



GOP senator wants CDC ‘oversight’

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Courier News

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Hunterdon educator honored

Cheryl Makin
MyCentralJersey.com
USA TODAY NETWORK – NEW JERSEY

Tewksbury Superintendent of Schools Jennifer Shouffler, the 2025 Hunterdon County Superintendent of the Year, was recently honored by the county Board of Commissioners.

Shouffler, who was chosen for the honor by her fellow superintendents, was recognized with a proclamation at the Board’s Aug. 19 meeting.

Commissioner Director John E. Lanza commended Shouffler’s “visionary leadership and unwavering dedication.”

“Dr. Shouffler’s commitment to excellence in education is an inspiration,” Lanza said. “It is an honor to recognize her achievements and to thank her for the contributions she continues to make on

behalf of students in Hunterdon County.”

Shouffler came to the school district as superintendent and supervisor of curriculum in 2019.

Under Shouffler’s leadership, the district has experienced “remarkable progress in academic performance, student support services, professional development, and community engagement,” according to the Board, and she “is widely respected for her collaborative approach and her ability to elevate the potential of educators and students alike.”

The proclamation states Shouffler leads the district with “integrity, compassion, and excellence.”

Shouffler was a recipient of the New Jersey Governor’s Teaching Scholarship. After attending Penn State University, she returned to New Jersey to teach middle school and high school mathematics in

Hillsborough before becoming the K-12 district’s supervisor of mathematics, director of curriculum and instruction, and assistant superintendent.

She later became a mathematics supervisor in the Millburn schools and expanded her administrative experience as director of curriculum. Prior to her tenure at Tewksbury, Shouffler was the assistant superintendent for curriculum and instruction for Somerset Hills School in Bernardsville.

Under Shouffler’s leadership, the Tewksbury School District earned the Blue Ribbon Award in 2020 for Old Turnpike School. She launched a comprehensive five-year strategic plan in spring 2024 and championed numerous innovative programs to enhance the educational experience for all students.

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Tewksbury Superintendent of Schools Jennifer Shouffler shown with Hunterdon County Commissioner Director John E. Lanza.
PROVIDED BY HUNTERDON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



A tour guide watches as foreign tourists take selfies at the south rim of Grand Canyon National Park near Tusayan, Arizona, May 16. REBECCA NOBLE/REUTERS

COAST TO COAST

Our experts can help plan a cross-country family trip

Jim Beckerman
NorthJersey.com
USA TODAY NETWORK – NEW JERSEY

“See America First.”

That slogan was once plastered on posters everywhere. It was the tourism industry’s attempt — 100 years ago — to get Americans to spend their dollars at home.

It was, at the time, famous. It was also premature.

It wasn’t until 1956, when Eisenhower’s Federal-Aid Highway Act authorized the building of a network of modern interstate roads, that it became possible for

the average family to pack up the station wagon and head out west to visit Yellowstone, The Rockies, and The Grand Canyon.

America, the drive-able

The 1950s and ‘60s was the golden age of the cross-country trip. It was in the air. Books like “On the Road,” even movies as different as Hitchcock’s “North by Northwest” (1959) and “Easy Rider” (1969) have as their background an epic journey across the continent.

Do families still go on these kinds of vacations? Not so much, said Laura

Stiles, a travel agent in Hillsdale.

“Not only are the kids busy with their sports and schedules and friends and all the stuff they don’t want to leave behind, but the parents are also busy,” Stiles said.

Like a tornado, a cross-country family trip is the product of certain conditions.

It requires reasonable gas prices. It requires a level of family cohesiveness, less common now than it once was. And it requires money.

“Everything is more expensive than

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Jersey Shore’s summer bust

David P. Willis
Asbury Park Press
USA TODAY NETWORK – NEW JERSEY

If there’s one thing that can make or break the summer season at the Jersey Shore, it’s the weather.

Sunshine brings good times. And rain? Well, not so much.

“Rain kills us,” said restaurateur Tim McLoone, who owns 10 restaurants in Monmouth County, including several of which are just off the water in Long Branch, Sea Bright and Asbury Park. “We had a stretch there where there were 11 weekends where we lost one of the three days.” June, he added, “was tragic.”

And in mid August, dangerous rip currents, churned by Hurricane Erin hundreds of miles off the coast, closed beaches to swimming. “We lost boardwalk business on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday because it was too windy and too whatever,” McLoone said.

The bottom line? For McLoone, “the summer was, in essence, very disappointing.”

There’s a lot at stake. In 2024, a blockbuster year, Monmouth and Ocean counties attracted nearly 20 million visitors who shook off inflation concerns and spent a record \$8.9 billion, up 3.6% from 2023, according to Tourism Economics.

Statistics that break down the performance of the summer of 2025 won’t be available until next spring.

But business faced some economic headwinds this summer, including a dip in consumer confidence amid concerns about President Donald Trump’s tariff policies, and fears of increased prices and inflation.

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