

SOUTH BETHANY 50 YEAR ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION



If you were unable to attend South Bethany's 50th Anniversary Celebration held on Sunday, June 30, 2019, you certainly missed an outstanding party! And yes it may have been South Bethany's largest party ever! Nearly 600 people packed the Town Hall parking lot to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of South Bethany's incorporation. Carol Stevenson, Councilwoman and Chair of the Anniversary event stated from the early stages of planning that she wanted the celebration to be one big PARTY! Well she and others on the Anniversary Committee, the Town staff and the **numerous volunteers** who helped make the day so successful, got their wish! After a welcome by current Mayor Tim Saxton, 6 previous town mayors were recognized for leading the town during the past 50 years. The crowds, comprised of both seasoned and new South Bethany residents and many young and excited families, then enjoyed the festive steel drum music and activities sponsored by the town for the next three hours!

Thanks to the generous donation by the South Bethany Property Owners Association (SBPOA), everyone had a chance to enjoy FREE hot dogs, Grotto Pizza, Melvo snow cones, McCabe's sandwiches, cookies, water and soft drinks. Committee member Sue Callaway's goal was to attract families and by the sight of the continuous lines of children.....and adults waiting for face painting and the stuffed animal claw machines, her goal was achieved! Lines for a "photo op" on the new Commemorative Beach Chair, donated by the Historical Society, were equally long! Attendees also had the opportunity to visit booths hosted by South Bethany's Police Department (so many people had a chance to meet and chat with our new Chief, Jason Lovins), Beach Patrol, Communications & Public Relations Committee, Water Quality Committee, Community Enhancement Committee, Historical Society, SBPOA, SB Women's Club, the Center for Inland Bays, the Coast Guard Auxiliary and the Bethany Beach Fire Department. During the afternoon, complimentary Fitness and Yoga demonstrations were conducted by Mel and Kim Royster and Debbie Finger. At each booth and event, guests were treated to a variety of FREE "giveaways!" so everyone went home with something! In addition, the first 100 arrivals received a commemorative T-shirt. ***(Due to many requests, those same T-shirts will be on sale at McCabe's beginning mid August-stay tuned for details.)*** We cannot forget that every 10 minutes Carol Stevenson was announcing another winning raffle ticket for outstanding prizes donated by local businesses.

Finally, the first ever, South Bethany Double Elimination Cornhole Tournament was held. What an amazing and successful event it was as 16 teams competed

for over 3 hours! The winning team was the “York Road Yankees” with teammates Mark Giler and Len Kolman. They played 8 challenging games and won the tournament and the winning prize – a custom made commemorative South Bethany cornhole board set that featured SB scenes photographed by SB photographer Kira Kaplinski! The 2nd place team, who fought hard to the end, was the “SB Beach Bums”, Chris Swann and Tim O’Rear. They received a new patriotic cornhole bag set. On an added note, 1st place winner Len Kolman has owned a home in SB for 29 years and just happens to be a very energetic and enthusiastic 86 year old man – besides being an excellent cornhole player! Congratulations to all 32 players who played so hard and the volunteers who worked so hard to keep the tournament on track and such a successful and fun event!

Check out the pictures below which really sum up the day! Crowds, fun, laughter, neighbors meeting neighbors, mingling with volunteers and town staff!

One last comment before you view the pictures...We have to acknowledge the tremendous work done by the **TOWN STAFF**...led by Maureen Hartman, Town Manager, every single person worked hard before the event and from 7:00 AM that Sunday morning. And a very big SHOUT OUT to all the volunteers who also worked very hard before, during and after the event. There is no doubt that we could never have carried out such a successful celebration without **STAFF or VOLUNTEER support**.

And a **FINAL THANK YOU** to all those who attended and shared the fun and excitement and love for “The Best Little Beach in Delaware.”

With much appreciation and sincere thanks,

Carol Stevenson, Anniversary Chair, Town Councilmember

Sue Callaway, Anniversary Committee member, Town Councilmember

















"The Best Little Beach in Delaware"

STAY CONNECTED



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