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JULY 2009

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	HIGH		LOW	
	am	pm	am	pm
7/23	9:39	9:57	3:23	3:23
7/24	10:31	10:47	4:12	4:18
7/25	11:24	11:37	5:00	5:14
7/26		12:17	5:49	6:11
7/27	12:29	1:11	6:38	7:11
7/28	1:22	2:08	7:28	8:13
7/29	2:20	3:06	8:21	9:17
7/30	3:22	4:05	9:17	10:20
7/31	4:26	5:02	10:13	11:19
Full Moon	7/7			
Last Quarter	7/15			
New Moon	7/21			
1st Quarter	7/28			
Perigee	7/21			
Apogee	7/7			

What's happened to the Cove Beach?

By CHRISTOPHER SOUTH
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY - Has anybody seen the Cove Beach? That's the question that seems to be on many people's minds these days, as more and more of the popular beach is disappearing.

The beach at the southern terminus of Beach Avenue first started to disappear from sight due to a dune that developed near the jetty, blocking the ocean view from the nearby Cove Restaurant. Recently however, the beach has been eroding, but full moon high tides have pushed the high water mark to the dune line, and have started to erode the dune.

City Manager Bruce MacLeod said beach-goers had been setting up chairs and placing blankets near the dunes where "cliffing" has occurred, and the city has put up yellow rope to keep individuals away from the dunes. "It's important to take safety precautions," MacLeod said. "Bathers were setting chairs too close to the dune." MacLeod said the concern

was the dune might collapse, potentially harming someone who was near the dune. He said steps are being taken to "put us in a more positive situation" regarding the beach erosion, which MacLeod said is so severe they are having trouble placing a lifeguard stand on the beach.

The city has a 50-year contract for beach replenishment with the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, which allows the Army Corps of Engineers to renourish the beaches with sand every two years.

The renourishment couldn't come soon enough as half the dune has disappeared at the Cove. Old pilings, which were once covered with about four feet of sand, are now sticking five to seven feet out of the sand. Beach-goers can be seen sitting near sand cliffs as high as 15 feet. Large chunks of sand and dune grass come off with each high tide, pushed higher by the new moon. A sand bar is being formed roughly 100 yards out.



Jennifer Kopp/Cape May Star and Wave

"Where's the beach?" seems to be the question on these people's minds as they look at what was the Cove Beach. This photograph, shot before high tide shows what little is left. Below left, old pilings protrude out of the sand which were covered by about four feet of sand in front of what could now be called the "Cliffs of Cape May."



He said, she said: neighbors give different stories on 'unruly' house

By CHRISTOPHER SOUTH
Cape May Star and Wave

LOWER TOWNSHIP - Some New York Avenue residents appealed to Lower Township Council, Monday, asking for help with an alleged unruly house of renters. However, the renter believes she is being targeted by unfounded complaints by her neighbor and wants to know why.

Tom Gingerello told township council a property at 105 E. New York Ave., Villas, was rented to a woman and three children about a year ago, but the house seems to have 15 people there all the time. He said the house has been the location of an alleged gang fight and other threatening behavior.

Maureen Garcia lives in the house she rents for herself and her three children: a 17 year-old daughter who is disabled, and two sons, 14 and six. Garcia said her children

don't generally leave the house due to complaints from Gingerello - the 14 year-old visits friends in North Cape May when he goes out.

Garcia admitted having some problems while her nephew stayed with her. She had to come home from work to chase a large group of kids out of her house after her friend alerted her to the situation. Her nephew was arrested in April and is still in jail after he allegedly assaulted police officers. Garcia said she was the one who called the police on her nephew.

On Monday, Gingerello described a situation that has gotten out of control. He said neighbors have seen a man fully naked passed out on the lawn and a topless woman lying on a trampoline in the back yard. He said multiple vehicles can be seen at the house at anytime and there are usually cars parked on the front lawn. He said visitors or residents of the house

will drive over peoples' lawns, and the residents will back through a neighbor's property to unload groceries at the back door.

Garcia said if that had happened someone would have called the police. She indicated it was less convenient to carry groceries in the back door - it's a shorter walk through the front door - a door where a sign reading "Bless this House" hangs.

"They do whatever they want," Gingerello said. "About 20 or 30 kids walked across a guy's lawn, and when he said something they said 'We'll kill you'."

Garcia's teenaged son said he was cutting through another neighbor's yard to get to Mulligan Field, but stopped after the neighbor complained.

According to Wayne Harris, who lives across the street from Gingerello, the same

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Reverend Davis retires from church

By LOIS SMITH
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY - A man of substance, steadfast and firm in his beliefs, teacher, leader, are all of the things that describe the man of the hour - the Reverend Robert Odell Davis.

On June 30, this powerful leader in the community and pastor, of the

Macedonia Baptist Church for forty-seven wonderful years, made the decision to retire.

Reverend Davis, with all that he is involved in, is a real family man. His wife Carolyn of fifty years is always beside him. She has been the church organist for many years. A beautiful, soft-spoken lady, everyone admires her quiet strength. His sons - he fondly refers to them as his "boys" - Robert Jr. and Kendall, are the light of his life. Two fine young men who love their dad. It was with his assistance and insistence that they both have successful careers.

There are two beautiful grandchildren. Robert the III, who recently graduated high school and is contemplating college, and Miriah an adorable young lady who calls her granddad, "Op-Pop". To many, the Reverend Davis is a confidante, brother, uncle, father and a friend. He has a big soft spot, and will express his emotions at the drop of a hat. He can make you cry when you don't feel like it.

Rev. Davis has been and still is an advocate for black history and black culture. After retiring as a long-term substitute teacher and disciplinarian at Sandman Consolidated School for twenty-five years, he continues to speak and educate young people in area schools about black culture and music. His home is a show place of



Courtesy of Cape Publishing, Inc.

Reverend Robert Odell Davis, center, sitting on the porch of the Chalfonte Hotel with wife Carolyn and sons Robert, Jr. and Kendall after being honored as a "Cape May Legend" two years ago. Reverend Davis retired as the pastor of the Macedonia Baptist Church June 30.

authentic African art and artifacts. There is seemingly no end to the beautiful antique treasures that grace every room in his home. Just to see the pride he has in showing and talking about them, gives you an idea how passionate he is about it all. His love for music, particularly the Negro spiritual, and classics is very much a part of his life.

When he arrived in Cape May to pastor Macedonia Baptist Church, he immediately developed, taught and groomed the church choir into the Macedonian Singers. It was thrilling for the congregation and choir to have the tenor soloist of the world renown Wings Over Jordan

Choir to be their leader and pastor. How lucky can you get!

Rev. Davis has traveled all over the country singing the Negro spiritual to huge audiences, including Carnegie Hall. Under his direction and training the choir gained recognition as the only group known to be still singing the Negro spiritual in its original form. For forty-five years the group packed Cape May Convention Hall with an annual concert. This occasion will be missed on the last Thursday in August this year.

All of the congregation will miss "Davis," as some fondly referred to him, every Sunday morning, getting ready for the morning serv-

ice, greeting everyone, welcoming visitors and letting them know that, "Macedonia is the little church with a great big heart, doing it's bit for God, and we and God say welcome!" They will miss having him turn around and tell one of the choir members to sing a special number, listening to inspiring sermons, fellowships, and simply catching up on each other and the happenings of the past week like finding out who is ill, or away - just community news.

Those who live in this area need not be reminded of a true Cape May legend Rev. Davis has touched many lives

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Engineering firm gets CM contract

Contract is for geo-thermal design for Convention Hall, Lifeguard Headquarters and Public Works

By CHRISTOPHER SOUTH
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY - On Tuesday, City Council awarded a contract to Gillan and Hartmann, Inc. for mechanical engineering work related to providing geo-thermal energy for the new Convention Hall.

City Manager Bruce MacLeod said the geo-thermal would be in addition to solar panels to be installed on the roof of the new structure. Gillan and Hartman, he said,

was contracted to design the electrical and plumbing as well as the renewable energy systems. He said the city has applied for a portion of \$2.5 million the state made available under the Local Government Greenhouse Gas Reduction Program. The city has applied for \$300,000 toward the cost of a geo-thermal system. MacLeod said the city does not have an estimated cost of the total system.

City Council also awarded a contract for a Solar Photovoltaic System to Ray Angelini out of Sewell to install solar panels on the Lifeguard Headquarters at Beach and Grant Avenues, and on the Public Works building. MacLeod said the amount of the contract is

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Service offers drinkers a DWI-free ride home

By CHRISTOPHER SOUTH
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY - The Ugly Mug tavern and restaurant is the first drinking establishment in Cape May to offer a free shuttle service to its clientele, relieving them of the worry of losing their license over a drunk driving ticket.

Manager Dwight Dunbracco said he and Ugly Mug owner Mike Slawek started talking about offering the service, which Dunbracco said is offered in many other parts of the country, particularly by large hotels.

"In Cape May a lot of people don't want to drive in town (after drinking) and they shouldn't," Dunbracco said.

"The Mug," as locals call it, started the service last week, offering free rides in an airport shuttle style bus. Dunbracco said the shuttle is slated to run from 9 p.m. to about 3 a.m., running on Friday, Saturday and "Terrible Tuesdays." Tuesday at the Ugly Mug has long been a night for a DJ with bar games and prizes, such as special drink discounts.

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