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This monarch won't fly away
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Shore is open for Memorial Day – with restrictions

By **DAVID NAHAN**
Cape May Star and Wave

With Cape May County Freeholder Vice Director Leonard Desiderio on the dais with him Thursday afternoon, May 14, Gov. Phil Murphy announced shore towns will be open – with restrictions – starting the Friday of Memorial Day weekend.

While non-essential stores still won't be allowed to have customers inside and amusements will remain closed, the governor said

the beaches will be open for all activities with certain limitations.

"We are ensuring the Jersey shore can be open to families across our state and region and we can do it in a way that is consistent with protecting the public health of every beachgoer," Murphy said. "The Jersey shore, after all, is where memories are made. The last thing any of us wanted is a summertime down the shore being a memory."

In steps coordinated with Delaware, New York and Connecticut,

and with direct discussions with leaders "up and down the shore at all levels of government," including Desiderio representing Cape May County, Murphy said he wants "everyone to have fun, but we want everyone to be safe. To accomplish both, we will be requiring restrictions on how many beach-goers may be allowed on any beach or lakefront. The social distancing we've been practicing in our hometowns will be extended to our beaches."

He said no one can be discrimi-

nated against and the communities can't turn public beaches into private beaches. "Everyone must have ability to enjoy our state's greatest natural resource," he said.

For every beach, a community must:

- Establish capacity limits;
- Enforce social distancing measures;
- Prohibit contact sports and organized events; and
- Implement proper and regular sanitation.

The governor said limits on capacity will be left to leaders in each community. He suggested ways include limiting available beach tags for any given day or using technology with a geographic special analysis.

Social distancing with at least six feet will be enforced except for couples, families and household members – the same as in parks. That also is up to local officials.

Each community is different so

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Progressive and conservative approaches in 2nd District race



Courtesy of campaign/SENTINEL

Will Cunningham of Vineland is a progressive running in the Democratic primary for the Second Congressional District.

Cunningham says pandemic brings to light policies that have been necessary

By **DAVID NAHAN**
Cape May Star and Wave

OCEAN CITY – Will Cunningham believes the COVID-19 pandemic, and the systemic problems it has brought to light, demonstrate the need for progressive policies to best serve average Americans.

Cunningham, who is competing with four others in the July 7 Democratic primary for the Second Congressional District seat, said he is fighting for systemic change on issues that existed before the pandemic began and will be here when the crisis is over.

"What we're seeing now in this great time of crisis is that our government is more and more leaning on progressive policies to remedy the situation," Cunningham said. "If we know what is going to do the most good and help the most vulnerable populations then we need to use this moment to really create systemic change. We're going to need our government to respond to the crisis in direct proportion to the severity."

Cunningham, of Vineland, spent the past six years on Capitol Hill, two and a half as a policy staff member for U.S. Sen. Cory Booker (D-NJ) and then, until he announced his run for Congress in January, as chief investigator on the House Oversight Committee. He worked for the late Chairman Elijah Cummings.

"For so long progressives have been told that our policies were too expensive or too 'pie in the sky,'" Cunningham said. "However, in our darkest hour, we find ourselves turning to those same policies because they provide the greatest good

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Courtesy of campaign/SENTINEL

Bob Patterson of Ocean City is running in the Republican primary for the Second Congressional District.

Patterson: This is how to rebuild the country, south Jersey with manufacturing

By **DAVID NAHAN**
Cape May Star and Wave

OCEAN CITY – Bob Patterson has a conservative vision for the Second Congressional District.

Patterson, 66, of Ocean City, is challenging Democrat-turned-Republican incumbent Jeff Van Drew in the July 7 Republican primary for Congress.

A self-described life-long Republican and conservative who is pro-life, pro-border wall and pro-President Donald Trump, Patterson's vision for the district revolves around rebuilding the economy here, or as he puts it, making "south Jersey great again."

The COVID-19 pandemic has bolstered his long-held beliefs that manufacturing must return to the United States from China. He said that for all of the time Van Drew has served in government, from mayor to freeholder to state assemblyman and state senator and now to Congress, he has not improved the economy around him.

In the midst of the pandemic Van Drew recently joined other legislators' calls to bring manufacturing back from China, but Patterson said he is a johnny-come-lately to the issue.

As a vice president for the U.S. Business and Industry Council, Patterson said he fought against trade deals, including the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP), and has "expressed alarm about China for a long time."

"Of course the pandemic is a great illustration about why this has been a dangerous, ominous policy prescription of all

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Trying to fix errors delaying jobless benefits

By **JACK FICHTER**
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY COUNTY HOUSE – A number of residents continue to wait to receive unemployment benefits although some delays are due to errors made entering information on the state Department of Labor website.

The Chamber of Commerce of Cape May County held a video conference May 11 with Brittany O'Neill, chief of staff for the First District legislative office, hosting the event. She has been assisting residents who have been waiting seven to eight weeks for their first unemployment check.

O'Neill said hopefully a partnership of the legislative office and Cape May County Chamber of Commerce could help constituents navigate some choppy waters with the state Department of Labor.

"Most of the people apply and have no problem whatsoever," O'Neill said.

One mistake in information entered or

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John Cooke/Special to the Cape May Star and Wave

Six Feet Saves

Megan Santiago, and Liberty Kocis, both health educators with the Cape May County Health Department, walk the Cape May Promenade May 16 for the Six Feet Saves campaign.

How many people live full-time in C. M. Point?

By **JACK FICHTER**
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY POINT – This tiny, nearly crime-free and so far COVID-19-free borough, is known to have a small population, but how small?

Connie Campanella, president of the Cape May Point Taxpayers Association, raised that point at a

May 14 Borough Commission meeting held by teleconference. The borough has submitted a comprehensive Municipal Public Access Plan to the state, which states the borough's full-time population at 291, based on 2010 census figures.

Campanella said she has

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L.T. police explain shop closing

ERMA – In response to recent reports on social media regarding an incident that occurred past weekend, Lower Township police issued a statement on their closing down of Sunset Beach Gift Shop.

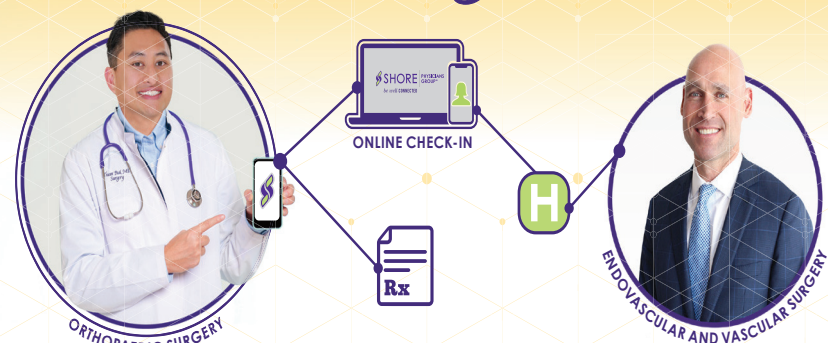
Here is the statement in full: "On May 16, the Lower Township Police Department responded to the Sunset Beach Gift Shop located at 502 Sunset Blvd., Cape May Point. This

response was based on multiple anonymous tips received that both the business and miniature golf course were operating in violation of the Governor's COVID-19 related executive orders.

"Upon arrival, the Lower Township officer located the owner of the business and advised him that he was there based on anonymous tips that the store

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