Surprise gift lifts struggling family

“it will relieve a lot of stress we have in our lives. We were robbing Peter to pay Paul, to pay our bills.”
DANIEL FISHER

The McLaughlins presented the gift in partnership with the Gradient Gives Back Foundation, a nonprofit organization that devotes its resources to assisting Americans in need. The Fishers were nominated for the gift in partnership with the Innocents in Neptune.

Bright sky greets Big Sea Day

“We couldn’t have asked for a better day, weather-wise.”
ERIK ERTLE

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“A yellow sun, green flags, white surf, ivory sand, blue skies and an even bluer ocean. Add water temps in the 70s, air temps in the 90s, a soft breeze, and life doesn’t get much better.”
said Erik Erk, Manasquan beach-recreation superintendent.

“Everything was great. It was a beautiful day,” added Ray Summers, chairman of the Manasquan Tourism Commission.

Erik Erk, the coast star.com
Allaire Community Farm gets green light from county board

The Monmouth County Agricultural Board has granted Allaire Community Farm protection for its operation and activities as allowed by the state’s Right to Farm Act.

The board reviewed the case and decided in May that the farm does meet the legal definition of a commercial farm and that’s huge for us, Mr. Butcher said. We just want to finish our project, beautify our farm and have the community enjoy it.

Next is we’re going to put up a barn, a proper entrance, lighting and a parking lot for our guests,” she said.

RELIEF AND REQUIREMENTS

The board approved locating a chicken coop within 60 feet of the property line, where top foot distance is required. “The property next door to (the coop) is a farm, so I totally agree,” Ms. Butcher said.

The board also approved new signage, lighting and restrooms, and gave the go-ahead for educational activities such as school tours, gardening classes and visits from campers and scouting groups.

Recreational activities such as a petting zoo, goat rides and hayrides were approved, along with farm-themed birthday parties.

The board approved seasonal marketing campaigns, such as weekend Harvest Festivals for selling pumpkins in the fall and December sales of Christmas trees and poinsettias.

The board decided that the municipality, not the board, has jurisdiction over events such as the annual Hoedown fundraiser and the annual Special Needs Information Day.

The municipal board also has say over onsite infrastructure such as the planned indoor riding arena and run-in sheds.

The board also approved the farm’s management-plant plan, which is to have it all hand-dug away rather than spread on fields.

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