



# MISQUAMICUT TIMES

## SURF, SUN & SAND



**MBA**

The Misquamicut  
Business Association

*Since 2000*

“EVERYBODY WANTS A DAY IN THE SUN” -JOHN CAFFERTY

MISQUAMICUT.ORG

SUMMER 2024 • VOLUME 23

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MOTIF MAGAZINE



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# MISQUAMICUT TOURIST & VISITORS CENTER

Information Center and Public Restrooms  
Located at 316 Atlantic Avenue, Misquamicut.  
Open daily  
Memorial Day Weekend – Labor Day Weekend  
9AM – 6PM

Join our email list when you visit [misquamicut.org](http://misquamicut.org).  
We send out weekly updates all season long with  
events, activities and discounts.

To contact the Misquamicut Business Association:  
EMAIL: [Misquamicut2000@gmail.com](mailto:Misquamicut2000@gmail.com)  
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## MBA Board of Directors 2024

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## LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

It has been my pleasure to be able to welcome you to the beach on behalf of the Misquamicut Business Association for the last 24 years. We have spent the winter months planning all kinds of great events and happenings for you to enjoy all season. I invite you to check out the local hotels, shops, restaurants, night spots, concerts, Drive-In and watersports. In this guide you will find all the information you need to enjoy your stay. Our job is to help create memories for you and your family!

Enjoy the beaches and the village of Misquamicut and help us keep them clean!

– *Caswell Cooke*  
*Executive Director,*  
*Misquamicut Business*  
*Association*



# 2024 EVENTS FOR MISQUAMICUT BEACH

## MONDAY NIGHT JAMS

Live Bands Every Monday July 8th through August 12th 6PM - 8PM. FREE!! Westerly Town Beach 337 Atlantic Avenue. Presented by the Town of Westerly.

Westerly Town Beach, 337 Atlantic Ave. Presented by the Town of Westerly.

**July 8** Coyote Brass and The Italics

**July 15** No Exit 4

**July 22** Granite City Rock Band

**July 29** Take It to The Bridge

**August 5** Brass Attack

**August 12** Yacht Lobsters



## CLASSIC & SPECIALTY CAR CRUISE NIGHTS

with The DOC and 102.3 The Wolf

Headline Sponsor: Guytanno's

Every Tuesday July 9th through August 27th 5:30PM to Dusk.

Drive-In Parking Lot 316 Atlantic Ave. All specialty cars welcome!

[www.misquamicut.org](http://www.misquamicut.org) For information 413-250-4143 (Tim Connelly)

## TOM MCCOY FAMILY FUN RUN SERIES

Wednesday's May 29th - July 31st at 6pm. FREE fun runs put on by the Westerly Track Club. Our 48th year! Children's 1/3-mile run, followed by a 1 mile run and 5K.

Pleasant View (lot across street) 65 Atlantic Avenue

## BOTTONE MILE

Wednesday, August 7, 2024 The 30th running of the Bottone Mile, since 2018 the race has been held on a measured road mile in Misquamicut. The event remains FREE\*, and this evening will also feature the awards ceremony for the summer fun runs. For more info, contact [info@westerlytrackclub.org](mailto:info@westerlytrackclub.org) or (401) 447-1879

## BLUES ON THE BEACH

Every Wednesday night July 10th through August 12th 6PM-8PM.

Westerly Town Beach 337 Atlantic Avenue.

**July 10** Geg Picollo & Heavy Juice

**July 17** Duke Robillard

**July 24** Robin Hathaway's Big Mouth Blues Band

**July 31** Al Copley

**August 7** The Knickerbocker All-Stars

**August 14** Roomful of Blues

## MISQUAMICUT DRIVE-IN MOVIES

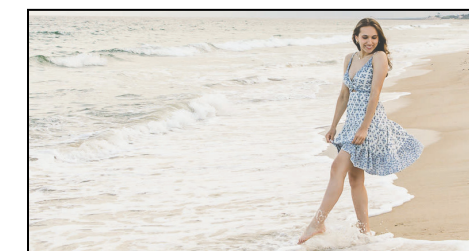
Friday and Saturday May 17th through June 30th 9PM

Wednesday through Sunday in July & August 9PM

Friday and Saturday in September 8PM

\$25 per car. Wuskenau Town Beach Pondsides Lot 316 Atlantic Avenue

For schedule and to purchase tickets go to [mbadrivein.com](http://mbadrivein.com)



## FESTIVAL EVENT

Saturday September 7th

Misquamicut Drive-In 316 Atlantic Ave.

[Celebrationofsurf.org](http://Celebrationofsurf.org) for information.

## 2ND ANNUAL KITE FLYING EVENT

Saturday September 7th

Wuskenau Town Beach 311 Atlantic Ave.

[Misquamicut.org](http://Misquamicut.org) for information.

## SURFTOWN HALF MARATHON

Sunday September 8th 7:30AM.

Hartford Marathon Foundation

Running along the ocean front streets of Misquamicut Beach and Watch Hill, RI - the Surftown Half Marathon is a spectacular beach run featuring stunning ocean views! Fast and flat, the 13.1-mile course is a great destination race. Also try out the 5K! A fast 5K run through the Misquamicut beach community.

[hartfordmarathon.com](http://hartfordmarathon.com)

## MISQUAMICUT FALLFEST WEEKEND



Friday September 13th 5PM - 11PM

Saturday September 14th 11:30AM - 11PM

Sunday September 15th 11AM - 5PM

World Class Carnival and Amusements,

Food Truck Rodeo, Classic Car Show, Beer Tent, games and more. International Music Headliners.

Misquamicut State Beach.

[misquamicutfestivals.org](http://misquamicutfestivals.org)

## 27th ANNUAL GUY FAWKES BONFIRE NIGHT

Saturday October 19th 7PM

Complete with comedic (Monty Python) re-enactment of the 1605 trial for treason of Guy Fawkes by the "Misquamicut Players". Music, Bonfire, Dancers, Actors, Fife and Drum and more.

The Windjammer. 321 Atlantic Ave.

[guyfawkesusa.com](http://guyfawkesusa.com)

## TOWN BEACH PROGRAMS

Including surf lessons, yoga, Zumba, summer schedule for events for Rotary Park as well as "Night Tennis" available by contacting the Recreation Department, Town of Westerly

[westerlyrec.com](http://westerlyrec.com)

## MISQUAMICUT TOURIST CENTER

Located at 316 Atlantic Avenue. Open daily Memorial Day through Labor Day 9am – 6pm and weekends in September

## ANNUAL ALOHA LUAU

Friday February 7th, 2025, 6:30PM Windjammer, 321 Atlantic Ave.

Live Band, Grand Buffet, Silent Auction & Raffle.

[Eventbrite.com](http://Eventbrite.com) for tickets.

# CLASSIC AND SPECIALTY CAR CRUISE NIGHTS

BY: MEG COSS

The year is 1964. The Beatles top the Billboard charts, “Bonanza” plays on TV, Muhammad Ali defeats Sonny Liston for the heavyweight title, and moviegoers around the world catch the car bug as James Bond pursues Goldfinger in a specially equipped, gadget laden, silver birch Aston Martin DB5.

“The first car that caught my eye? I’d have to say James Bond’s Aston Martin. That’s a vehicle you don’t forget,” says Tim Connelly. Connelly coordinates and organizes Classic and Specialty Car Cruise Nights, Misquamicut’s weekly summer showcase of classic, specialty, and vintage cars.

In recent years, Cruise Nights have seen an upsurge in attendance, drawing crowds of all ages and genders eager to exhibit and admire automotive marvels from yesteryear to today.

“We had a brand new McLaren last year. Everybody’s eyes popped when they saw it,” says Connelly. “We’re seeing brand new Corvettes and these specialty vehicles with high horsepower. We’re seeing monster trucks, too. Really anything that’s unique.”

Cruise Nights take place every Tuesday from 5:30pm to dusk at the Misquamicut Drive-In Theater from July through August. Depending on the weather, attendees can expect to see up to 100 head-turning vehicles, including Corvettes, Mustangs, Morgans, Bel Airs, Willys trucks, and one of Connelly’s favorite hot rods.

“There’s a gentleman who

comes in who has, I believe it’s a ’22 Mustang, he’s an auto body specialist, so he has the ability to customize vehicles. He took all the body panels off a newer Mustang and then replaced them all, I believe with a ’55 Ford. So you see this low slung ’55 Ford coupe come pulling in with a rumble and then you come up to the vehicle and look inside and it’s a brand new car. It’s incredible. The engineering that went into converting this. It’s unbelievable what people can do. The sky’s limit.”

In addition to head-turning hot rods, Cruise Nights are backed with a vibe-setting soundtrack from Dom Cardillo AKA “The Doc,” and Pat Cole, the on-air talent from 102.3FM The Wolf, which broadcasts weekly from the Drive-In. This summer marks Cardillo’s 40th year DJ-ing car shows, and although he has a soft spot for classic tunes, he spins the hits from all decades.

“You start with “Duke of Earl” then going forward, a little bit later, there’s Aerosmith, and then today it’s Taylor Swift. We’re versatile. We have songs like “Low Rider” by War, and “Little Deuce Coupe” by the Beach Boys. There are so many different songs. Oldsmobile songs. Virtually any make and model has a song.”

Connelly and Cardillo are Chevy guys, but Connelly would take a ’68 Fastback Mustang if the occasion presented itself, and although Cardillo’s marina blue ’67 396 Camaro is his pride and joy, he says he likes them all — Mopars, Fords, you name it. The two also share a



fondness for the nostalgia and joy classic cars provide.

“When you’re driving around and you see a car that’s an antique or a classic, just looking at it brings you back in time. I know it does for me, and I think it does for a lot of people,” says Connelly. “And if you’re lucky enough to own one, or you’re able to drive one, it really takes you back. It’s special because you pull up to a light and people stare at you and you get the waves and the thumbs up, and you’re getting the horns honked at you — you’re putting smiles on faces”

Each Cruise Night includes a raffle where all participants can enter to win an assortment of prizes ranging from gift cards to car wash supplies to the weekly grand prize of \$250.

“The decision was made not to judge,” says Connelly. “My reasoning behind that was, we need the everyday man here. We can’t just have the guys who have money showing up with their beautiful vehicles. We need the everyday man, we gotta make this approachable.

So we have a raffle, and that means anybody can win, like the kid who shows up with his vehicle that he loves.”

Connelly is grateful for the support of the Misquamicut Business Association for keeping “the heartbeat of the Classic Cruise Nights beating” and for the financial support of its sponsors, including Guytanno’s restaurant and 102.3FM The Wolf, who help keep this tradition alive.

“A lot of us were brought up with this type of thing. People who are into cars, motorcycles, what have you, this is a tradition that goes way back. It goes way back in my family with my brother, my dad, even my mom,” says Connelly. “When my mom was younger she had an old T-Bird, I think it was a ’57. After my dad passed, she had one of those moments where she just decided she would go out and buy that ’57 T-Bird again. So she went out and bought it — a candy apple red T-Bird. This is a tradition we need to keep alive. I’m really honored to be involved.”

# THE MISQUAMICUT BEACH FOUNDATION

BY: VINCENT SCARAMUZZO

THE MISQUAMICUT BEACH FOUNDATION – WHAT A DIFFERENCE A YEAR MAKES!

By: Vincent Scaramuzzo

Last year it was my honor to introduce our readers to the Misquamicut Beach Foundation. The Foundation is a 501(c)(3) that was established in 2022. Its mission is to enhance, beautify, protect, and clean greater Misquamicut Beach and surrounding areas and any other lawful purpose of a non-profit corporation in Rhode Island.

We are still a new organization and look forward to doing great things for Misquamicut and surrounding areas. Last year we coordinated several beach clean-ups and in partnership with a grant through the Home Depot Westerly, installed 30 fresh flower planters throughout Misquamicut. This season should be our most exciting yet. We hope you can join us at our events!

**April 28th - Spring Into Action @ The Andrea Seaside Restaurant - 12-5PM** Kicking off our 1st beach clean up of the season with our friends at Ocean Recovery Community Alliance (ORCA). Our “Spring into Action” event will also showcase nonprofit organizations around our community. You can learn about each organization and be able to find different ways to get involved. Live reggae music by local band Glaucoma Suspects. Local Food by Rhode Island Pizza Company.

**May 11th & 12th @ Misquamicut Spring Fest** Stop by our table at one of Misquamicut’s best events of the season

**May 19th - Beach Clean-up @ Wuskenau Town Beach - 5PM**

**June 8th - Misquamicut Drive-In Atlantic Ave - 8PM** Celebrate World Ocean day watching a film featured by Swank Motion Pictures

**June 17th - Beach Clean-up @ The Andrea Seaside Restaurant - 5PM**

**July 9th - Beach Clean-up @ Wuskenau Town Beach - 6PM**

**August 19th - Beach Clean-up @ The Andrea Seaside Restaurant - 6PM**

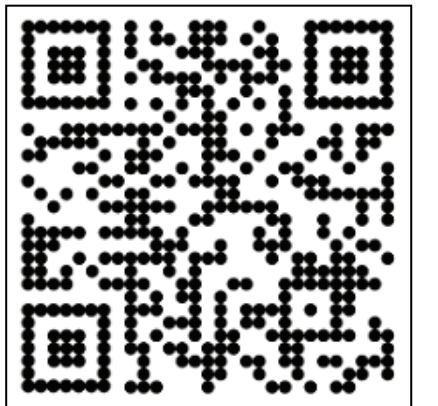
**September 8th - Beach Clean-up 2 Wuskenau Town Beach - 5PM**

**October 19th - Seaside Artisans Market @ The Andrea Seaside Restaurant 12-5PM** Handcrafted treasures from local artists and our end of season beach clean-up

Special Thanks To Ocean Recovery Community Alliance for collaborating on beach clean-ups

If you have a great idea for the foundation, or would like to participate in keeping our beaches beautiful, email us at [misquamicutbeachfoundation@gmail.com](mailto:misquamicutbeachfoundation@gmail.com)

Please follow us on Facebook and Instagram. If you would like to make a charitable donation to the Misquamicut Beach Foundation, please scan our QR Code.



# GETTING TO KNOW:

## CHRISTINA DRAKE

DISTRICT SALES MANAGER – COCA COLA BEVERAGES NORTHEAST

Christina is the District Sales Manager for Coca Cola Beverages Northeast responsible for Small Store and Restaurant business relations in southeastern Connecticut and southern Rhode Island. Before becoming a District Sales Manager, Christina was an Account Manager in Westerly and has worked with the MBA since 2018. In 2024 Christina became an Allied Board Member and will continue to work with the MBA in their partnership with Coca Cola.



# GETTING TO KNOW:

## REBECCA GREENE

MBA BOARD MEMBER

Rebecca Greene has been a valuable part of the Misquamicut Business Association in many ways. She has not only served on our board for 15 years but she is our go to person for financials and volunteer coordination. Rebecca and her husband recently retired from serving ice cream at Cold Stone Creamery in our community to spend time with their beautiful family. We are sad to see her leave our board this year but we will still have the pleasure of working with her on various events throughout the year. We wish her all the best as she spends time with her family.



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mgigante@live.com



## Maggie's



# THE BELLONE'S BREEZEWAY RESORT: BUILDING A FAMILY BUSINESS, STONE BY STONE

BY: DANA SCHNEIDER

For **John Bellone**, growing up in the **Breezeway Motel** was a lot of fun. He explains, "As a kid, I thought it was normal to have a 30 car parking lot to ride your bike around in." When his family bought the property and moved in, Bellone was only nine months old. He lived there until he went off for college, returning again for a few years after getting his degree, until he bought a house of his own. In many ways, his life has been immersed in running a hotel, and making one feel like home.

His parents Maria and Nicola emigrated to New England from Tusa, Sicily. They first settled inland, in Connecticut, where Maria soon grew homesick living away from the ocean. The young family moved again, this



time to Westerly, where they lived in a small house on **Saunders Road**. Nicola worked as a mason. One day, on his drive to work, he saw a "For Sale" sign posted on the Breezeway Motel. Maria and Nicola bought the property, moving the family there to live.

I asked John if he thought his parents had the intention to continue operating the Breezeway as a motel when they purchased it. He laughs and replies honestly: "I don't know what they were thinking. I wonder about that myself to this day."

When visitors stay at the Breezeway, they can expect clean, modern accommodations with the charm of a property maintained by a family over generations. Just a short walk from Breezeway's private beach, John notes that the secluded locale is like a tranquil park. He tells me about a historic feature of the motel as well — the day that his father signed the final documents to purchase the property, he built a chimney in the motel that stands to this day. His father also originally built fountains in the yard, combining his skills as a stonemason with his new venture in hospitality to create a little slice of paradise.

Decades after Breezeway opened, Maria went out on a walk along Misquamicut beach, as she often did. Much like her husband on his drive to work years earlier, she idly noticed

that a restaurant along the beach, **Dino's Seafood House**, was up for sale. The couple bought the restaurant, which included five apartments in the upstairs portion of the building. Soon, they opened **Maria's Seaside Cafe**.

Unfortunately, the cafe suffered severe damage from Superstorm Sandy in 2012. Sadly, Maria was not able to see the restaurant's rebuild completed, as she passed away in 2014.



Today, Maria's Seaside Cafe stands as a testament to the sacrifice and hard work that Maria dedicated over the course of her life to her family, their business, and the Misquamicut community. Situated off the lobby of **The Hotel Maria**, also her namesake, the cafe carries on the legacy of her original restaurant. The about section on The Hotel Maria's website poignantly notes, "Rebuilding was easy, losing her wasn't. Maria passed away on October 11, 2014."

John is eager to emphasize the story of his family's legacy built over the past half of a century. He weaves the memory of his family's past into the present success of the Breezeway Resort, The Hotel Maria, and Maria's Seaside Cafe. Maria's love of the beach brought the family to Misquamicut and that decision has had lasting effects on not only their family, but on the countless families who have stayed at either of their hotels or dined at their restaurant.

John says he didn't necessarily expect to work in hospitality like his parents while he was growing up. Despite the odd hours and the seasonal nature of the business, he enjoys what



he does, specifically the satisfaction of keeping patrons happy and fed. He's passionate about maintaining the integrity of the place where he grew up, as well as the businesses he has continued to build in his mother and father's honor.

2ND ANNUAL MISQUAMICUT BEACH  
**KITE FESTIVAL**  
SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 7TH WUSKENAU TOWN BEACH 11AM - 3PM

PRESENTED BY: *Maria's SEASIDE CAFE*

SPONSORED BY: MISQUAMICUT

# ALFIE'S

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## SISCO FAMILY HISTORY IN MISQUAMICUT



Shortly after the devastating hurricane of 1938, Cosmo Sisco had an idea for a new business venture. Cosmo was a dreamer, or better yet, a visionary. He convinced his wife, Christine Sisco, that they should open a hot dog stand in Misquamicut. Using the old wood from an outhouse on Christine's family homestead on Tower Street, they built Dicky's Hot Dog Stand in Misquamicut on the property now known as Wuskenau Town Beach.

Dicky's was the first to feature the original foot long hot dog. They sold so many that the bun company had to park a trailer full of buns next to the building! The stand was named after their first born son, Richard "Dicky" Sisco and the name is still used to this day by local surfers as one of town's favorite surf spots. This risky venture paid off and soon they opened two additional hot dog stands named after their other two boys, Bobby's

and Billy Ted's. Dicky's Hot Dog Stand soon evolved into Dicky's Bar & Grill, complete with a beer garden, television, and a visit from the famous Johnny Roventini, the spokesman and bellboy for Phillip Morris commercials. After a few years of operation, the Sisco's sold Dicky's Bar & Grill to the Risica's and headed to the west end of Misquamicut to open the infamous Sisco's General Store.

Sisco's was opened in 1952 where the current Hotel Maria stands now. The general store was known as the store with everything, including a luncheonette, candy, cigarettes, fireworks, souvenirs, groceries, pony rides and even a gas station. Sisco's was featured in the LA Times as a classic business operation with everything from soup to nuts! Hurricane Carol came along in 1954 and seriously damaged the relatively new building. Needless to say, The Sisco's were not going to let that deter them, they soon

rebuilt and were ready to go the next season. Sisco's was also mentioned on the Dating Game Show when two contestants stated that they met at Sisco's General Store in Misquamicut, RI! Sisco's soared in popularity as a staple of Misquamicut and a place where many Misquamicut families shopped on a regular basis. Their 3 boys, Dicky, Bobby and Billy all worked with their parents around the clock to satisfy the demand.

Remember, back then there were no grocery stores nearby, no Walmart, no Stop and Shop. In 1966, sadly, Cosmo Sisco passed away from a heart attack. Christine and her son Bobby, carried the torch and ran the store as it always was. In the early 70's, so as not to lose the neighborhood business zoning on a property on Shore Road, Bobby had the idea to open a year-round business to complement the seasonal Sisco's General. In 1972 the idea came to fruition, Shorecrest

Country Store was established! Shorecrest Country Store was located on the corner of Shore Rd(1A) and Crandall Avenue, right across the street from Christine Sisco's home where an old barn once stood. Dick Sisco came up with the name by combining shore(sea) with crest(wave). Shorecrest Country Store was another general store that had everything from groceries, gift shop, hardware, souvenirs, and a full service deli complete with seafood, fresh meats, cold cuts and delicious grinders. Christine helped in the off season, while Bobby and his wife, Margo, ran Shorecrest.

In 1983, Bobby decided to expand by building two wings on the existing building that would house other retail units, called Shorecrest Village. We currently are home to Misquamicut Sandwich Company, Shorecrest Store, Seaside Hair Studio, Onshore Realtors and William T. Sisco, CPA. Shorecrest celebrated its 50th anniversary back

misquamicut.org

in 2022 and is currently run by Bobby, Margo and their daughter Holly. Sisco's General sadly closed in 1999, after almost 50 years in business, when Christine suffered a mild stroke and could no longer run the store. Christine passed away at the age of 89 and is remembered as a tough business woman with a heart of gold.

The Sisco Family has been in Misquamicut for over 80 years and is proud to share this with other family legacy's like the Colucci Family at the Andrea, the Trefes' at the Windjammer/Bayview Fun Park and the Terranova Family at the Pleasant View. We have seen many Misquamicut businesses come and go over the

years, cottages change from small homes with outdoor showers only, to mini mansions with all the bells and whistles. We have seen many storms, both hurricanes and powerful winter storms, that cause major damage to our beautiful beaches, the lifeblood of Misquamicut. But like the phoenix, they will rise. Misquamicut will always be our home and we sincerely hope that we can be in business for another 50 years! Please visit our Facebook and Instagram pages to see many old photos and even some old movies of our family and our many ventures in Misquamicut.



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# RELATIVELY SPEAKING - STARFISH, SAND DOLLARS, AND SEA URCHINS

BY: JOYCE KESKINEN FEDORKO

Some rather unusual creatures live just off the beach in the shallow waters up and down our coast.

These little ocean animals belong to a group called ECHINODERMS.

Please don't be alarmed by that big scientific word. It refers to the texture of their skin, which can be very spiked, rough and bumpy, or rather velvety.

After heavy storms we can occasionally find these poor little things stranded upon the sand. We know them as starfish, sand dollars and sea urchins.

They are all members of the same group.

If you find a starfish, pick it up gently. The upper surface is a bit rough feeling. Turn it upside down and you will discover hundreds of soft little wiggling straw-like tubes arranged in rows on the starfish legs. These strange little things are called TUBE FEET. The starfish brings in water through the tube feet. It then pumps the water out through a special place on the top of the body. This creates a suction which allows the starfish to cling tightly to rocks or clams or oysters.

Using this suction system, a starfish can pull clam shells apart. This is hard work, but once the clam or oyster gets tired the two shells begin to separate. The starfish can now

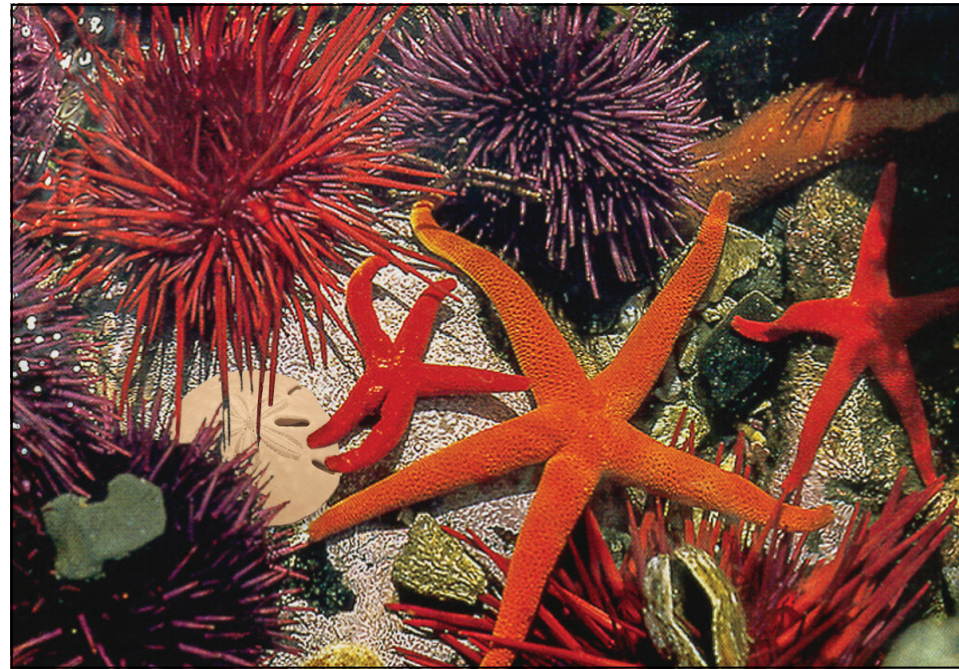
do something quite unexpected. The starfish mouth is on the underside of the body, right in the center. Now it will squeeze its stomach right out of the mouth and insert it into the partially opened clam. It digests the clam then pulls its stomach back into its body. Yum!

Starfish, of course, are not fish at all. We should correctly call them SEA STARS.

Sand Dollars are quite flat and are usually circular in shape like a white coin. There is a little mouth opening underneath which allows them to eat tiny things they find in the sand. Often when we find sand dollars, they have lost their velvety covering and appear to be hard and white. They usually have a pretty design of very tiny holes on top that looks like a flower. Also, if you break a sand dollar open you will find five small bony pieces called "doves". They look like tiny flying birds. Actually they helped chew the food the sand dollar takes in.

Finally, sea urchins. These creatures look like a fat pin cushion with the points sticking out. They burrow along, digging little depressions in the sand as they hunt for food or digging deep to shelter from storms.

When urchins die all the spines fall off and we discover the "test" which is the hard rounded white



inner surface under their skin.

All echinoderms are able to regenerate lost body parts. Cut off a starfish leg and it will grow a new one.

Long ago people who harvested clams and oysters would collect

starfish, then chop them up to kill them and throw the bits and pieces back into the ocean. Alas, the larger pieces grew back their missing parts. Even more starfish resulted.

Nature is wonderful to explore!



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# MISQUAMICUT FALLFEST 2024



BY: MADELINE JARVIS

Fall in New England is a beautiful time of year -- the weather is crisp but comfortable, the trees come alive with color, and the beaches seem to be even more gorgeous than they are in the summer (if that's even possible!). Fallfest, held at Misquamicut State Beach, is an amazing opportunity to experience New England fall in a great environment. Back for its 14th year, Fallfest will be held September 13-15. It serves as a potent reminder that Misquamicut's season doesn't end with Labor Day -- it lives on!

### General Information

Fallfest, put on by the Misquamicut Business Association and Rockwell Amusements, is sponsored by Yale New Haven Health Westerly Hospital and The Wolf 102.3. According to the Business Association's director Caswell Cooke, the event sees about 10 to 15 thousand attendees each year, with a wide array of entertainment for folks to enjoy.

Admission costs \$12 at the gate (food and rides are separate), and kids under 7 attend for free. Fallfest also implements the convenience and ideal nature of EventBrite, an online ticketing platform. When tickets are purchased ahead of time on EventBrite, admission only costs \$10, and makes entry to the festival much smoother. The beauty of having your ticket ahead of time yields you less time in line and a quicker entry to all the fun the festival has to offer. Parking for the event is free, and you can enjoy not only the festival, but the beach as well -- you are more than welcome to stroll along the scenic Misquamicut State Beach.

The weekend of September 13-15 also boasts an annual classic car show. If you bring your classic car to the show, you have a chance to win some great prizes. As an added bonus, if you bring your classic car to Fallfest, you and the people in your car get free admission!

### Lots of Good Eats!

In the words of Festival Director Amanda Reese, Fallfest "promises to be a Food Truck Rodeo," in that a wide variety of festival favorites are served up fresh for attendees. Some specialty items available include churros, fried Oreos and Twinkies, and donuts. She describes some of the offerings as follows:

"From gourmet burgers that ooze with flavor to sizzling street tacos bursting with authenticity, artisanal pizzas adorned with fresh toppings, and the irresistible allure of BBQ ribs and pulled pork, our festival promises a culinary adventure that satisfies every Palate."

In addition to popular festival favorites like pizza and burgers, Amanda detailed an assortment of cuisines available at Fallfest. In the realm of Mexican cuisine, folks can enjoy crispy fish tacos, Mexican street corn, Mexican fruit salad skewers, and more. European influences and international flavors such as pierogies, kielbasa, mochi,

and Lebanese food can be found alongside American classics like fried seafood platters, flavored chicken sandwiches, and sweet potato fries. A notable local vendor that always makes an appearance at Fallfest is Del's, which at this point I think we can all agree no RI festival is complete without, as well as Little Kernel's Kettle Corn. With over two dozen food vendors at Fallfest, be ready to be immersed in tons of different delicious culinary experiences.

### Entertainment and More

With Rockwell Amusements as one of the partners for the festival, there's no shortage of fun to be had here; bolstering events such as the Washington County Fair and the Charlestown Seafood Fest, Rockwell Amusements is no stranger to bringing people a great time. In between stopping from vendor to vendor, attendees can enjoy Rockwell's host of rides and games, including fast and slow giant spinning rides of many sorts and a

full faire-style midway. (Bonus: On Sunday, there are bracelets available for unlimited rides!)

Fallfest's host of vendors cater to the interests of everyone in attendance -- whether you're interested in apparel, home decor, skincare, or sea glass jewelry, there are a number of vendors to suit everyone. Yet another fun feature of Fallfest is their inclusion of small business vendors, with folks who engrave tumblers, crochet stuffed animals, apply henna, and create crystal jewelry, all finding their home in a booth at Fallfest.

Also key to the Fallfest experience is the entertainment component: attendees can enjoy a live demonstration from Kiefer's Martial Arts at 7pm on Friday, and a number of live musical guests throughout the weekend. Everyone can enjoy some blues from Jeff Pitchell, Beatles jazz covers by Funky Submarines, and covers from the award-winning David Tessier's All Star Stars. There's no shortage of fun to be had at Fallfest!

Fallfest has been a staple in RI for 14 years, and will continue to be for the foreseeable future. In asking Amanda about her favorite element of Fallfest, she expressed:

"My favorite element of Fallfest is the sense of community and tradition it brings. I love being immersed in the atmosphere and doing what I'm passionate about... this is my 14th year (now as Festival Director). I've witnessed its growth and evolution firsthand, it's heartwarming to see families returning year after year. My daughter, who was one of the kids who once rode the rides, is now volunteering and being part of the event themselves. The joy on children's faces, the laughter filling the air, and the bustling energy of the weekend all contribute to making Fallfest a special experience. I also love reconnecting with my vendors, and experiencing the fast-paced nature of the event adds to its unique charm. Spring and Fallfest hold a special place in my heart, and each year brings new memories and experiences."

It's a special kind of warmth to be able to see a local festival create lifelong memories and build community connections that are strengthened year after year. Come celebrate 14 years of fun and joy this year on Misquamicut State Beach!



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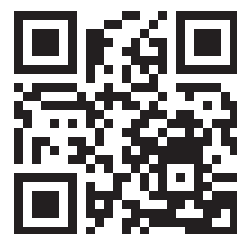
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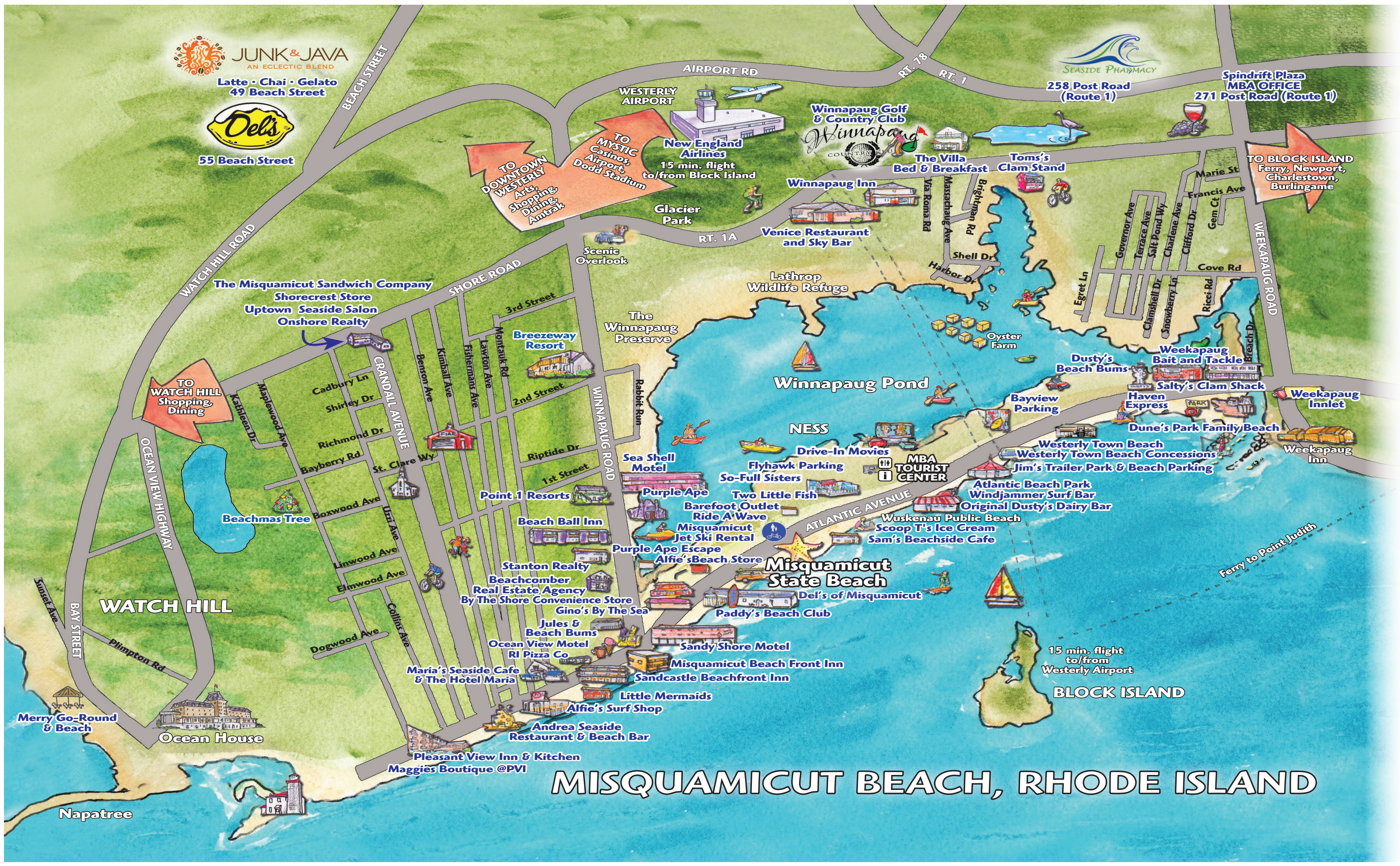
- July 10 Greg Piccolo & Heavy Juice
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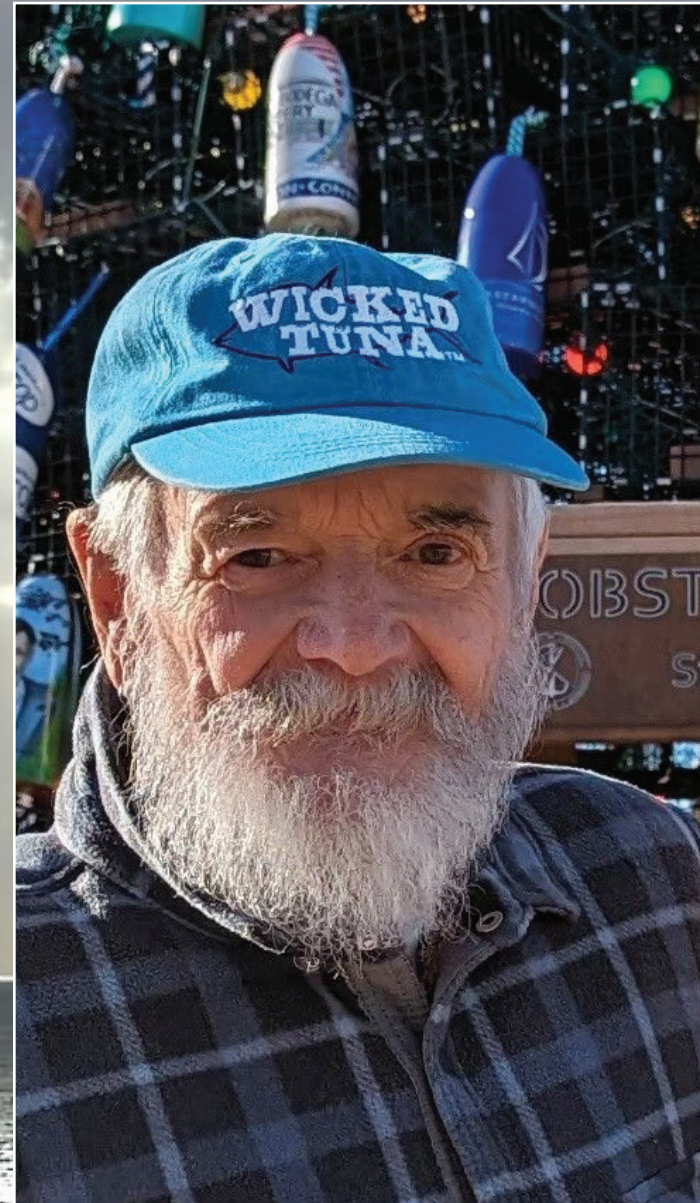
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