

Parade Registration at 5p
 At the North Wildwood Recreation Center,
 10th & Central Ave

Parade Begins at 6:30p
 From 16th street proceeding south along Central
 Ave and continues down Pacific Ave through the
 Holly Beach Station Mall until Spicer Ave in Wild-
 wood where it heads west towards New Jersey Ave
 and back north to Oak Ave. At Oak Ave it heads
 east toward Pacific Ave ending that Byrne Plaza
 where the Awards Ceremony will take place

Presented by:
Greater Wildwood
JAYCEES

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR
 TO REGISTER, VISIT
WILDWOODHOLIDAY.COM
 EMAIL WJAYCEES@GMAIL.COM
 OR CALL 609.729.5501

HOLIDAYS
 AT THE
HEN

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@mudhenbrew

12.2
HOSPITALITY
NIGHT
 CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING

12.3 & 12.10
SHOPPING
VILLAGE
 HOLIDAY SHOPPING IN
 OUR PARKING LOT

BOOK YOUR
 HOLIDAY
 PARTY
 WITH US!

Catering

MUDHENBREW.COM



"Always maintain a kind of summer, even in the middle of winter." ~Thoreau

November



December

NOVEMBER HATH 30 DAYS.

"AND NOVEMBER SAID,—a psalm
Tender, trustful, full of balm,
Thou must breathe in spirits calm."
~CAROLINE MAY, 1887



NOVEMBER 27TH FULL Beaver MOON
The Native Americans used the lunar cycle and nature's signs as their calendar to track the seasons. November was the month to set beaver traps before the streams froze, to ensure a supply of warm winter furs. The November full moon was also called the **Full Frost Moon** by some Native American tribes.

11/23 THANKSGIVING DAY.

"Being thankful makes ice cream taste better, butterflies look more beautiful, and weekend days seem longer..." ~JON GORDON

5 WEEKENDS OF CHRISTMAS EVENTS
www.WILDWOODHOLIDAY.COM

11/24 Family Holiday Beach Bonfire
Music, free photo ops with Santa; other characters. \$10 adults, \$2 children.

11/24-26 Christmas in North Wildwood
Enjoy scavenger hunt with prizes, free jitney, outdoor firepits, strolling Santa, hot chocolate, festive lights, decorations, and music while enjoying the holidays in North Wildwood.

11/25 Holiday Cheer at Owens Pub ~ Holiday Bazaar. 9am-4pm Vendors, photos with Santa, kid's craft making, magician, face painting, live entertainment

11/25 Wildwoods Holiday Shopping Village / Small Business Saturday Byrne Plaza Outdoor shopping experience to purchase the perfect holiday gifts

11/27 - 1/1 Elks Window Decorating Contest Festive themed window art on display.

12/1 Wildwood Crest Holiday Tree Lighting Ceremony Sunset Lake 5pm. Live music, light refreshments, visit from Santa

12/1 Greater Wildwood Jaycees Christmas Parade begins 16th and Central Aves., then Pacific Ave. ending at Byrne Plaza for the tree lighting

12/1 Wildwood Business Improvement District Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony Byrne Plaza Entertainment; activities for all ages.

12/1-2 Greater Wildwood Jaycees Downtown Wildwood Christmas in the Plaza Free carnival rides, vendors, live music; Fri 5pm to 9pm & Sat. 10am to 3p

DECEMBER HATH 31 DAYS.

"As far as the Moon is concerned,
he is always FULL."



~NATHANIEL LETONNERRE

DECEMBER 26TH FULL Cold MOON

When the winter cold fastens its grip and the nights become long and dark, this full moon is also called the **Long Nights Moon** by Native American tribes.

12/2 North Wildwood Tree Lighting Ceremony** 4:30pm Music, refreshments, Santa Claus; free self-guided tour of Hereford Inlet Lighthouse ***Saturday

12/3 & 12/10 Holidays at HenVille: Mudden Shopping Village Live music, vendors, smores, hot chocolate, photos with Santa Claus; family fun.

12/8 - 1/12 Wildwood's Winter Wonderland at Holly Beach Park Holiday themed light display; special shows on select dates with hot chocolate

12/9 Family Holiday Celebration at Wildwoods Convention Center Holiday Bazaar. 9am-4pm Vendors, photos with Santa, kid's craft making, magician, face painting, live entertainment

12/9 Pinch the 'GrYnch' Boardwalk 5K Run Holiday boardwalk 5K run and 1 mile walk for all ages. Starts 10am

12/16 Santa Paws Yappy Hour Best Dressed Dog Contest at N. Wildwood establishments.

12/18 Holiday Lights Walk on Sunset Lake 5:30pm Walkers meet at Rambler and New Jersey Aves. in Wildwood Crest, and walk along Sunset Lake to see the Christmas Light displays. Rain date 12/19

12/21 Truth about Winter Solstice.

After the winter solstice, the days grow longer and the nights grow shorter!
We celebrate the Sun's return!

~COURTESY OF THE OLD FARMERS ALMANAC

12/25 HAPPY BIRTHDAY JESUS!

It is the night of our dear Savior's birth.
O Holy Night

12/26-31 Boardwalk Classic. Wildwoods Convention Center. The largest holiday basketball tournament in the country! Featuring 70 High School Boys and Girls teams. 9am-9pm. www.bbclassic.net



Celebrate the Holidays in the Wildwoods!

5 WEEKENDS OF HOLIDAY FUN

<p>NOV 18 & 19 NEW FOR 2023 Holiday Jumpstart Makers Market</p> <p>NOV 24 Family Holiday Beach Bonfire</p> <p>NOV 24 - 26 Christmas in North Wildwood</p> <p>NOV 25 NEW FOR 2023 FREE Holiday Jitney Rides</p> <p>NOV 25 Outdoor Holiday Shopping Village</p> <p>DEC 1 Jaycees Christmas Parade</p> <p>DEC 1 Downtown Wildwood Tree Lighting Ceremony</p> <p>DEC 1 Wildwood Crest Tree Lighting Ceremony</p> <p>DEC 1 & 2 Jaycees Downtown Christmas in the Plaza</p>	<p>DEC 2 North Wildwood Tree Lighting Ceremony</p> <p>DEC 3 & 10 Holidays at Henville: Shopping Village</p> <p>DEC 8 & 9 Winter Wonderland at Holly Beach Park</p> <p>DEC 9 Family Holiday Celebration & Tree Lighting Ceremony</p> <p>DEC 9 'Pinch the GrYnch' Boardwalk 5K Run</p> <p>DEC 15 & 16 Winter Wonderland at Holly Beach Park</p> <p>DEC 16 Santa Paws - Treats & Photos</p> <p>DEC 18 Holiday Lights Walk</p> <p>DEC 23 Holiday Basketball Tournament</p> <p>Dec 26-31 Holiday Basketball Classic</p>
--	--

For a full list of events and details visit:
WildwoodHoliday.com or call 609.729.9000



"Imagine no possessions... No need for greed or hunger... A brotherhood of man. Imagine all the people sharing all the world..." ~John Lennon

SAVE THE DATE!
APRIL 6, 2024 11a.m.
INLET BEACH @ 1ST & SURF
NORTH WILDWOOD
Register early!
 Registration forms available at:
www.FallenHeroPlunge.com

\$35 Adults before the plunge, \$40 the day of the plunge.
 \$15 for Kids under 15. Pre-Party Friday night 4/5 at Keenan's
 All info at FallenHeroPlunge.com or call Dennis Dool at 215-990-8689

NORTH WILDWOOD

RECREATION & TOURISM

North Wildwood, a place in the sun for family fun!

PROGRAMS
ACTIVITIES
SPECIAL
EVENTS

2023 Christmas in North Wildwood

Thanksgiving Weekend Nov. 24 -26 Visits from Santa & Mrs. Claus, facepainting, games, crafts, firepits, music, vendors and more at various locations in North Wildwood.
 Free rides from place to place on the Holiday Jitney at participating establishments

Tree Lighting at Hereford Lighthouse Saturday, Dec. 2, 4:30pm

Santa Paws Yappy Hour ~ Best Dressed Dog Contest Sat, Dec. 16, doggie treats and photo ops at every stop.

For full list of Holiday events visit www.WILDWOODHOLIDAY.com

2024 Summer Camps

Buckets Basketball Camp NW Rec. **Boys and Girls**

July 1 - 5 9am - 2pm Ages 9-15 yrs. July 15 - 19 9am - 1pm Ages 5-9 yrs.
 July 29 - August 2 9am - 2pm Ages 9-15 yrs.

North Wildwood Soccer Camp

Full Day 9am-3pm, Half Day 9am-12noon at Bill Henfey Park
 June 24 - June 28 and July 8 - 12 Boys & Girls 5 to 15 yrs.

2024 Events

St. Patrick's Day Parade

Sat. March 16th 11am North Wildwood City Hall

Fallen Hero Plunge

Sat., April 6 Inlet Beach 1st & Surf, NW at 11am.
 Register FallenHeroPlunge.com

Captain Kidd Pirates Day Costume Parade

Sat., May 18 11am, 26th & Boardwalk, proceeds to 19th & the Beach for treasure hunt

Sidewalk Chalk Competition

Sat., July 6 All ages. Bill Henfey Park. Contest 9am, Judging 10:45am, Prizes 11am

Boogie Board Races

Sat., July 13 10am on the beach at 16th Ave.

55th Annual North Wildwood Rec Surf Fishing Tournament

Sept. 6 - 8 Fri-Sat: 7am-5pm, Sun: 7am-11:45am

33rd Annual Irish Fall Festival

Thurs-Sun, Sept. 19 -22 8am-11pm daily

900 Central Ave, North Wildwood, NJ 08260
 (609) 522-2955 Fax: (609) 522-0402
 @North Wildwood Recreation and Tourism northwildwood.com



"Winter came down to our home one night, quietly pirouetting in on silvery-toed slippers of snow...and we were children once again." ~BILL MORGAN, JR

5 MILES of Smiles!



"I just like to Smile!
Smiling is my
favorite thing!"
~Buddy the Elf

SAVE THE DATE! CHRISTMAS IN JULY JULY 20 2024



NWBP Chief Chiavarelli & Lieutenant Stamm with the girls at 7th St. beach



Dorothy & Mike the Santa who is holding a painting of himself depicted in the Christmas in July "Beach People"



Frank Bolger had a great summer on the beach. Read the story in this issue about him and his wife Karen and the bottle they found.



Santa with his best elf, Brian



Ben & Ben at the Chip Miller Surf Fest

SANTA'S 10TH YEAR w/N.W.B.P.



New card available at
www.SUNSTORE.BIGCARTEL.com

by Mike Micklasavage, aka Santa

I started my journey as the Jolly Old Saint Nick about 24 years ago when my beard started to turn white.

I've always cherished the Christmas season and when I started playing Santa, I knew that I was chosen to look like this so I could make people happy. Seeing all the children's smiles, and the adults too, is a feeling I can't explain.

In 2008, I started setting up on the 15th Ave. beach with a chair and a few decorations. North Wildwood Beach Patrol's Christmas in July has been my favorite day on the beach for almost 35 years. I wanted to make sure the NWBP had passed by before I would don my Santa hat and shorts, so as not to interfere with their event. Children and adults would come up to me to take pictures for Christmas cards and fond memories.

I continue to do this every year on the 15th Ave. beach with a huge following of parents and adults coming to snap pictures.

In 2012, I was approached by the NWBP and asked if I would be interested in being their official Santa. And so began my relationship with the North Wildwood Beach Patrol. Our first jolly event together

er was in 2013. Since then, people have set up Christmas trees, dress up in their best holiday beach fashion, play Christmas music, and even exchange gifts and set up catered food.

I've had pictures with expectant mothers, followed the next year by their newborns, brides-to-be, 2-week-old babies, and adults up to 102 years old. I've watched children grow up, have seen these pictures on Christmas cards and heard that some of these pictures even made it overseas in many other countries like Italy and Poland.

If anyone misses the event, I'm easily found on the 15 Ave. beach throughout the summer with my red bathing suit and yes, I even carry my Santa hat in case someone wants a picture.

It's all in the smiles and happiness it brings to people that I meet.

Editor Note: In more recent years, Wildwood and Wildwood Crest have joined in on the celebration, making it an Island-wide Christmas in July.

Forthcoming in next Summer issue is the history of how it all got started by North Wildwood Beach Patrol.

Santa will be making appearances at the Christmas Parade on Dec. 1st and the Wildwoods Convention Center, Saturday Dec. 9th, to name just a couple





"Two roads diverged in a wood, and I -- I took the one less traveled by, and that has made all the difference." ~ Robert Frost

OPEN YEAR-ROUND

Handwritten marks resembling the number '7' or 'r' repeated several times.



**THANK YOU
SO MUCH!**
WE APPRECIATE YOUR BUSINESS!
The Mendel Family

26TH & NEW JERSEY AVE + WILDWOODS, NJ
Shop with us anytime at **SANDJAMM.COM**



"Gifts of time and love are surely the basic ingredients of a truly merry Christmas." ~Peg Bracken

"WHILE YOU WERE AWAY. . ." New and Old Business 2023

by Al Alven, the 'Director of fun' from Wildwood365

While You Were Away: EPILOGUE SUMMER 2023

With regard to new businesses and notable happenings in the Wildwoods this year, the hits just kept on comin'!

Beyond Memorial Day and well into the summer months, fresh, unique entities continued to pop up all over the island, topping off a banner campaign. Rarely, if ever before, has the pace of arrivals, construction and ongoing projects been so prolific.

In this space, we'll take a breezy tour of the changes that occurred **while you were away...** or perhaps, **while you were here!**

BOARDWALK UPDATE

While the largest-scale project we'll be following this offseason will be the next phases of the **Boardwalk Reconstruction Project**, there is one other major development along the wooden way to pass along. In September, the **Boardwalk Mall** was sold to the owners of **Capt'n Jack's Island Grill**, its primary tenant since 2020. The bar/restaurant transformed the front of the mall by taking over the upper floor (with balcony completed this summer) in addition to space at the Boardwalk level on the Garfield Avenue corner. While plans for the mall's future have yet to be revealed, significant changes have been promised. Thus far, the only tenant confirmed

to not be returning is the Boardwalk Mall Arcade, which was gutted after a content sale in October. What does the future hold for this prominent space? Stay tuned... Additions to the Wildwood Boardwalk not included in our Memorial Day issue column include **Muncheese (3212)**, a colorful cafe with gastronomic menu options, and second, neighboring locations for the **Pierogi Place (4302)** and **Mr. Softee (4304)**... On the North Wildwood end, **Raffaello's** took over the central stand at the former **Sportland Pier**, offering just about every boardwalk treat one could think of.

MOREY'S PIERS

The sight of "missing" areas of the Boardwalk at the onset of the next reconstruction phases is strange to behold; but equally jarring is the visual of a stripped-down **Giant Wheel at Mariner's Pier**. The popular attraction (and centerpiece of the Wildwoods' skyline) is receiving an "extreme makeover" this offseason, with every gondola and light fixture being removed for the refurbishment... At the front of the pier, **Mariner's Arcade** is also scheduled to receive some "significant. . .

Continues on next page>>



The Borough of Wildwood Crest Recreation & Tourism

PROGRAMS
ACTIVITIES

SPECIAL
EVENTS



2023 Christmas in the Crest

CREST Holiday Tree Lighting Ceremony
Friday Dec. 1 at 5 pm

Sunset Lake at New Jersey and Atlanta Avenues
Holiday tree and lakefront holiday display lighting

Wildwood Crest Holiday Tree Jubilee
Sunday Dec. 10 from 12 noon-2 pm at Crest Arts Pavilion

Mini holiday tree-decorating contest winners announced
Decorate ornament for community beach tree
Hot chocolate and cookies. Pictures with Santa
Bring unwrapped gift for Lunch With Lynch Toy Drive
Featured artist Dorothy Kulisek

CREST Holiday Lights Walk
Monday Dec. 18 at 5:30 pm

Sunset Lake at Rambler Road and New Jersey Avenue
30 to 45 minute walk in Sunset Lake neighborhood
to view holiday lights displays

Scoop Taylor Tip-Off Classic

Thursday Dec. 7 thru Sunday Dec. 17 at Crest Pier
South Jersey's largest grammar school basketball tournament

Island Basketball Tournament and Skills Competition
Tuesday Feb. 20 thru Sunday Feb. 25 at Crest Pier
Crest Memorial, Margaret Mace, Wildwood Junior High,
Wildwood Catholic Academy participating

CREST Pier Fitness Classes

ADULT FITNESS - Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays at 10 am
(aerobics and strength training program for older adults)

WALKING WEDNESDAYS - Wednesdays at 9 am
(Free 30-minute walking/light aerobics program)

WARRIOR FIGHT & FLOW - Wednesdays at 6 pm
(high-intensity interval training, followed by yoga/stretching program)

All Fitness Classes \$5 per person or 20 classes for \$80

More info: wildwoodcrest.org or 609-523-0202



"You have to dream before your dreams can come true." ~a. p. j. kalam

COME HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS!
Merry Christmas & Healthy,
Happy New Year

Owen's Pub

NORTH WILDWOOD

OPEN EVERY DAY YEAR ROUND

Check our social media for Holiday happenings

17th Ave. NORTH WILDWOOD
BETWEEN NJ & CENTRAL (609) 729-7290

NFL TICKET

THANK YOU

FOR A GREAT SEASON!

COPPER DOG

WILDWOOD BY THE SEA

4400 ATLANTIC AVE | WILDWOOD | COPPERDOGWILDWOOD.COM

"WHILE YOU WERE AWAY..."

New and Old Business

by Al Alven, the 'Director of fun' from WW365

... upgrades" during the offseason. While the exact details of the work are being kept under wraps, a shift away from traditional tickets to a new ticket car system has been confirmed.

NORTH WILDWOOD

The northern end of the island has seen two additions at different ends of the culinary spectrum, with the arrivals of **Arnold's Family Market** and **Yugoslavian Balkan Soul Food**. Filling the need for a quality convenience store and deli at 24th & New Jersey, Arnold's is a family-owned and operated establishment catering to a wide range of tastes. Specialties include breakfast and lunch sandwiches, salads and plenty of snacking supplies. The business takes over the building most recently occupied by **Goodness on the Go** (and before that, the **24th Street Market**). Meanwhile, **Yugoslavian Balkan Soul Food** is "where European and American cuisines meet," in a spacious, comfortable setting at the former Rick's Market on New York Avenue. The restaurant is open for breakfast, lunch and dinner, serving up regional delights such as rostili, pljeskavice, cevapi, kobasice or raznjici... In late June, **Marguerite Fuscia** opened **Wildwood Thrift** at the corner of 3rd & New Jersey. The shop is well-stocked with a consistently rotating variety of men's and women's clothing, jewelry, books, seasonal decorative items, artwork and more.

WILDWOOD

The long-awaited **Starbucks** at Rio Grande & Park held its grand opening in September, and is now open daily. The location, only the third in Cape May County, offers drive-thru,

mobile order pick-up and walk-up window service (no indoor seating or public restrooms). There is some outdoor seating. **Starbucks** is the latest "chain" store to open along Wildwood's Rio Grande entrance boulevard, joining McDonald's, Sinclair Gas Station and Wawa, along the nearby Walgreens and Acme... **The Wharf** celebrated its 30th anniversary in a big way. A major outdoor expansion of the popular bayside restaurant has seen the additions of a tiki bar, kitchen and stage, along with 54 new boat slips - allowing boaters to order food and drinks directly from their vessels. In total, 25 new tables by the seawall and 30 bar stools in the sandy bar area have been added... **Antney's Grub's** "flagship" location is now open at Ocean & Montgomery Avenues, across from Fox Park and just a block from the Boardwalk and Wildwoods Convention Center. The third Antney's shop in the Wildwoods, it will operate year round and includes an adjoining ice cream parlor, **Antney's Creamery**. The other two locations, at the **Tram Car Motel** in North Wildwood and **Jolly Roger Motel** in the Crest, respectively, will be open seasonally... Opened over Memorial Day Weekend, the **Cork Yard** instantly became one of Wildwood's more unique outdoor venues. The patio bar, the brainchild of **Cork 'N' Bottle** owners **Jamie & Stephen Del Monte**, was constructed "behind" its parent store at Atlantic & Burk. The area features a covered bar, additional seating, landscaping and lighting, and live music every night during the season... Stocked with "everything you need at the shore," the **Sandcastle Cafe & Market** opened at the corner of ...

Read on!





"Everything is held together with stories. That is all that is holding us together, stories and compassion." - Barry Lopez

"WHILE YOU WERE AWAY..."



New and Old Business

by Al Alven, the 'Director of fun' from WW365

Atlantic & Juniper Avenues in June. The convenience store/gift shop is owned and operated by Philadelphia-based artist Athina Skevi, whose artwork is also on display and available for sale... **Tony's New York Pizza** enjoyed an abbreviated debut this summer, arriving in July at 4416 Pacific Avenue, the former home of **Belly Buster**. The Brooklyn-rooted shop was very well received and is looking forward to its first full season in Downtown Wildwood in 2024... It was a good year to be a "good boy" in Wildwood. Early summer saw the opening of **Sandy Paws Pet**, the island's first dog self-wash and pet supply store. The shop will be open year round at 3006 Pacific Avenue in Downtown Wildwood. Fur-ther south along the central drag is the **Animal Clinic of the Wildwoods**, a 24-hour veterinary service at 5207 Pacific Avenue (across the street from *Duffer's*)... A striking new wave mural by artist **Russ Simmons** - said to be the largest on the East Coast - now adorns the west and south-facing sides of **Kona Surf Co's** flagship store at Rio Grande & New Jersey Avenues. The "Big Wave" will soon be accompanied by a seven-foot "glowing sun" sign and new lighting on both sides of the building.

WILDWOOD CREST

Down on the southern portion of the island, activity has been humming along Rambler Road, where work continues on **Madison Resorts Wildwood Crest** (the former **Oceanview Motel**, with midcentury office/lounge structure being rebuilt) and the extensive renovation of the **Wildwood Crest Beach Patrol Headquarters**. Both projects are expected to be completed and ready

by Spring 2024... Located inside the **Crusader Restaurant** (at the Crusader Oceanfront Resort), **Shore Donut Cones** puts a new twist on dessert with soft serve ice cream served in - you guessed it - freshly-baked donut cones. The real treat may be the wide variety of toppings offered, with fun, zany names like **Brownie Bombardment**, **Salted Caramel Collision** and **Crazy Candy**... **Moon Studio** held its grand opening in early June at 3113 Pacific Avenue. The showroom, previously located in Downtown Wildwood, creates modern jewelry "with a focus on intention, local production and responsibly sourced materials."

ON DECK FOR 2024

As we close out a VERY eventful 2023 in the Wildwoods, we look ahead to next season and a number of changes already in the works. Here is a preview of some of the topics we'll be covering in the Memorial Day 2024 edition of **While You Were Away**...

Boardwalk Reconstruction Project: Phases 3, 4 & 5, covering (from north to south) Oak Avenue to Garfield Avenue, including the Cedar Avenue connector

What's new at Morey's Piers (Giant Wheel refurb, Adventure Pier update and more)

Mariner's Arcade renovation
Future plans for the **Boardwalk Mall**
Grand Opening of **Madison Resorts Wildwood Crest**


Opening of newly-renovated **Wildwood Crest Beach Patrol HQ**
Arrivals of new businesses originally intended to open in 2023, including **Charlie's Sandwich Shop** and **Steve's Prince of Steaks**

Happy Holiday, everyone - we'll see you next Spring!





"Some things can only be understood when you're in a tree house...With a pile of warm chocolate chip cookies...And a book." ~Dr. SunWolf

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Christmas Cranberry Bread Pudding



Sure to please, whether it's served hot from the oven, at room temperature, or cold. Tart cranberries and tangy lemon cream give a sophisticated spin to an old comforting favorite. Traditionally, in my family, we all bring our best dish to the Thanksgiving table and this one is mine. Everyone loves it! It looks as delicious as it tastes!

1 lb. panettone bread (or hallah)
8 oz. fresh or frozen cranberries
4 large eggs
3 cups heavy whipping cream
1 teaspoon vanilla
1/4 cup sugar plus 2 tablespoons
1 - 6 oz. jar Lemon Spread

1. Preheat oven to 350°. In an 8" diameter oven-proof casserole, layer 1/2" thick slices of panettone to cover bottom of the dish. Sprinkle with 1/3 of the cranberries. Continue with two more layers, finishing with the cranberries.

2. In mixing bowl, add eggs, 2 cups cream, vanilla, sugar, and 1/2 cup lemon spread. Beat with a whisk until smooth.

Pour over panettone mixture and let sit for 10 minutes. Sprinkle top with 2 tablespoons sugar and bake until golden brown and slightly puffed around the edges.

3. In mixer, beat the rest of the whipping cream and lemon spread until light and fluffy, with soft peaks. Serve with the bread pudding hot out of the oven or at room temperature.



"It's wonderful when you can bring sparkle into lives without fading away from your own true color. Keep the hue in you." ~Dodinski

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"Never lose an opportunity of seeing anything beautiful, for beauty is God's handwriting" -Ralph Waldo Emerson

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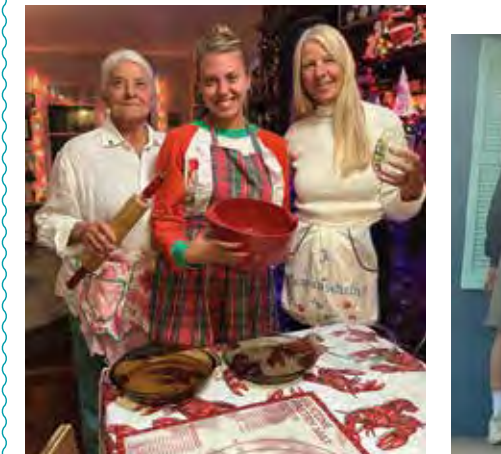
Holiday Baking Tradition at the Seashore

For my best Beach Friends Love, Dorothy

Photos of Sophie, Stephanie & Virginia were taken November, 2022 (3 generations)

Since the late 1990s, Sophie, her mother Steph and grandparents Virginia & Frank travel from W. Virginia to the Wildwoods to enjoy simple pleasures of life in their old-fashioned, charming beach cottage. They value their traditions, which in June, include going to the beach the first day of summer, no matter what the weather . . . to spending Thanksgiving week baking and cooking old family recipes, lighting their wood stove, watching the Macy's parade, and decorating a fresh-cut Charlie Brown Christmas tree. The family especially cherishes their time sitting on the winter beach together, with mugs of hot cocoa, bundled up in warm crocheted blankets, hats, scarves and Uggs... and if there are waves, a winter wetsuit for Sophie, the surfer girl.

With the holidays upon us, and only so many days on the calendar, they savor every sea-kissed moment more than ever and plan to always return to it and the countless memories this place happily holds for them right here in their quaint cottage by-the-sea.



Virginia, Sophie, and Dorothy

Frank, Sophie, Stephanie & Virginia



"In the New Year, may your right hand always be stretched out in friendship, but never in want." ~Irish Proverb

A Wildwood Christmas Tree Story

by David Neff



My father, Charles K. Neff, worked for the Wildwood Water Dept. as a bookkeeper from the early 1930s to about 1947 at their Pine and New Jersey office. In 1937, he and my mother, Noreen, married. My brother Phillip was born in 1939 and I followed in 1941. I reckon that as I was growing up during the 1940s, our family of four fell somewhere between upper lower class and lower middle class, but back then many other Wildwood families were in the same financial situation. We had what we needed, but there was seldom any extra. Our mom was an expert at squeezing the most out of every dollar.

The Wildwood Water Department maintains water wells, a pumping station and wooded land out on Rt. 47 in Rio Grande. As an employee at that time, and for a few years thereafter, dad was given permission to cut a Christmas tree on their wooded land each year. We always made the best of whichever we chose each year, plus we had fun running through the woods searching for the best-looking tree. By the early 1950s, the Water Department land was off limits, and we had to actually buy our tree from a tree lot. Back then on the property between 21st and 22nd Streets on New Jersey Avenue in North Wildwood on the West side of the street (most recently the now closed Bank of America), the Todd family owned and operated Todd's Express, a trucking and moving company. On the large street to street lot, they parked their trucks and maintained an office building on the corner. Every holiday season, they used their trucks to bring trees down, most likely from Pennsylvania, and stick the trees into rows of holes they made in the ground on their unpaved lot. At night, the lot was lit with strings of light bulbs strung

overhead. Our goal was to find an inexpensive tree that could be 'doctored up' with extra branches. Fortunately, in order to stick the trees into the holes in the ground most trees needed to have one or two of the lowest branches cut off at the bottom. Those branches were for sale as Christmas greens. Mom was our negotiator and always succeeded in getting a fixable tree along with a few extra branches at an affordable price.

Our chosen tree was placed outside in a bucket of water along with the extra branches. On Christmas Eve day, the tree was brought into the house and placed in its stand. Then the magic began. Dad would figure out the exact positions and angles to drill holes in the tree trunk. The extra branches would be sized, the stem ends whittled to a point and then jammed firmly into the holes so that the bark on the branch stems would meet the bark of the tree trunk. Our tree looked as good as any of the best trees on the tree lot.

The years my brother Phil and I believed in Santa, we would decorate our tree after dinner. Dad would place the strings of colored lights, then we would help with hanging the delicate balls and, finally, the lead tinsel (which was outlawed in 1972 due to lead's poisonous qualities). The tree properly decorated, we were off to bed, awaiting Santa's arrival.

Our sister Martha was born in 1950 followed by our brother Chuck in 1953. Phil and I would warn them to get to bed before Santa came or there would be no presents! We may not have always gotten what we wanted, but Santa always came, and we always had presents under our tree on Christmas morning.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to ALL!

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{except for the fact that we're in North Wildwood}

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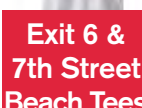
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"He is a wise man who does not grieve for things which he has not, but rejoices for those which he has." ~Epictetus

5 MILES of Smiles!



A smile is a facial rainbow, indicating by the radiance of the features that there is a ray of sunlight ahead, that the clouds are things of the past.



Ann & Vicki did a great job taking over for the North Wildwood Flea Market for their dear friend Mo Thall



It was so nice to meet Terri and her family after corresponding with her for years on my Instagram... my followers have truly been like good friends

I'm so thankful to all who take the time to write me these little notes... they're like 'wind beneath my wings' that lift me up and keep me going into the next deadline. ~Dorothy

dear Sun



My shiney, happy friends Jeff & Aliyah from Magnolia Bikes



Front L-R: Annemarie Schmidt, Ava Zuber, Carmen Tusic Back L-R: Jessica Zuber, Rob Fischer, Fred Zuber, Luka Tusic...Rob Fischer's cousins came to visit the Wildwoods from Wisconsin



Chris & Carol love island-hopping down from Sea Isle where they have a summer home. FYI: Chris is the awesome truck driver who delivers The SUN to me :-)

"Dorothy, your publications have brought joy to many people. A Christmas edition will certainly add to the joy of the holidays. Your publications should be retained in the Wildwood Museum. Years from now people will view them as a window on our current times; families will come and go, and businesses will come and go. Can you imagine if we had a publication like yours to view the island & its citizens and visitors from years ago?



Rob Dieters & Gigi love the island with all their heart



NWBP Peyton, Katie, Rylie & Brian



Sunny & happy John & Jackie Hagan

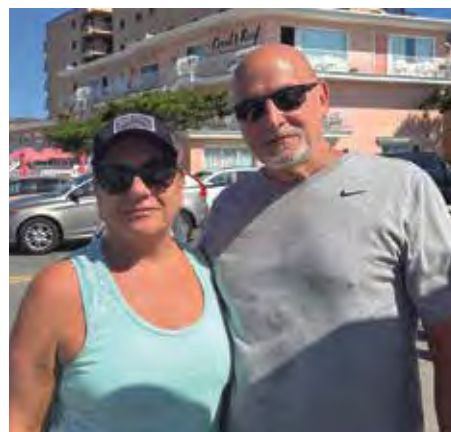
Future generations will get a good feel about our generation's "happenings" on the Island. Your Sun, although a business, is a major contribution to our tourism economy, local citizens, and a historical record of current life in the Wildwoods. Thank you for your creative, hard work." ~Vic D.



I hope you enjoy my "Beach People" painting Kim! Thank you!



Maggie Belasco Barnett with her children and nephews Ellie, Griffen, Earl, Logan and Gavin



Randy & Debbie love retirement here!

"I absolutely LOVE this!! Your pure and simple love for this Island rolls out like a beautiful wave. . . ." ~Tracey D.

"We are lucky to have you keeping us updated about the island's history. Of all the places I've been, I've not seen anyone do what you do. Thank you so much!" ~Tim B.



"I love how they say "hello." It's one of my favorite words. Our need for connection and friendship runs deep."

Tiny Bottle Travels for Four Years from One Beach Town in Bray, Ireland to Another Beach Town in Wildwood, NJ USA

MeSSage IN A BOTTLE



Originally written by Tom Martin for Bray People, Ireland, September 6, 2023, edited by Dorothy McMonagle Kulisek for The Wildwood Sun by-the-Sea



News reporters around the world from Australia, to the Phila. Inquirer, Press of Atlantic City, to dozens in Ireland, reached out to Dorothy, Frank & Karen so they could share this perfect end of summer feel good story. Search google and you'll find pages of stories.



"The note traveled about 3,292 miles from the Irish beach to North Wildwood, but it probably covered even more miles than that, with Atlantic currents leading from the American East Coast to Ireland, not the other way around. The little bottle from Aoife Byrne may have traveled south to the Canary Islands to be driven west by a tropical storm or hurricane forming off the coast of Africa to be picked up by the Gulf Stream and brought to North Wildwood." ~Frank Bolger

It has been over 40 years since Sting wrote about casting a message in a bottle out into the metaphorical sea, but it was a case of surprise and joy for the Bolger family, in New Jersey, US, when they stumbled upon a bottle on their local beach with a message from someone in Bray, Ireland. The Philadelphia Inquirer reports that Frank and Karen Bolger and their granddaughter Autumn Pokrywka (13), were strolling on their local beach, North Wildwood in New Jersey, when they discovered a bottle with a message stuffed inside it lying in a clump of seaweed.

"Greetings from Ireland," the note began. "I have thrown this bottle into the sea for someone to find another day. Maybe it's travelled down to Africa or up to Iceland! I won't know if someone found it, but I hope it is found." It was signed by someone named Aoife and dated summer 2019. "Frank and Karen joked that at first they did not know how to pronounce the name Aoife but they quickly learned after a Google search. De-

lighted with the find, the Bolgers were hoping to track down Aoife to let her know her message was found and how happy they were to be the ones who discovered it after circulating the world in the sea for four years." With the help of a local newspaper editor, Dorothy McMonagle Kulisek, for her publication called The Wildwood Sun, some old-fashioned investigative journalism combined with more contemporary social media action, not only was the identity of the mystery sender solved but the Bolgers and the note's writer managed to connect. Dorothy's post was picked up by reporters around the world as the call for Aoife went viral, with many Irish followers tagging all the Aoife's they knew. Aoife's father Martin saw it on the news and said to his daughter: "I think they're talking about you Aoife!" It was a case of 'Irish luck' really. The very next day, Frank Bolger received an email from Aoife who said she had sent the bottle. The Sun then shared the good news

on her social media: "The mysterious Irish girl who wrote the message in a bottle found last week (of August 14) has appeared! She is Aoife Byrne from Bray, County Wicklow, Ireland," she wrote. "If you've been keeping up with the story, you will know that Frank and Karen Bolger along with their granddaughter Autumn take a walk along the beach to pick up trash before settling into some fun in the sun. They found a tiny bottle laying in a clump of seaweed along the water's edge..." "We were sceptical," Frank admitted. "You know, Philly attitude. You figure someone's pranking us." So they asked her to send them a note in her own handwriting and she did. They knew they had the right person. The Bolger's and the Byrne's arranged a call, resulting in Aoife's father extending the Bolgers an open invitation to the Byrne home, in Bray. In a videocall shared by Karen Bolger, Frank's wife, on Facebook, Aoife explained: "I'm a massive Sting fan, and I'm very interested in messages

in bottles and I was on the beach in Bray, County Wicklow, with an ex-partner of mine. I'm a songwriter so I had my notebook with me that day and I found this little bottle and knew I had to put a message in it so I threw it straight into the middle of the sea. I didn't expect it to make it to America, I thought it would end up down south or up north." Frank said: "It's brought so much joy and happiness to the world... I believe it was fate." Meanwhile, Dorothy posted on her magazine's Facebook page: "It's the sweetest story of how the sea blesses us in ways we can't even imagine. The Lord knows the world needs this feel-good story." In a world that is so divided, a little bottle has brought the biggest and most beautiful feeling of world-connectedness that many have not felt in a long time. The Bolger's act of love by sweeping the beach looking for trash is what made it all happen. When you do good, it always come back to you.



"Like snowflakes, my Christmas memories gather and dance - each beautiful, unique and too soon gone." ~Deborah Whipp

My Hometown, My Memories *and The Golden Dragon*

written and submitted by
Doris Russo Wade
{1926 ~ 2023}



Editor Note: Doris passed away peacefully at home this past summer on August 10, 2023. She lived a wonderful life for 97 years and I am honored to share her story.

Call it "Wildwood by the Sea", "Five Mile Island", call it your summer refuge from the turmoil of city work and living, call it your new home or the place where you first experienced having "sand in your shoes". Whatever Wildwood represents to you is a memory. It is a small, friendly, intimate hometown in the winter, and a bustling tourist mecca resembling a big city in the summer.

Born here in 1926 at Margaret Mace Hospital I have seen the ups and downs of "my town". No matter what economic turmoil it was experiencing, I have always been proud to call it my home.

In 1908, at the age of nine, my mother emigrated from Italy to Wildwood. Following a stint in the Italian Navy, Pop immigrated to Wildwood when he was 26 years old. He and Mom were married in Philadelphia in 1917, initially making their home on New Jersey Ave., in Wildwood, later on Roberts Avenue. A few years later, they built their home at 4111 Park Blvd., where they raised my three brothers, Anthony, (Butch), Rocco, Armand (Ott), and me.

They built their first business, a grocery store, in the front of the house, raising and selling fresh chickens. Following Prohibition, they bought one of the first licenses in the City of Wildwood. Ever industrious, they built a restaurant and night club on the side of the living quarters to be named the Golden Dragon. We all pitched in. Times were tough, but when peace was declared, Mom and Pop had Howard Cattell, a local builder,



A Philadelphia firm created a beautiful 50 ft. mahogany bar, Mr. Catrabone, a local hand painting artist, did elaborate murals on the walls. And ---another first for Wildwood---an all girls group performed in the center, alternating with a group playing in the orchestra pit, thereby giving the dancing patrons continuous music!!



1930s, Grocery Store at 4111 Park Blvd.



In 1936, an addition was built to the building and so the Golden Dragon Café was started. An odd name, we must admit for an Italian bar and restaurant, but so it was. It was here the first musical bar in the City of Wildwood was born.



By the 1950s, there was a Liquor Store, Bar, Restaurant, Pizzeria, and Ice Cream Stand



Doris & Allan Wade



Margaret (Loscalzo) Russo

Raymond Russo

build a beautiful mahogany circular bar with an island in the center where the first female musical group, "The Femmaires", performed nightly. At the opposite end was an orchestra pit facing the dance floor where people danced all night. Eventually the format changed and a "floor show" type of entertainment developed. There was a singer doing a great rendition of Judy Garland songs, a "Flamenco Dance" Couple, a comic performer, and, of course, the ever present Master of Ceremonies, doing stand-up jokes (Horse-Collar Schwartz—he dressed in an old suit, tie hanging down to his knees, big, sloppy shoes, and an actual horse collar around his neck, clown face make up, cigar in his mouth, and an old floppy fedora on his head).

My teenage job was to sit at the door collecting the cover charge of \$1.00 during the week, and \$2.00 on Saturday night. Park Blvd often flooded during a torrential rainstorm, sending Pop and my brothers out with a huge plank of wood they would place from the street to our door, so people could get into our nightclub! A "Pizza Parlor" was another

addition to the building, complete with a Pizza Man directly from Italy whose pizzas were the best (although his English was not). After the island became inundated with pizza places, we opened a Laundromat.

After a long day's work, my brothers and I would go to any one of our favorite places including Wildwood Italian Bakery at Oak and New Jersey Aves., Marsh's bakery, or up to North Wildwood to "The Wee-Two Inn". We often crossed paths with famous entertainers.

In 1960, Mom and Pop and my husband, Allan and I built the Starfire Motel at Leaming and Ocean Aves, a 20 unit family operated motel. I ran the office while Allan operated his electrical business and took care of the maintenance calls. It was a labor of love, one we were able to share with our children. We trudged on following the loss of our daughter, Donna, in a horseback riding accident in 1962, ultimately selling the business in 1980.

My parents provided us with a good life and a great lesson: a strong work ethic which came in handy as adults.

Pop passed away in 1967. Mom eventually sold the building and moved to Wildwood Crest, where she passed away in 1983.

In 1981, we continued on the family tradition, purchasing the old "High Steps" at 1st & New Jersey Avenues in North Wildwood with our son, Steven and his wife, Carol and christened it the "S.A.Wade Tavern." We honored its long ago era by refinishing the bar, taking down all the trim and staining it, refinishing the stairs to the 3rd floor, rewired it, put in heat, etc. We sold in 1991, and it then became "The Angelsea Pub".

In 1992, Allan and I officially retired, spending priceless times with our grandkids, traveling to soccer games, camping and, of course, to the beach. We were blessed to share my hometown memories with our children and our grandchildren.



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Not Pictured: Justine Kelly Griffin, Lindsay Michael, Scott "Bick" Murphy, Sophia Peters, Katherine Youschak



"Blessed are the happiness makers, blessed are they who know how to shine." ~Henry Ward Beecher

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MARGARET MACE SCHOOL ON THE BEACH, SEPT. 19
Gym teacher Ms. Lisa Kobroski organized a Surf Day for the kids. Above is Art teacher Ms. Nichols working on a special sand sculpture for the students.



To the left is 3rd grader Quinn who was super stoked to catch some waves 🍌🍌🍌



In the words of Albert Einstein, "Life is like a bicycle... to keep your balance you must keep moving."

After 44 years it's time for Vic to move on. Stop by this holiday season to say goodbye to Vic, and hello to our new owner James!

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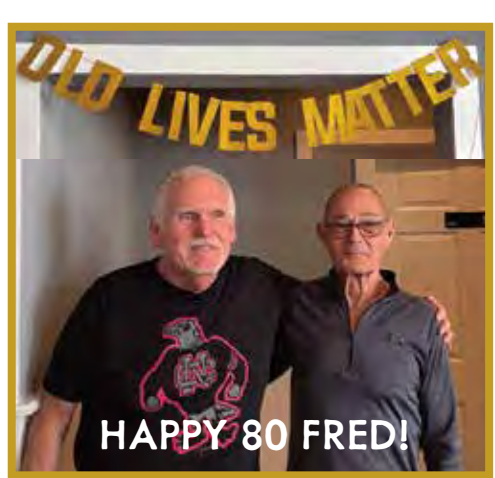
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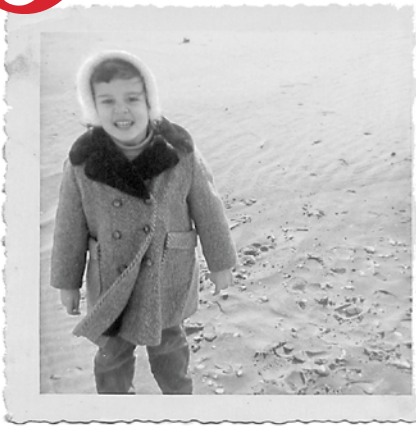


"The tide recedes but leaves behind seashells on the sand. For every joy that passes, something beautiful remains." ~Hawaiian proverb

Ours alone at Wintertime



BY GRACE ZAMBARDI



Grace Sedotti Zambardi on Davis Ave. Beach in Wildwood in the 1960's

Those corpulently lush Hydrangeas that plumped along Central Avenue; supermodel thin and snooty Cosmos that danced beside fence posts blown in step by the back bays breezes; classically trained container Geraniums, fawning over themselves on porches and rails thru the Crest. The island's summer splash of tropical, kaleidoscopic watercolors are gone. Even Autumn's simmering, edible table of Halloween orange brights, fire and brimstone reds, squash yellows and regal eggplant purples, as vibrant and strong as the gods, have succumbed to the inevitable. The crayola crayon rainbow is back in the box. Smoke-smudged clouds blanket the gritty beach and brown marsh grasses. Naked, articulated branches beg against the sky. The wind sculpted Junipers and Japanese pines dutifully provide blots of evergreen to the ocean's imposing gray. Winter has fallen over the cay and the beauty of its simplicity is almost unsurpassed.

In Wildwood, during these longest months, there's never been much to do, but its just as well. It's that starkness that has always made it so special. There was no marble columned department store for a Christmas extravaganza, or colonial village walk-thru with life-sized moveable figures. The mall with Santa seated on his throne was miles off shore. The town didn't have the multitudes of families that strung holiday lights across streets from wire to wire. No, quite the contrary. On countless blocks, from New Jersey down to Atlantic, only one or two households lived year-round. At school, the arrival of the fire truck and the cartons of plain, red corded stockings filled with oranges, apples, and candy canes, but mostly peanuts, heralded Christmas vacation. To us 'local' kids, that's when the Wildwoods transformed itself into our own private winter wonderland.

There was no overthinking things, no pre-tenses. Friends from the classroom were dispersed to all ends of the island as if we lived on the forlorn prairie, and weren't seen again until school was back in session. The yearly evening trip downtown along garland

trimmed Pacific Avenue to visit Santa in his bus parked outside the Marine bank was magical. In the daytime we'd walk with our grandparents through the gigantic, to our baby eyes, aisles of Murphy's and Newberry's to find that gift for mom and dad. On really special Saturday afternoons there were road trips up the parkway to Korvettes and Two Guys to spot out the newest toys. When the holiday movies came to town we headed to Hunt's theatres. What a thrill it was, in the back seat, staring into the damp, ocean-scented darkness of Atlantic Avenue. The car bumping under the blinking yellow lights, until we stopped in front of what was, for a fleeting period in time, the golden grandness of the art deco façade and entrance. It was like going to the moon. At home, dads or big brothers went either under the crawl spaces or up in the attics to bring out the dusty, half-collapsed box that held the aluminum, shiny white Christmas tree. It was usually mom's job to put it together. (probably because she held her cool better). Later, it was dad's job again to "take us for a ride" all around the Crest and sometimes North Wildwood, wow! to see the beautiful, twinkling decorations, with each cottage and bungalow out sparkling the other. On Christmas Eve, we tried desperately to stay awake to attend midnight mass at St Ann's church. Sometimes we succeeded. Finally, Christmas morning didn't flood the living room with an avalanche of unnecessary and easily forgotten gifts and boxes, but Santa somehow always brought exactly what we wanted. In our minds, these young winters passed with the slow sweetness of thick maple syrup. Chocolate icing traversing so splendidly over a cake. Time, on the other hand, mischievously moved us along and with each Christmas gone we got a little older. And yet there was still always something to do.

On lazy, bright, windless afternoons, around 4:00, we'd ride our bikes up to our lonesome, sandy stretch of boardwalk. The boys, long legs holding their bikes steady against the ramp's railing, trying to look impressive. The girls, in new winter coats and always hatless, so as not to mess up the pancake flat hair, trying to seem unimpressed. Evenings were spent being driven to a friend's house for hours of private teenage talk and music listening, instead of driving around with your old man to see the lights. There were the trips to the skate rink in Stone Harbor; walks along the beach with the dog; bowling games and Christmas dances; angst and pity parties at McDonald's. All of this and more was ours alone at wintertime. Not for the summer tourists or day trippers or the city relatives, who'd always ask "what's to do here year round?" We'd always answer, "Oh, nothing much."

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"Every man's memory is his private literature." ~Aldous Huxley



A view of Larry's Wildwood O-Gauge Layout
~the east side of the island

Nostalgia...the longing for a certain place or time. Being a nostalgic person is not required to happily discover yourself transported back in time to an old familiar memory. Often it is triggered by something out of the ordinary, an old photo, movie, smell or place you haven't visited in a while. For some, however, a walk down memory lane is available to them every day.

For Larry Lillo, who stands behind the counter in his store, the Holly Beach Train Depot, that wistful feeling that only the past can inspire greets him daily. There, he is surrounded by shelves of trains and other models, books, and photographs. Outside his front door, he doesn't just see the stores of today standing there, but every store that ever was since his childhood in the 50s and 60s. He remembers it all. Larry doesn't have to take a trip or look through old photos to feel nostalgic; simply peering out his windows reminds him of a very different Pacific Avenue, a stark contrast to the Pacific Avenue of today.

For Larry, the past is never forgotten. Blessed with an amazing memory, he can look at any building and tell you the history of that building and all of the businesses and families that owned them from the 50s until the present day.

It is this very memory that set Larry to work on an O Gauge train layout, 1/43 scale, of Wildwood, circa the 1945-1969 Doo Wop Era. The town is completely created from his memory, on a 30 feet long platform, with additional layouts on both sides featuring NYC, Philadelphia, and Cape



by Dorothy McMonagle Kulisek

May County, with two trains running around the ceiling. He began his Wildwood-inspired creation around 2010 when his first grandson Lance was 4 or 5 years old, setting up his workshop on the 2nd floor, just above his train shop where he grew up.

Larry has fond memories of his childhood on Pacific Ave. "It was a great place to grow up. In the 50s and 60s, this is where you wanted to live" Larry smiles and laughs. "We lived Happy Days, that show could have been set here. We had the Fonzies and Joanies."

Larry starts each building by using plastic model building fronts. His creativity and resourcefulness know no bounds. He conjures up all sorts of ideas to make each place take its own unique shape. His attention to detail is incredible! He adds grass, trees, pools, and people sitting on benches and riding bicycles down the boardwalk. He even cuts out old advertisements to make the signs.

Upon entering, the first building sure to catch your eye is the Hereford Lighthouse, the island's first structure, where there is a train entering the island next to it, running all the way to Two Mile Landing where it loops around, exactly as Larry remembers it. You'll see the trestle bridge and train entering through West Wildwood, the WCMC radio towers and the WWII Look-out Towers, one in North Wildwood and one in Wildwood Crest. You'll recognize boardwalk shops like Douglass, Ho-Jos, SnoWhite, Daugers Waffles and stands like the Shooting Gallery and even the Fortune Teller along with the obnoxious Dunk Tank guy on Sportland Pier. You'll spot the Rainbow Club, Gansers Bakery, Piro's, Otten's Harbor and Canal and of course, the Shell Shop and Moore's Inlet Patio Bar.

When asked how he honed his craft, Larry said, "I never did anything like this before and I don't



Larry Lillo and his Wildwood Happy Days

really know how I do it... it just comes to me as I'm doing it."

Much of his unique works of art was accomplished during the pandemic. He loves to come on Sunday mornings after church and his bike ride, enjoying the peace and quiet.

Within that calm, creative space, Larry loses all sense of time and takes a trip down memory lane, his favorite place to travel.

These days, with all of his grandchildren in sports activities as well as various projects around his house, it's not always easy to find the time to work on his Wildwood.

As Larry well knows, sharing memories with other people is a wonderful gift, as well as finding someone who shares the same memories as you. Remembering the past keeps it alive and familiar, much like peering out your window connects you with all that is occurring today.

Holly Beach, an Authorized Lionel Dealer, is a full-service train store, with repairs an integral part of the business. You'll find everything you need to build a layout there, including scenery materials, cars, trucks, people, track, and trees, available in a wide variety.

Holly Beach Train Depot is open every day during the holiday season, so be sure to stop by where you're destined to enjoy a trip back in Wildwood time... (see ad on p. 14)

Parts of this story were originally written by Jessica Westerland for The Sun in 2010



"Words that come from the heart stay warm three winters long." ~Farmers Almanac



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"OFF ANGLESEA"

"This view is of Frederick Richards' tent, probably behind the Hereford Inlet Lighthouse at the mouth of the Inlet. This one is very special because it clearly shows how many vessels could be seen out at sea at any given time. This was the age of sail and most transport of goods and passengers would be by sea. The way UPS and Allied Van lines do today. Records tell us that in the 1800s, 30 to 40 vessels an hour would be seen passing by. This was the reason for the great importance of lighthouses and the US Life saving Service." ~Steve Murray



SELF-PORTRAIT 1850's

**Frederick DeBourg Richards
(1822-1903)**

by Steve Murray

Frederick DeBourg Richards, (1822-1903) was a Philadelphia based, self taught artist whose diverse talent ran the gamut of art mediums. Throughout his long career he produced wonderful landscapes in oils, etchings and photographs. He had a lucrative daguerreotype (early photography) studio just across the street from Independence Hall. He travelled out West to be inspired by much different landscapes



THE MEADOWS AT ANGLESEA

than those in the East and also travelled extensively throughout Europe, his sketches done there being later published in book form. Of more interest to readers of "The Sun" however, are his works done along the New Jersey Coast, Anglesea in particular. He spent his visits here living very rustically and close to nature, sleeping in a tent tucked into the safety of the dunes.



"If I ride the wings of the morning, if I dwell by the farthest oceans, even there your hand will guide me..." ~Psalms 139:9

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David and Robert Bowman



Young David when he began working for his father Robert's company that he began in 1947

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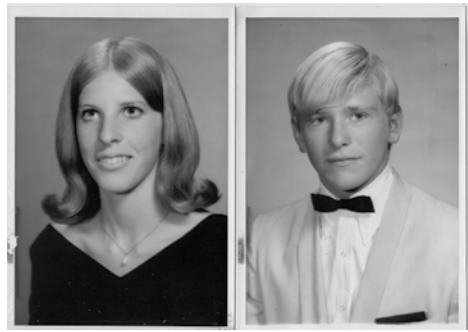
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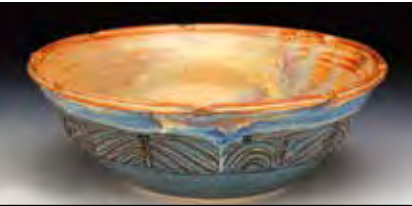
I was addicted to the hokey pokey but thankfully I turned myself around :-~Fun Puns

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IN THE SUMMER ISSUE 6/26/24

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David Check, poet, musician & finder of arrowheads on the beach



Jeff & Aliyah Eyster with their Twinkie repping Magnolia Bikes in the Pooch Parade (2022)

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"Only those who look with the eyes of children can lose themselves in the object of their wonder." ~Eberhard Arnold

The True Meaning of Christmas

Did you ever take notice to how Linus drops his security blanket while sharing "What Christmas is all about?"



As portrayed in **A Charlie Brown Christmas** in the scene where Linus drops his blanket as he begins to speak ... the message of Christmas is **"Fear not."** The birth of Jesus banishes our fears.

Maybe the Christmas Spirit is always about letting go of our security blankets... Maybe the Christmas Spirit is always about letting go of the security of masquerading perfection — to be secure in a perfect Messiah who saves us from our mess. . . Because the Spirit of Christmas releases us from the fear of scarcity — and gives us the security of abundance we receive from 'The Greatest Gift of all.'

~ANN VOSKAMP



"Can anyone tell me what Christmas is all about?!!"

"And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear. And the angel said to them, **"Fear not!** for behold, I bring you Good News of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger."

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!" ~ LUKE 2: 8-14

"And that's what Christmas is all about Charlie Brown!"

Lazarus House

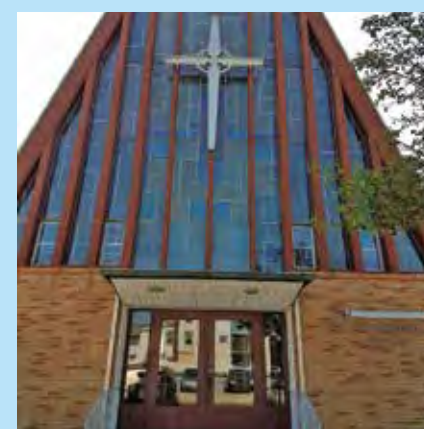
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A Vintage Wildwood



Remembering the Santa Bus

These photos were sent in by Donna Gomez taken on the Santa Bus in 1960, along with fond memories... "Some of my earliest and happiest memories are when my mom and my Aunt Louise would bundle me, my sister Judy and brother Joe to make our annual trip to downtown Wildwood to see Santa on the Christmas bus. In those days, Wildwood was a hub of activity. All of the shops in town were open for business, and the Christmas Bus was parked in the center of town. It was the quintessential small town, where everyone knew each other. Christmas joy would spread like wildfire, and the Santa bus was ground zero. There was usually a line of eager squealing children to get onto the bus. I remember taking the long walk to the back of the bus where Santa and the Mrs. awaited. It was a feeling I'll never forget, a little bit of nervousness and a lot of excitement. Adding to the excitement, the local radio station, WCMC, would broadcast holiday music and some, if not all of the kids talking with Santa. These

are some of my fondest childhood memories, and I'll always cherish them."

During this era, children waited in line at the memorable Santa Bus parked by the Marine Bank (now Crest Savings) at Wildwood & Pacific Avenues. It was the only place a child could see Santa & Mrs. Claus at Christmastime in Wildwood. Kids would receive a stocking full of goodies, along with special coupons and prizes from the shops along the avenue. "They were the best of times," recalls Cecelia Cooper (on a reply on @sunbythesea) "I remember waiting in line to see Santa with my sisters. They would broadcast what you asked for on the microphone for all to hear outside the bus. It was ingenious marketing!"

Another social media follower John Clarke also agrees "Those were the days! Every year I had a Christmas Club savings account at Marine bank. Shopping on Pacific Ave with my \$25.00 savings was a big deal!"

Christmas in July Block Party on Hand Ave

For more than 43 years, family, friends and residents of the 200 E. block of Hand Avenue have celebrated Christmas in July every summer. Houses are decorated and tables covered with food line the sidewalks in front of porches. The aroma of fabulous Italian heritage recipes fills the air... Meatballs and gravy, sausage and sweet pepper, hot and cold pasta dishes, scaloppine, subs and pizza. Later in the evening the deserts appear, tiramisu, biscotti, cannoli and everyone dances to the tunes of the DJ. The tradition began with Rocky Gianetti when he purchased his house on East hand in 1980. ~excerpt from archive story by Anita Hirsch



Throwback to summer of 2017 at the longstanding Annual Christmas in July Block party on Hand Ave. Wildwood Mayor Ernie Troiano with Mike & Joan Gentile

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Happy Holidays!



Congratulations Ocean Place in Wildwood Crest!

Here's to another 40 more!

submitted by Kyle Kichline



Original Construction, 1983



Joe Franco, with the Exec. Committee President Ken O'Gorman, and the 11 original owner families



40th Anniversary Celebration with residents of Ocean Place

The 40th anniversary of Ocean Place Condominium was held Saturday, August 26th, 2023 with Wildwood Crest Deputy Mayor Joe Franco and Cape May County Commissioner Will Morey in attendance. Mr. Franco presented a proclamation of August 26th as Ocean Place Day. Ocean Place is located at 7100 Ocean Avenue, Wildwood Crest, and immediately across from Sunrise Park, Wildwood Crest Beach Patrol, Information Center & Gazebo. Ocean Place was built by Will Morey Development Co. It was their first condominium project as all previous projects were motels or hotels. The building was originally built in two phases, with the initial phase completed in 1983 and hence the 40th anniversary celebration in 2023. The Information Center building across the street is the Ocean Place model from 1983, and the Gazebo was dedicated to Wildwood Crest by the Morey's. There are 90 units in Ocean Place, with the average age of ownership of 18 years, including 11 original owners and 23 owners with residence greater than 30 years.

The Association prides itself on its strong culture and values, which include high quality maintenance of the building and benchmark financial strength. There is a full-time, year round staff of six (6) individuals, including Building Manager Melissa Alcamo, Head of Maintenance Tony Alcamo, and Property Attendants John Stanton, Richard Crawford, Arthur Wolk and Bearetta Harrison-Black. The previous long-time Head of Maintenance, Frank Jaskel, a Wildwood resident, just retired this year. There have been many long standing partnerships that have also contributed to the success of Ocean Place, including Chris Henderson Realty, Jim Yost and Danielle Vuolo from Ocean Property Management Corporation, and Karim Kaspar from Lowenstein Sandler.





"A thankful heart doubles our blessings, causing us to enjoy them twice—when we receive them, and when we remember them."

Wishing You a Happy Thanksgiving & Wonderful Holiday Season!



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Dot Tomlin has collected every issue of The Sun :-)



Chris & Mike Fulmer shining in the sun with The Sun :-)

I'm so thankful to all who take the time to write me these little notes... they're like 'wind beneath my wings' that lift me up and keep me going into the next deadline. ~Dorothy

dear Sun

We used to think of ourselves as magazine editors so we have a great appreciation for what you're doing.

I want to thank you for the fabulous Sun paper, there's nothing like it that I've ever seen and I have been to Hong Kong and all over Europe, so I'll tell you, we really love this magazine and we love the hard work you have done and it's just a wonderful publication and we thank you from the bottom of our hearts and keep up the good work and be healthy to you later..." ~ Rob & Darlene

"Every article, story and advertisement magically transports me back to those wonderful lazy, summer Wildwood days. You do such a great job writing, editing and assembling the magazine... it's so artistic and very professional." ~Anthony P

"Mastering an art form requires time and sacrifice

Along the way, it will become clear your gifting is less about you and more for others

And true success?

It isn't about popularity, but simply pursuing your passion with God

The reality is, if you're pursuing your dreams and creativity with God, you're already succeeding wildly in what matters most."

~ ALLEN ARNOLD,
excerpt from *Waves of Creativity*

"I can only imagine how much time it must take you to put an issue together as there is always so much included in each and every issue. It's the kind of publication that must be read through several times to get everything."

~David N

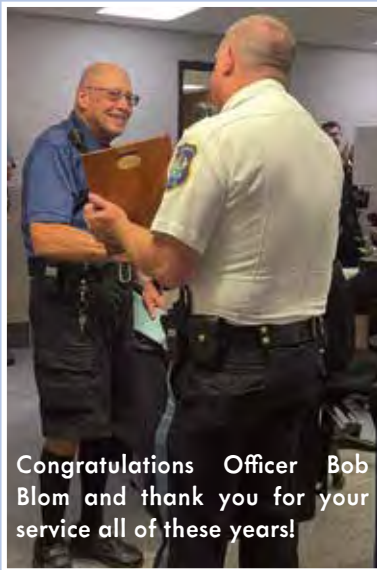
"I want to compliment you on The Sun... It's absolutely the best publication I could read anywhere in our country let alone our state... I mean, your paper is superlative! What a wonderful job and what a credit to the island you are! Thank you thank you thank you so much..." ~Don



"Christmas is the coming of new life in the heart of winter when everything seems to be dead ..." ~Shadowlands, CS Lewis



Robert Blom at National Night Out



Congratulations Officer Bob Blom and thank you for your service all of these years!

Chief John Stevenson presented Robert Blom with the 2023 *Officer Thomas Barone Seasonal Officer of the Year Award*. Officer Blom has been with the North Wildwood Police Dept. since 2001 assigned to parking enforcement, morning seawall patrol, school crossing guard, court officer and traffic posts for special events.

This award is named after Thomas Barone who worked for the NWPD as a seasonal officer in 1980 and was shot and killed in the line of duty while working for the Norristown Police Department in 1992.



5 MILES of Smiles!
Smile!
It increases your 'face value'!



Sean McDermott has been a Wildwood Boardwalk staple for 50+ years. In addition to having spent four of those years on Morey's Giant Slide and 10 years at Games, he has been working for North Wildwood's Buildings & Grounds crew since 2004, where the majority of his work is, naturally, on the Boardwalk. Ironically, in 1986 and 1987, Sean worked at 2500 Boardwalk in Atlantic City. Here's to many more Boardwalk years to come!



My New E-Beach Cruiser: Despite what some may have you believe, an electric bike is not cheating. Mine has been life-changing, especially when riding along our always-breezy shoreline, where those not-so fair-winds can provide more of a workout than I can handle. On my e-bike, it's like having the wind always at my back. Although it is "Pedal Assist", I'm still putting in the work to enjoy the island's scenic views from beach to bay to boardwalk and beyond.

Afterall, who couldn't use a little modern-day assistance on this seaside journey to health and wellness?

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"I wonder if the snow loves the trees and fields, that it kisses them so gently? And then it covers them up snug, you know..."

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HIS FIRST CHRISTMAS IN HEAVEN

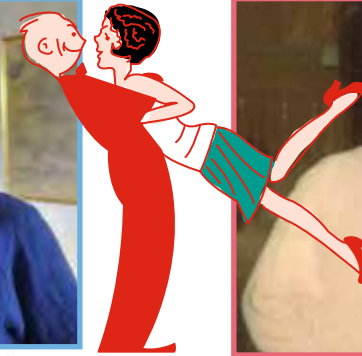


Photo taken by Dorothy Kulisek in 2012

North Wildwood native (and Mace baby) James S. Cafiero, 94, left these sandy shores for his Heavenly seaside home on August 3, 2023. He was just 9 years old when he started working. Since no Wildwood childhood would be complete without a stint working on the Boardwalk, Jim worked as a game operator and also as a bus boy at Groff's Restaurant. He faithfully served as a Junior Air Raid Warden during WWII.

James was a student at Margaret Mace and St. Ann's Elementary Schools, and Wildwood High School. From there, it was Princeton University, where he joined the Navy ROTC. Commissioned as an Ensign upon graduating, James then enrolled in Penn Law School, where he earned his Jurist Doctorate and was admitted to the New Jersey Bar in 1954.

Jim, ever the multitasker, practiced law for 66 years while finding the time to enter the political ring and get elected to the New Jersey Assembly in 1968, serving two terms as an Assemblyman before being elected to the State Senate in 1972. After serving in the Senate for 10 years, he retired in 1982. Retirement, naturally, didn't suit him, so he returned for a second round of Senatorial Public Service in 1990. After 14 years and four re-elections, James retired permanently from politics in 2004.

Lawyer, State Senator, Wildwood lover are just some of the words used to describe Jimmy Cafiero. He was also humorous, humble and kind. To The Sun, he was a devoted reader, great storyteller and one of our biggest fans, graciously sharing memories and old photos with us, further proof of a life well lived by the sea...

An Ode to "My Pat" Christmas

by Jim Cafiero, 2017

This Christmas for us
 will mark 62
 How blessed I have been to have
 shared 61 with you

In my 90th year
 I know the score yet,
 I'll pray to God for many more

Though his denial
 would make me sad
 I'll still thank him
 for those I've had

Merry Christmas dear!!



~SUN ARCHIVES

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...with a white quilt; and perhaps it says 'Go to sleep, darlings, till the summer comes again.'" ~Lewis Carroll, Adventures in Wonderland

THE IMPROBABLE DELIGHT OF WINTER'S UNKEMPT BEACH



"In the summer, it's the human presence that gives it character; in the winter, it's the lack thereof."

Even before moving to the shore year-round, I loved the rare visits to my grandmother's beach house during the winter. Not only would I have the beach to myself, but it provided an entirely different kind of fun than it did during the summer.

Each time was a different adventure of discovery. I would run barefoot in the cold sand, crunching through the dry reed carpets as far as I was allowed in one direction, then the other, sweatshirt pockets bulging with all the little treasures the ocean had left there for me.

Long thin lines of green and brown stretched along the beach, outlining the high tide mark. There were "mermaid purses," black egg sacs of skates, so alien-looking with two long tails on the ends, and the sleek brown carapace of horseshoe crabs. Driftwood rested along those lines, sun-bleached, worn smooth by wind, waves and sand, and dotted with holes from ocean micro-organisms munching on it.

I always felt a rush of anticipation when catching a glimpse of faded olive green. Most of the time it was just another piece of seaweed or a washed up wrapper, but a good percentage of my army men were scavenged from those long lines of debris. Rarely, an action figure with all its limbs, good as new aside from some sand in the joints.

You only find the really good shells during the winter. Especially the Knobbed Whelk, unmistakable with its pointed end flaring out over the opening to the other spiraling spiny side. The state shell of New Jersey, the biggest and most pristine examples were nowhere to be found in the summer, swept up in the rakes dragged behind big municipal front loaders. They made great garden ornaments, and I could listen to the ocean any time I wanted, 100 miles away in the Philadelphia suburbs.

And yes, there was trash in among the natural detritus and salvageable items. Gray cans sand-blasted bare, plastic food packaging, nylon ropes and wild tangles of fishing line were ever-present. But even those served to add some color to the otherwise monotone sand. I know now that ocean pollution is a serious problem, but at the time a section of old fishing net was another good find. It could be a giant spider web for action figures, or a trap to spring on whichever unfortunate peer was playing the bad guy. If nothing else, I had next month's show-and-tell item taken care of.

One day, and without realizing it I was walking those lines again, absentmindedly looking for army men or shovels. I had forgotten how much I enjoyed the uncleaned beach. In the summer, it's the human presence that gives it character; in the winter, it's the lack thereof.

It made me think about how we sweep all this away for the summer season. Of course, if I want to sit and take in the sun in August, an overabundance of dead sea life baking in the heat isn't going to help. It made me think that maybe we don't have to be so unceasingly tidy in our lives. What some might call clutter, others call charm.

I'm obsessive about getting to appointments on time, only to have to sit in the waiting room and watch daytime TV for half an hour before I'm seen. I've met a lot of nice people and had some great conversations waiting at bus stops and train stations because I missed the one I was trying to catch.

In life, as with the beach, there's definitely a time and place for being tidy. A clean kitchen is healthier and easier to work in, and if you're late to a job interview you might as well turn around and go home. But by cutting out every unnecessary detail and trying to make life adhere to a strict schedule, you never know what you might be missing.

by Paul Venesz

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"It is always the simple things that change our lives. And these things never happen when you are looking for them to happen" ~Donald Miller

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of Smiles!



Nobody ever added up
the value of a smile
We know how much
a dollar's worth,
And how much is a mile
We know the distance
to the Sun,
The size and weight of Earth
But no one's ever told us yet
How much a Smile is worth



North Wildwood Rec Dept. @National Night Out



At the Greater Wildwood Hotel Motel Association's end of the season/Halloween dinner at Uries is left to right... repping Wildwood 365- Al Alven as Magnum P.I., Bagel-Time Cafe owner Angelo Billios as his great self :-)) and GWHMA new Executive Director Bob Sahasaylo as WBP Lifeguard



The Smith family enjoyed a visit with Santa at Wildwood Crest's Christmas in July celebraton held at Sunset Lake

The Dog Days of Summer



The Bolle family & friends at their annual "Do it for Bill" Run, keeping the memory of their beloved father Bill Bolle alive, while the Step Back Foundation helps raise money for the local community.

*Editor Note: I cannot Wait for you to see these Bolle kids in my next issue of The Sun... they helped me put together something really special to celebrate my 20th year! There could not be a better family! 😊



Jerry (L) was happy to have his brother Michael & niece Daniela helping this summer. They worked hard cutting lawns after all the rain and sunshine, keeping the island looking beautiful. Michael & Daniela live in Indonesia where he is a professor. His daughter Daniela graduated high school and they are spending her 'gap' year here in the states. Thank you Jerry Michael & Daniela!



Love is in the air at Hershey's Ice Cream! Congratulations to Danny & Jess on your engagement! Wishing you all the love and happiness your hearts can hold... with a cherry on top!



Jen & Joel of BARRY'S BUNS enjoy a night on the town at COOL SCOOPS ... sweetness all around!



"Blessed is the one who finds out which way God is moving and then goes in that direction." ~Daily Bread

She met her True Love in Wildwood

Story & Photos submitted by Kathleen (Wlodarczyk) Johnson Cass & Leo's daughter



Leo & Cass on the beach 1948



Kathi 1956



1209 New York Ave. as it looks today

Is 13 an unlucky number? Not for Cass Candello and Leo Wlodarczyk because they met on the 13th Street beach in North Wildwood approximately back in 1947 when the beach wasn't so crowded. My mother, Cass left Philadelphia around 1942 with her small son, Vincent, for North Wildwood to grieve for her recently deceased husband, Joseph Candello. With \$1,000 in savings, she was able to get a \$2,000 mortgage on a small bungalow in North Wildwood not too far from the Bay. Life was simple in North Wildwood then – no phone, no TV. There was a man selling fish for 50 cents each, an egg man, a neighboring farm, and kind neighbors who never hesitated to help each other.

My father, Leo, was recuperating from a leg wound from Normandy Beach and staying at a boarding house on 13th Street. As my mother used to jokingly say, Leo needed a home and she needed a handyman and a father for Vincent; they were an attractive couple and fell very much in love. They married and divided their time living in Philadelphia and North Wildwood.

Family from Philadelphia were always visiting and staying at the shore house. During the 1950's, my dad loved to fish, go crabbing, and maintain their neat yard. He had a small handmade table by the side of the house where he meticulously cleaned and cut into filets all the catch of the day. Summer evenings growing up were filled with walks to the Bay, the boardwalk, an occasional movie, ice cream at Stern's Grocery/Candy Store, or the ice cream fountain on 17th St. Not having a car, we were

used to walking everywhere, though I was partial to riding the double decker bus that circled the island. Family boat rides along the Bay with my dad to enjoy the summer sunsets are a treasured memory.

After working and living in Philadelphia, it was my dad's dream to come back to Wildwood, perhaps buy another boat and resume his second favorite pastime – fishing (the first being ice skating). Sadly, he passed away at 71 and my mother followed him 25 years later.

My dreamer's head was filled with magical tales of Wildwood, and the early childhood days of freedom and carefree living. My mom used to tell me that Wildwood was the summer playground for the Indians who had made trails to the ocean (Route 9), and that eventually the first roads were built from their trails. My dad would tell us stories of the pirates and Diamond Beach. We would spend hours digging in the sand hoping to find gold bullion and diamonds. Family geography lessons about Wildwood and other shore points being islands were given at an early age.

Time has moved on. My parents told me it didn't snow in Wildwood. There used to be more hotels and bakeries; the clubs I went to are gone. It took a long time, but I am back in paradise dividing my time between North Cape May and North Wildwood and loving it.

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“Glory to God in highest heaven, who unto man His Son hath given; while angels sing with tender mirth, a glad new year to all the earth.”
~Martin Luther

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5 MILES of Smiles!

“Acknowledging the good that you already have in your life... is the foundation for all abundance.”



- ECKHART TOLLE



Kyle Rutherford, Aide to the Mayor and City Administrator Nic Long

Did you know? You can view all of North Wildwood's Historical Markers at www.northwildwood.com



Standing with the new historical marker in honor of the 75th Anniversary of Wildwood Catholic Academy in North Wildwood, from left: Joseph Cray, WCA Principal, Rev. Cadmus D. Mazarella, Pastor, Patrick Rosenello, Mayor of North Wildwood, Mr. Kevin Quinn, Parish Administrator W. Scott Jett, City Clerk, North Wildwood, Zachary Mullock, Mayor of Cape May, and Rev. Thomas Kiely, Parochial Vicar



Representing the Scully family who built the school in 1948... Chris & Sydney Scully, WCA Junior



City Clerk & Historian who spearheaded the historical marker program, Scott Jett and his wife Juanita



MARGARET BLEILER DOUGHERTY WCHS '50



MARY E. MONICHETTI KEANE WCHS '51



KITTY DICKSON SCULLY WCHS '54



IAN BARRET WHS 05



SEAN KELLY WHS 05



ROBERT J. SCULLY WCHS 51



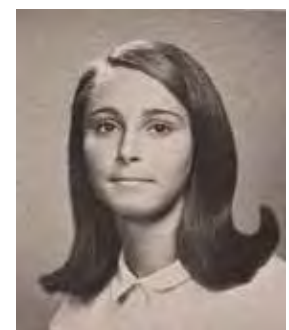
JUDY LUGLIO DAVENPORT WCHS 65



PATRICIA ASSELTA WCHS 65



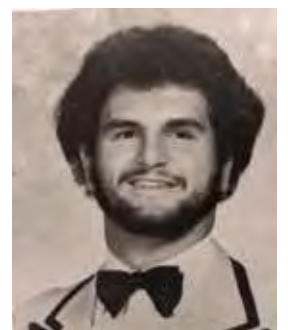
MICHAEL ROBINSON WHS 02



DARLENE FRANCO WCHS 65



CAROL ANN FRANCO WCHS 65



MIKE JOHNSON WHS 82



"Having somewhere to go is home. Having someone to love is family. Having both is a blessing."

5 MILES of Smiles!
Use your smile to change the world, don't let the world change your smile.



Mary Kate & her little bashful ones



The Cole family



Matt McGuigan & his beautiful family



Scott & Juanita Jett and Diane Maguire



Bob & Marilyn Guidetti



Jennifer, Juanita, and Pamela of Angel Visit Baptist Church in Wildwood, having some Halloween fun at Sandman Towers.

Angel Visit Baptist Church
435 W. Garfield Ave
609-522-0056
Sunday Worship 10:45am

Angel Visit Baptist Church Community Food Bank
The church's food pantry serves local families both on and off the island. See dates and instructions below to sign up.

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"No yesterdays are ever wasted for those who give themselves to today." ~Brendan Francis

Albrecht & Dr. Margaret Mace Connection

SUBMITTED IN 2005 BY LEWIS P. ALBRECHT, JR. {1926 - 2014}

My grandparents, William Frederick Albrecht and Eliza Paul Albrecht of Phila. owned a large summer house on what was known as "the bar" on the beach at Anglesea, North Wildwood, NJ prior to the storm of 1913.

After the storm, which caused major beach erosion, the Hereford Lighthouse, Grandfather's house and many others were moved to higher ground.

Grandfather's house was moved to the east side of Central Avenue. The house across the street, 306 Central still stands today, it was owned by my parents, Lewis P. Albrecht, Sr. and Elizabeth Henry Albrecht and was the birthplace of my brother, Samuel Henry Albrecht in 1924, and I, Lewis P. Albrecht, Jr. in 1926. Our older sister recalls that Sam's birth was attended by a male doctor and a nurse but couldn't remember who was present at my birth. It is possible that Dr. Mace was there considering the close connection with the family.

In the 1880's Margaret Mace as a young girl lived with my grandparents and helped in the house and looked after the children, William, Lewis, Pearl and Paul. Later, she decided to become a teacher and taught for a while. Since her disposition was to help and care for others, she went into nursing, but nurses at that time were utilized mainly for cleaning, etc., so Margaret decided to become a doctor.

My grandparents encouraged her decision and even supported her financially through her medical studies at the Women's Medical College in Philadelphia. She returned to Anglesea in 1906 with a medical degree.

When a widow in her old age, my grandmother went to live (board) at the Mace Hospital for the summer months. Her bachelor son, Paul, also lived there from time to time.

Every fall, Dr. Mace would accompany my grandmother out to Phoenix, Arizona on the train so she could spend the winter in the house she owned there. Then in the spring, Dr. Mace would go out again to bring her back to the Hospital to spend the warm months. Grandmother died at Dr. Mace Hospital in 1927.



An historic view of Anglesea from Hereford Inlet. Most of the buildings to the right of the Lighthouse no longer exist. Photo from the Library of Congress, date unknown (circa 1890s-1913). Discovered by NW City historian, Scott Jett



2006 Mace Baby Photo Reunion

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Martha Carlson Harkins Oct. 16, 1918 | 21. Alice Catrambone Oct. 26, 1932 |
| 2. Ruth Carlson Larcombe July 14, 1926 | 22. Vincent Catrambone Oct. 26, 1930 |
| 3. Betty Shevlin Einhaus May 14, 1927 | No, that is not a mistake! Husband & Wife Catrambone were delivered by Dr. Mace on the same day, 2 yrs. apart! They were destined to be together! |
| 4. Helen Shevlin Greenland March 6, 1929 | 23. Joan Betty Myrden McGough June 12, 1934 |
| 5. Deloris N. Barbiers June 9, 1941 | 24. Joan Prendergast Foley April 10, 1935 |
| 6. Janette Callaway July 6, 1936 | 25. Leah Laine Dare July 18, 1925 |
| 7. Janet Polis Blackmore Feb. 18, 1937 | 26. Joan Gerhard Dean Aug. 8, 1946 |
| 8. Kae Braidwood Drumheller July 11, 1923 | 27. Adelaide Bierbrunner Mazza July 7, 1938 |
| 9. Betty Braidwood Taylor July 10, 1918 | 28. Janet Bierbrunner Pettit Sept. 10, 1933 |
| 10. Rita Monichetti Gore Feb. 28, 1932 | 29. William Bierbrunner Feb. 23, 1936 |
| 11. Betty Monichetti Keene Nov. 9, 1933 | 30. Raymond Bierbrunner July 13, 1937 |
| 12. Sarah C. Bacon April 4, 1934 | 31. Adele Mangino Hunter Oct. 16, 1926 |
| 13. Lana Turner MacDonald Nov. 15, 1946 | 32. Anita Carlson Diamond Feb. 1, 1931 |
| 14. Doris Palmer Calamaro Sept. 9, 1929 | 33. Harry J. DiSilvestro Nov. 9, 1941 |
| 15. Dorothy Evensen Kirwin Sept. 2, 1931 | 34. Mickey Harry April 1, 1934 8:00a.m. |
| 16. Ronald Griffith June 3, 1938 | 35. Shirley Anderson McVey Nov. 24, 1934 |
| 17. James Caferio Sept. 21, 1928 | 36. Billie Anderson Nash July 19, 1933 |
| 18. George Carlson May 1, 1924 | 37. Eugene Oliver Bathurst June 26, 1945 |
| 19. Anna Bierbrunner Baker April 13, 1943 | 38. Lewis P. Albrecht, Jr. June 6, 1926 |
| 20. Bill Morey April 19, 1929 | |

**Since this was taken 17 years ago, many of these "babies" are no longer with us.



Dr. Mace Hospital once stood on the NW corner of 25th and Atlantic Ave. in North Wildwood

Operated 1915-1950.
Built by Frederick Sutton who perished on the Titanic

Dr. Margaret Mace graduated from the Women's Medical College in 1905. She opened her hospital in 1915. It remained in operation for 35 years until 1950. Dr. Margaret Mace passed away at 81 years of age on December 16, 1951.

For the past 19 years, we've honored her with this eventful photo shoot, where a handful of her 6,000 babies that she delivered gather together for a reunion.

Perhaps the best tribute to this great woman are her own words which she spoke at the time of her first testimonial in 1929. She said, "There is no place on earth like my home town; no people like my home people; I came here when it was a wilderness; it is one of the finest places in the world, in my work I have tried to do my best, but I had help, helped by the hand of God."





"My mother always used to say: The older you get, the better you get, unless you're a banana." ~Rose (Betty White), The Golden Girls

Only a handful of Wildwoodians can say...

"I'M A DR. MACE BABY!" or "I WAS BORN AT HATTIE LONG'S!"



SAVE THE DATE!
Monday 10am
July 8,
2024

The Sun's 19th Annual "Baby" Reunion. It was a beautiful morning to gather in Hereford Lighthouse Butterfly Garden. Holding Dr. Mace's portrait are the oldest and youngest "Mace babies", Leah Dare and Louise Hand Mihalek

- Sandra Doer 8/19/45 #1 MACE
- Karla Svard Frederick 4/17/40 #25 LONG'S
- Inge Friesenborg Laine 8/2/39 #7 LONG'S
- Florence Turner Newmaster 7/19/41 #20 LONG'S
- Gordon Hansen 4/8/36 #18 MACE
- Mary Cartolano Fay 7/13/46 #9 MACE
- Bob Speigel 8/10/47 #10 MACE
- Bonnie Speigel 2/27/49 MACE not present
- Cathy Nesbitt Smith 3/25/44 #12 LONG
- Jim Wheaton 4/15/32 #13 MACE

- Lana Turner MacDonald 11/15/46 #11 MACE
- William Bierbrunner 2/23/36 #24 MACE
- A. Leah Dare 7/18/25 #14 MACE
- Paul Dare 2/16/49 #6 LONG'S
- Dennis Reed 11/13/48 #1 MACE
- David LaBar 3/23/47 #2 MACE
- Rex A. Garrison 12/14/47 #9 LONG
- Louise Hand Mihalek 8/17/48 #17 MACE
- Michael Lanza 11/10/49 #15 LONG

- Larry Lillo 10/20/47 #16 MACE
- Brook Koeneke 3/29/36 #21 LONG
- Harry DiSilvestro 11/9/41 AKA SUPER GUY #19 MACE
- Barbara Bradway Novsak #23 LONG'S
- H. Bergen Ellingsen 8/12/40 #8 MACE
- Harry Hudson, Jr. 9/21/46 #5 LONG'S
- Lola Pearl Borden 8/6/43 #4 delivered at home on Shawcrest island by Hattie Long
- Marie Kimsey Morey 8/24/33 #3 MACE

#7 We missed Mace baby Carol Turner Leeper 4/29/49 as she was sadly laying her husband Michael to rest on this day.



#8 We missed our Mace baby Jimmy Cafiero 9/21/28 who always arrived to the gathering with his vivacious smile, full of laughter as he proudly reminded everyone that he was a 9lbs. 2oz. baby



"So God created the great creatures of the sea . . . and God saw that it was good." ~ Genesis 1:21



38
years
at same
location

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Your Holiday Party
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SMALL TRAY	30 SHRIMP	\$42.95	MEDIUM TRAY	20 CRAB BALLS	\$39.95
MEDIUM TRAY	60 SHRIMP	\$79.95	LARGE TRAY	40 CRAB BALLS	\$77.95
LARGE TRAY	90 SHRIMP	\$99.95	EX-LARGE TRAY	60 CRAB BALLS	\$104.95
EX-LARGE TRAY	120 SHRIMP	\$129.95	CHICKEN FINGER AND WINGS TRAYS		
JUMBO CRAB FINGER TRAYS			CHICKEN FINGER TRAY 40 FINGERS \$54.95		
MEDIUM TRAY	50 FINGERS	\$79.95	CHICKEN WINGS TRAY 60 WINGS \$59.95		
LARGE TRAY	75 FINGERS	\$104.95	SCALLOPS WRAPPED IN BACON		
EX-LARGE TRAY	100 FINGERS	\$124.95	WE • STUFFED MUSHROOMS ALSO HAVE • CLAMS CASINO		
COMBINATION TRAYS: SHRIMP & CRAB FINGERS			CLAMS CASINO		
MEDIUM TRAY	40 SHRIMP & 25 FINGERS	\$79.95	CLAMS CASINO		
LARGE TRAY	80 SHRIMP & 50 FINGERS	\$134.95			
JUMBO TRAY	80 JUMBO SHRIMP, 75 FINGERS & 1 lb. JUMBO LUMP CRABMEAT	\$229.95			

All party trays include cocktail, tartar, mustard sauces & lemon. Other combinations are available, just ask!!!

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Wishin' for Good fishin'

with **CAPT. GARY SLOAN**

Holiday Greetings Anglers and Readers



I will start this story with regret. The fall fishing season looks like a slow mirage disappearing on the horizon. I realize the end of the dream of a fresh meal from the ocean. The fish are retreating to their winter home grounds. Mother Nature swiped many fishing opportunities this past year with wind or rain on many weekends. That windy weather made the ocean like a wash tub. The conditions force small craft to stay at the dock. The New Jersey fish regulations didn't help the anglers' goals of relaxation and fishing. The ocean usually has a show for all to enjoy most days. The last 10 plus years of regulations seem to have little benefit for the fish stocks and anglers. The Seabass fishing was decent with some great weather however in late October and early November.

Fishing challenges you to learn how to catch varieties of fish. The fishing community becomes friends with a simple hello. I have been blessed to have shared many wonderful days with many anglers. They are helpful to fellow anglers at any time. Standing in cold waves with frozen hands casting a lure. I continue casting. This surf fishing is exciting just for the opportunity by hooking a beautiful Striper. As crazy as that sounds, it is fun. I always believed anglers are the salt of life. Days of these memories bring a smile on my face.

My Christmas list will have some requests for a list as Follows:

The cooler water will bring Tog fish closer to the local waters in the fall. Tog fishing is for the brave who face cold hands and difficult ocean conditions. The cold-water temperatures create potential danger for any boat on the water. The Striped Bass used to be the main target around mid-October until the end of December, but the Stripers arrival seem to be later every year. Size limitation and the last day in December ends the Striper season. They can only be fished in NJ State waters. The state waters are the high tide of the beach out to 3 miles. The Federal waters restrict any possessions of Stripers in those waters. I have loved fishing all my life. The fishing community shares a common love for simple events like sunsets, sunrise and the many wonders of Mother Nature.

Mother nature to provide perfect days for the future fishing days next year.

The DEP 2024 fish limits should allow someone to be able to take at least one harvested fish pe day to enjoy a fresh dinner with exceptional benefits for many anglers.

And let's not forget the revenues from taxes on gear, fuel, and many dollars to the State of New Jersey.



May you all be blessed, and I hope you all enjoy the season. May your Christmas time fill you all with friends and family love.

MERRY FISHMAS!

God Bless, Captain Gary

...we live by the currents, plan by the tides, and follow the Sun...

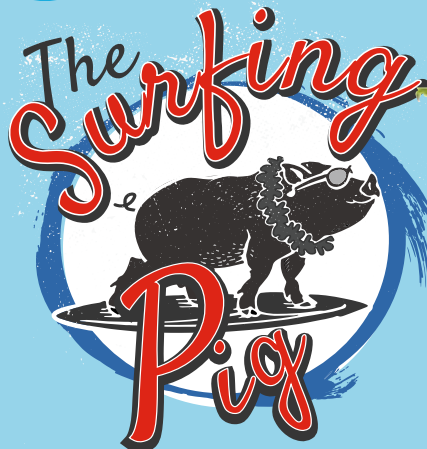
November (Local Time)					December (Local Time)						
		High		Low				High		Low	
		A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.			A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.
1	Wed	11:04	11:37	4:29	5:31	1	Fri	10:22	11:01	3:47	4:56
2	Thu	11:52		5:16	6:25	2	Sat	11:08	11:54	4:33	5:45
3	Fri	12:31	12:44	6:06	7:23	3	Sun	11:57		5:24	6:35
4	Sat	1:31	1:42	7:03	8:22	4	Mon	12:49	12:50	6:20	7:24
5	Sun	1:35	1:43	7:06	8:19	5	Tue	1:46	1:44	7:20	8:11
6	Mon	2:37	2:43	8:09	9:10	6	Wed	2:41	2:39	8:21	8:54
7	Tue	3:32	3:36	9:09	9:54	7	Thu	3:31	3:32	9:19	9:35
8	Wed	4:19	4:24	10:02	10:32	8	Fri	4:16	4:21	10:12	10:15
9	Thu	5:01	5:08	10:49	11:08	9	Sat	4:59	5:08	11:01	10:55
10	Fri	5:40	5:48	11:33	11:41	10	Sun	5:40	5:53	11:47	11:35
11	Sat	6:16	6:27		12:15	11	Mon	6:21	6:38		12:33
12	Sun	6:52	7:05	12:15	12:57	12	Tue	7:03	7:22	12:17	1:18
13	Mon	7:28	7:44	12:49	1:38	13	Wed	7:46	8:08	1:01	2:05
14	Tue	8:06	8:24	1:26	2:21	14	Thu	8:32	8:56	1:47	2:53
15	Wed	8:46	9:06	2:05	3:06	15	Fri	9:20	9:48	2:37	3:42
16	Thu	9:30	9:54	2:48	3:55	16	Sat	10:11	10:44	3:30	4:34
17	Fri	10:19	10:49	3:36	4:48	17	Sun	11:05	11:45	4:27	5:29
18	Sat	11:15	11:54	4:32	5:47	18	Mon		12:04	5:31	6:25
19	Sun		12:19	5:37	6:48	19	Tue	12:50	1:06	6:40	7:22
20	Mon	1:06	1:27	6:50	7:50	20	Wed	1:56	2:11	7:50	8:18
21	Tue	2:18	2:34	8:04	8:48	21	Thu	3:00	3:15	8:59	9:13
22	Wed	3:22	3:38	9:13	9:42	22	Fri	3:59	4:16	10:04	10:07
23	Thu	4:20	4:36	10:17	10:33	23	Sat	4:53	5:13	11:03	10:57
24	Fri	5:12	5:30	11:14	11:21	24	Sun	5:43	6:05	11:57	11:46
25	Sat	6:00	6:20		12:08	25	Mon	6:30	6:54		12:47
26	Sun	6:46	7:08	12:07	12:58	26	Tue	7:14	7:40	12:32	1:34
27	Mon	7:30	7:55	12:52	1:47	27	Wed	7:56	8:23	1:17	2:18
28	Tue	8:13	8:40	1:36	2:34	28	Thu	8:36	9:06	1:59	3:01
29	Wed	8:55	9:26	2:19	3:21	29	Fri	9:16	9:48	2:41	3:42
30	Thu	9:38	10:12	3:02	4:08	30	Sat	9:55	10:30	3:22	4:23
						31	Sun	10:35	11:13	4:04	5:03

Moon Phases		Moon Phases	
Last Quarter	5	Last Quarter	5
New Moon	13	New Moon	12
First Quarter	20	First Quarter	19
Full Moon	27	Full Moon	26
Apogee	6	Apogee	4
Perigee	21	Perigee	16



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Happy 100th Birthday

WE ALL LOVE YOU SIR HENRI J. BEDARD

Family & Friends gathered at **Marvis Diner in North Wildwood** to honor a very special WWII D-Day Veteran on October 14, 2023



Bill from Star Diner & The Sun's Dorothy



Bob McNabb



Pat Heal



Henri J's Shop Mechanic Kenny and his wife Lisa and son Kenny



Manny & Milton of Marvis Diner



Henri J with his son Hank, daughter Denise and son-in-law Donny



Hank & Judy



Henri J with Fred



Photographer Mike Oehlers



Bob Harkins with Henri J



Kathy Melchiorre



Mike & Betty



4 Generations: Henri J with Isabelle, Echo, and Denise



N.Wildwood Mayor Patrick Rosenello with a 2nd Proclamation for this special WWII Vet. The 1st was given after HJ received his Legion of Honor medal



Sean & Denny of The Moose Lodge presented HJ with a longest member plaque



Evelyn & her daughters



Henri J with his nurses from the VA



On November 7th, 2015, Sir Henri J was among a group of American Veterans who were made Chevaliers of the French Legion of Honor (the highest honor, thus the title "Sir") for their engagement during World War II and their heroic contribution towards the liberation of France.

A celebratory seafood feast was enjoyed at Star Diner upon arriving back home by then-owners Bill & Eleni



Ed Whalen



Diane & Dorothy



Susan and family



Reflect upon your present blessings—of which every man has many—not on your past misfortunes, of which all men have some.” -Charles Dickens

THE WILDWOOD SUN SALUTES GRAMPS!

Cheers to 105 Vince Graziano!



This January 29th, we look forward to celebrating the 105th birthday of Vince “Gramps” Graziano.

A true Wildwood lover, Vince has been coming to our sandy shores for 70 of those years, fondly recalling his family staying at Mrs. Rodenbaugh’s Apt. House at 322 E. Maple Ave. in Wildwood. His parents, thankfully discovering the Wildwoods to be as beautiful as their home beaches in Naples, Italy, brought their large family of 12 children here on vacation from Trenton, NJ. Vince happily remembers his mother always made sure to pack a large pot of gravy. Family dinners were the most important part of their day, where every child was served a glass of their father’s homemade red wine (which Vince believes contributed to his long, good healthy life, as his mother insisted on only the most beautiful grapes for the recipe).

Then came the war years, with Vince serving in the South Pacific in the US Army from 1942-45 as an infantry man until his skills as a mechanic and repairman were realized.

After the war ended, Vince returned home and found work as an auto mechanic. For the past 43 years, he’s been a retired foreman from the

Dept. of Public Works in Trenton and currently helps run his family’s Magnolia Bikes & Parking Lot. His duties today entail sitting in his rocker on the porch and greeting all who walk by with a big smile, no doubt positively contributing to their day.

The Sun was welcomed this past Memorial Day weekend 2023 by his wonderful grandson Jeff Eyster and his other wonderful half Aliyah Eyster to meet this special centenarian. His dear friend John “Gigi” Gigliotti (also a WWII veteran and a few years shy of being a centenarian) also popped in for a visit. Gigi has his own claim to Wildwood fame, infamously known for overseeing the Boardwalk Tram Cars, and is also a retired Passenger Conductor for the Reading and Conrail Railroads.

The old friends chatted about many things, one of them being “work,” which for these two Wildwood guys never seems to be done! Gigi proudly said to Vince with his big old grin, “We’re doing a good job at staying alive!”

We here at The Sun are happy to report that they most certainly are and look forward to celebrating many milestones with them by the sea...

The family of Vince & his (late) wife Mary Graziano. Their legacy of love includes 4 children, 11 grandchildren, 3 great-grandchildren and 1 great-great-grandchild



“ Yes, there are two paths you can go by, but in the long run, there’s still time to change the road you’re on. ” – Led Zeppelin

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**WILDWOOD
SUMMER
SMILES** 🤙



Local artist Fredi Daniel with son Alex



The Wildwood Crest Creative Arts Council was pleased to feature local Fredi Daniel, a self taught artist who is also a father, a coach, a mentor, and a friend. The theme of the exhibit focused on local architecture. Fredi’s paintings included places that were meaningful to him growing up in the Wildwoods such as Bonellis Market (above) and the George Redding Bridge (below). If interested for more information, you can follow him on facebook.



The Britt brothers Mike, Ed & Scott at the 56th annual post Labor Day North Wildwood Surf Fishing Tournament. Although there wasn’t much catching going on, they enjoyed their time together! They did win a new tackle box as a door-prize :-)



“Kiss Me I’m Polish!”
When you’re from Port Richmond and you’re both Irish and Polish!
Ronnie Kenny at The Irish Fall Festival, looking for the sunrise in a nor’easter



Summer visitor Yvonne with a Seward Johnson sculpture of Monet at Crest Arts Pavillion

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"Spring with her golden suns and silver rain, will be with us once again." -Henry Timrod

FIVE MILES of SMILES

Do simple things like smile at someone.

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT IS THE MOST WONDERFUL NIGHT OF THE SUMMER! when the entire community comes out to see one another



Beauties Nola & Stella Quinn love their Cold Brews :-)



NWBP Chief Bill Chiav & Capt. TE



Capt Gary & Bonnie Sloan and Gail Morgan



Chuck & Erin had alot of fun :-)



Father Daughter Love Rick & Rickii Davis



Jodie DiEduardo & Joe Rullo

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5 MILES of Smiles!
 BE THE REASON SOMEONE SMILES TODAY

North Wildwood Beach Patrol hosted its 48th annual Around the Island Row race, held in memory of former North Wildwood City Councilman Bud Tarbotton who founded the 20-mile counter-clockwise "doubles crew" race in 1975.



NWBP Chief Bill Chiaverelli with rowers who dedicated their boat to their good friend Bill Kindle



Ryan, Claudia, Anna, Grace, Lucas & Quinn picked up a copy of The Sun while they were collecting seashells



Wildwood Crest Beach Patrol 5-Time 1st Place Winner Terry McGovern teamed up with a new rowing partner, James Yarussi after winning several races with Derek Kobierowski.



At the Greater Wildwood Hotel Motel Association's end of the season/Halloween dinner, Executive Director Bob Sahasaylo and his wife Mary Kate present Brendan & Robin Sciarra with awards for Best Lunch at Mudhen and Best New Accommodation for their amazing Hen House Micro-Resort



Tom Killian has been rowing for Wildwood Beach Patrol for 30+ years.

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I wrote some poetry maybe you will remember me
 I saw the beauty of a snowfall across a field
 down it came white flakes from cloudy skies
 then landed on my face and i felt alive
 like God had painted a picture for my weary eyes
 it was silent except for a small wind howl
 a whiteout of serenity all around
 for a moment i was at peace watching the snowflakes whirling in the breeze
 though it was cold i was warm a discerning eye in the middle of the storm
 the trees in a shroud of white stood elegantly by for the coming of night
 I like the world when it is just like this
 hope to give her a frosty kiss in the cabin and our fireplace bliss
 ~ Tim Butler

SAVE THE DATE!
MAY 11, 2024
 CELEBRATING
 150 YEARS SINCE THE
 LIGHT WAS LIT AT
 HERFORD LIGHTHOUSE
 ON MAY 11, 1874



"Sit, walk, or run, but don't wobble." ~Turkey proverb

The LYNCH Who stole Christmas
FROM THE GRINCH THAT IS ...

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MAKING SURE CHILDREN HAVE A PRESENT TO OPEN ON CHRISTMAS DAY!

I hope to see you at the following Holiday Shopping Venues
Dorothy



11/25 Holiday Cheer at **OWENS PUB**
Holiday Shopping Vendors & family fun

12/2 Greater Wildwood Jaycees Downtown Wildwood Christmas in the Plaza.
LOOK FOR ME at **YELLOW UMBRELLA GIFT SHOP**

12/9 Family Holiday Celebration at **WILDWOODS CONVENTION CENTER**
Holiday Bazaar

12/10 **CREST ARTS PAVILION** Holiday Event

*Weather permitting for the outdoor events

Christmas in the Wildwoods!

#TBTs over the years...



SAVE THE DATE!
BREAKFAST WITH THE GRYNCH
AT KEY WEST CAFE
SAT. DEC. 16



Jim Clark and his twin girls Evelyn & Ivy with the Grynch, 2015



Jackie Mikulski of Key West Cafe with the Grynch, 2015



The Thompsons & Stockers at Key West Cafe with the Grynch, 2015



Uncle Dom Cappichione with the Grynch, 2015



Nick Holland & the Grinch

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#TBT 2018 boys of summer: Dylan, Kevin, Ian, Nick, Austin, and Jordan



"Riches take wings, comforts vanish, hope withers away, but love stays with us forever." ~Lew Wallace

She met her True Love at the Fish Factory



Scott Jett learning to walk with grandmother Annette Jett and mother Ronnie Jett, at 107 E. Atlanta Avenue, 1965



Patrolman Jett outside of North Wildwood City Hall, 1962



Bill and Ronnie Jett in 1956



The Menhaden Plant also known as the Fish Factory, on Route 47 Rio Grande Blvd. Bill Jett's family arrived in 1953 seeking work in the booming fishing industry. The 'J. Scott Jett' ship was dedicated to his father.

by Scott Jett

The Cravens had been in the Wildwoods since the early 1900's, the Jetts didn't arrive until 1953, when Haynie Products of Reedville, VA purchased the old Fish Factory on Route 47 (now the site of the MUA plant) and sent my grandfather, J. Frank Jett, to oversee operations. He and my grandmother Annette had a home built at 107 E. Atlanta Ave. in Wildwood Crest, which is now owned by Dr. Stone. My mother, Cherone Craven (known to all as Ronnie), and her family lived at 104 W. 17th Avenue in North Wildwood, which I later purchased in 1987 after my mother's parents had passed away.

The paths of the Jetts and Cravens crossed at the fish factory on a cold day in March 1955. My mother had gotten a job there as a secretary after graduating from Wildwood High School in 1954. My father, William F. Jett (Bill), had come to work there after graduating from Northumberland High School in Virginia. My mother says it was love at first sight; she went home that day after work and told her mother that she had seen the man that she would marry, even though she had to admit that she did not know his name yet. They were married on December 15, 1956 in the Methodist Church at Roberts & Pacific Avenues in Wildwood.

Dad joined the North Wildwood Police Department in 1960 and was promoted to Sergeant in 1970. My parents bought the house at 208 E. 14th Avenue in 1967, where I spent

the rest of my childhood. Mom and Dad were active at church and in the Boy Scouts. I still have people to this day tell me that they remember Mrs. Jett as their Den-Mother and Mr. Jett as their Explorer Troop leader. Dad always had a second job, working in construction for Ernie Troiano Sr. and then Bob Scully. He was also a volunteer fireman. Our family spent a number of summers at Holly Shores Campground in Erma where Mom ran the office and Dad would come work there when his police shift was finished. In the early 1970s Mom got a job at the Rio Motel, where she worked off and on for 25 years, also working for Marine National Bank and the North Wildwood Police Department until she retired in 2002.

Mom taught me what I call Life Lesson #1 in the fall of 1972. I was eight years old and had gone with her to Wildwood ("downtown" she would say) to do some shopping for Christmas. Back then Wildwood had everything you needed - Murphy's, Woolworth's, Lee's, Halpern's, the Martha Shop, Meyer's Shoes, Allen's Men's Shop, Staller's Hardware, Giddings, Tot Town, Taylor's Photo Shop, etc. Mom and I were walking on the south side of Wildwood Avenue towards Pacific, and a man was coming towards us. As he passed by, Mom said hello and he said hello back. I didn't know who he was, but Mom had spoken to him so I figured she knew him. I asked her, "Who was that?" She replied, "I don't know."

So I asked her, "Then why did you say hello to him?" She said, "You have to be nice." I remember it like it was yesterday and I have tried to live my life that way. Mom was always helping and showing kindness to others. We often made cakes and pies to take to someone who was sick or had lost a loved one. When she heard a new family was moving into the area and they hadn't found a home yet, they were invited to stay at our house. When a young lady at our church had nowhere to go, Mom had her move in with us until she got back on her feet. When a friend went through a divorce, he was told to stay in our spare bedroom until he got things settled down in his life. Being nice and helping others was the way she lived, and she expected her children to do the same. I have tried, but will never be able to live up to the standard that she set.

Our lives took a tragic turn on December 11, 1974 when Dad was killed in a deer hunting accident. True to form, Mom told us that it was an accident and that we should forgive the man who did it and never hold a grudge. She later met with the man personally and has always told me that she had no hard feelings towards him - it was an accident, pure and simple.

When Dad was alive we were always camping or fishing or playing baseball or doing something outdoors. We spent long weekends at Gettysburg and Lancaster and all parts of Virginia, usually

stopping on the way home to see my grandparents, who had gone back after the fish factory in New Jersey had run its course. On all our family trips to Virginia, I don't remember Dad ever driving home via the Delaware Memorial Bridge - he loved to be outdoors, so we always took the Ferry. He loved being on the beach. We would fly kites, play baseball, and fish. Instead of having us hold the ball of kite string in our hands, Dad would hook up the kite to a fishing rod, making it easy to reel in. He wasn't too happy chasing his brand-new rod down the beach one day after it had slipped out of my hands. If he was out on the sandbar trying for stripers and the tide was coming up, he would tell us not to wait for him, he would be home in a while. A couple hours later he would come walking up 14th Avenue, his waders full of water because the tide got too high for him to get back in. His waders would be hanging over the fence for a few days to dry out. I can still see him leaning over the picnic table in our yard, cleaning the first drum fish that I had ever seen. We always had plenty of fish in the summers and venison in the winters. We took a trip with friends to Cape Hatteras in the spring of 1975, but it wasn't the same without Dad.

How Mom raised our family alone and kept it together can only be attributed to her hard work and the goodness and mercy of God.

I don't believe that anyone on earth has ever had better parents than I had.



"As you get older, your Christmas list gets smaller and the things you really want can't be bought."



PHOTO OF SANDDOLLAR FOUND ON HEREFORD INLET BY DOROTHY KULISEK

"After the death of my brother Michael, 28 years ago, my family found comfort on taking long walks along the inlet beach (which back in 1995 was SO big, resembling a tropical island). When my sister Sharon found a sanddollar the first heartbreaking summer following his death, we took it as a sign that our brother was near, and ever since then we have been finding sanddollars, always when we need them the most, and now, from our other angels too" ~A note from the editor, Dorothy



The Legend of the Sand Dollar

Upon this odd shaped seashell
A legend grand is told
About the life of Jesus
The wondrous tale of old

The center marking plainly shows
the well known Guiding Star
That led to tiny Bethlehem the
Wise Men from afar

The Christmas flower,
Pointsettia for His Nativity
The Resurrection too is marked
the Easter Lily, see

Five wounds were suffered
by our Lord
from nails and Roman's spear
When He died for us on the Cross
The wounds plainly here

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should it be broke
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To emphasize this legend
So may Peace and Love abound

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