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Acting Governor Kim Guadagno Affirms Christie Administration's Commitment to Jersey Shore Businesses with Stops at Buckalew's Restaurant and Viking Village

Thursday, April 04, 2013

Tags: [Hurricane Sandy](#)

Long Beach Island Set to Welcome Shore Vacationers for the Summer

Trenton, NJ – Ensuring that New Jersey's shore destinations are prepared for the 2013 summer vacation season, Acting Governor Kim Guadagno today visited Buckalew's Restaurant and Tavern and Viking Village on Long Beach Island to view first-hand the progress New Jersey's small businesses are making following Superstorm Sandy.

"The Jersey Shore is coming back better than ever," said Acting Governor Guadagno. "On Long Beach Island, the business community has worked hard to prepare for a terrific summer. Restaurants and accommodations are open, the beaches are ready, and visitors to LBI will be able to enjoy the many activities that make vacationing on the Jersey Shore special and memorable."

After taking on nearly twenty inches of water during Sandy, Buckalew's Restaurant and Tavern, built in Beach Haven in 1874, is ready for summer 2013.

"We worked hard to clean up, make repairs and reopen as soon as possible," said Allan Menegus, Buckalew's general manager, executive chef and partner. "We're ready and Beach Haven will be ready for this year's beachgoers. In the fourteen years I've been here, the last few years have been the very best for us. I'm convinced this year is going to be great too."

The summer outlook is also positive for family-owned visitor attraction Viking Village, which processes and then sells about 6 million pounds of seafood a year to stores and restaurants in New Jersey and throughout the country.

"We were very fortunate to have had practically no damage from Superstorm Sandy," said Kirk O. Larson, Barnegat Light's mayor and owner of three commercial fishing boats docked at Viking Village. "All of our restaurants are open and our beach is in ideal condition for the summer."

Superstorm Sandy brought \$382 million in commercial property loss and \$63.9 million in business interruption losses for businesses in 113 of the most storm-impacted municipalities.

Governor Christie's proposed \$1.8 billion Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery Action plan has set aside \$500 million in funding to assist small businesses and communities, including \$25 million for an aggressive marketing effort to let visitors know that the Jersey Shore will be open for business this summer.

Businesses considering a move or in need of assistance are encouraged to call New Jersey's Business Action Center at (866) 534-7789 or visit the State's Business Portal at www.newjerseybusiness.gov.

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