

More boats on water means more work for Sea Tow

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House of the week

Real Estate Resource



166th YEAR NO. 36 CAPE MAY, N.J. Serving America's National Historic Landmark City WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2020 \$1.00

Murphy allows indoor restaurant seating Sept. 4

By DAVID NAHAN
Cape May Star and Wave

for the Labor Day weekend," he said at his COVID-19 press conference.

The announcement was met with enthusiasm locally. "Too little, too late," Ocean City Boardwalk Merchants Association President Wes Kazmarck said Monday afternoon. "Governor Murphy's announcement is a slap in the face to our members that were devastated all summer by his draconian one-size-fits-all solution to restaurants. Allowing boardwalk restaurants - which are largely open to the outside -

to open at the same capacity as fully indoor restaurants the day before our summer season ends is a cruel joke."

The resumption of indoor dining, Murphy said, "will come with strong limits on capacities as well as the requirements that will be strictly enforced" because the pandemic isn't over and the state's goal "is to ensure this step is done properly to prevent the kind of spikes we saw in other states that allowed their restaurants to reopen too fully and too quickly."

Last week, the governor announced that gyms and other indoor entertainment centers would be open as of Sept. 1, also with restrictions.

Restaurants, gyms and movie theaters have been closed since mid-March when the governor issued stay-at-home orders and locked down a majority of businesses that were not deemed essential, and he closed schools for in-person attendance. Restrictions started being eased around Memorial Day weekend on small retailers, but gyms and

indoor seating at restaurants were prohibited until this week. The governor and state Health Commissioner Judith Persichilli had said indoor activities were blamed for spiking COVID-19 rates because of a lack of proper ventilation and had been steadfast in refusing to allow restaurants and gyms to reopen until now in spite of intense lobbying and complaints from both industries that have lost almost a half a year of business.

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LCMR prepared to welcome back students Sept. 8

District holds virtual town hall to address its reopening plans

By JACK FICHTER
Cape May Star and Wave

ERMA — The Lower Cape May Regional School Board held a virtual town hall meeting Aug. 25 to outline reopening plans and take questions from the public.

School is scheduled to begin Sept. 8.

Superintendent Joe Castellucci said the school could not take the temperature of every individual that stepped into the school buildings. Students and teachers need to determine each morning if they are "physically fit enough to go to school," he said.

Those who have possible COVID-19 symptoms should stay home and notify the school nurse, Castellucci said, adding that students who feel well enough can go online and join their classes remotely, which would mark the student as being present in school.

Schools will be cleaned and disinfected during various times of the day and night and all day Wednesday when all students will learn at home, he said.

"We will be placing disinfecting wipes in each

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Lower Cape May Regional teachers preparing rooms for return of students.
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classroom and given the nature and age of our students, grades seven through 12, we don't think it's an unreasonable expectation to ask our students as you come into class to grab a cleaning wipe, wipe down your chair and your desk, and as you leave class do the same," Castellucci said.

Restrooms will be inspected and cleaned during scheduled times each day, he said.

Students will wear face coverings as mandated by the state. Face coverings will be provided to all students and staff. Students may bring their own masks if they wish, Castellucci said.

Isolation rooms will be established for any student who displays symptoms of COVID-19 until they are

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Jack Fichter/CAPE MAY STAR AND WAVE

Amy Kennedy, left, a Democrat running for the Second Congressional District seat in the Nov. 3 election, talks with teachers from West Cape May Elementary School during a stop Monday at Antique Doorknob in West Cape May.

Kennedy visits Cape May area

By JACK FICHTER
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY — Amy Kennedy spent Aug. 29 visiting businesses on Cape Island and meeting the public as part of her South Jersey Business Tour.

Kennedy, a candidate for the Second Congressional District, began her tour at the Antique Doorknob in

West Cape May, where she greeted an enthusiastic crowd and stood among lamps, stained-glass windows and mantelpieces from yesteryear.

She said she was traveling around the district to make sure everyone knew she was available and accessible. Kennedy said she was focused on small business, how the COVID-19 pandemic has affected the community, the economy, health

care and families.

"There has been a lot of conversation about how we can best build back better, and we know that it starts locally," she said.

Kennedy said she was seeing many friends along the way — those who supported her in the primary election and "those who didn't feel they

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Bezaire declares candidacy for Cape May City Council

By JACK FICHTER
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY — Local real estate agent Chris Bezaire filed his petition Monday with the city clerk to run for a City Council seat in the Nov. 3 election.

"It is time for the city of Cape May to have the leadership, vision and collective cooperation its residents deserve," Bezaire said. "I have had the desire to run for City Council

for many years but until now the timing was never right."

Bezaire comes from a longtime Cape May family. His great-great grandfather, Sol Needles, was mayor of Cape May in 1948. His grandfather, Wister "Barney" Dougherty, served as general manager of the Cape May County Bridge Commission from 1973 to 1991 and was chief of the Cape May Volunteer Fire Department from 1970 to

1995. Bezaire's father, Bill Bezaire, has served on the Planning Board since 1980, serving as chairman for more than 20 years.

"I feel very passionate about several issues facing our community such as the completion of the Lafayette Street Park, working toward a realistic and long-term solution for traffic congestion and lack

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Mullock has his sights set on Cape May mayor's seat

By JACK FICHTER
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY — City Councilman Zack Mullock announced last week his candidacy for mayor in the Nov. 3 election.

"I believe in Cape May's future," he stated in a news release. "I am heavily invested in Cape May's success both for my family and my business. We need leadership to take on the discord in town, take on

these projects and bring the citizens together."

Mullock's campaign slogan is "CommUNITY First."

"In other words, serving the residents; supporting the businesses; and preserving and protecting our town," he stated.

Mullock stressed the importance of bringing residents together to get projects completed.

"Cape May needs to bring people together to rally in support of our community,"

he stated. "Projects, such as the Cape May police station, fire station, Lafayette Street Park and repairing City Hall, require a leader to bring people together to get them accomplished. These issues should be something we, as a community, are proud of."

He also targeted the need for better leadership in financial planning. Mullock called for a five- and 10-year

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Free Prostate Cancer Screening

INDIVIDUAL SCREENINGS IN A COVID-SAFE ENVIRONMENT
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 1PM - 3PM

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