

Cape May Star and Wave

155th YEAR NO. 38 CAPE MAY, N.J. SERVING AMERICA'S NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK CITY THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2009 50¢



INSIDE



COMMUNITY

400th Anniversary parade and event photos, **A8,9**

Tomato Festival this Saturday in WCM, **A3**

ARTS

Cape May Stage presents 'Visiting Mr. Green', **A14**

SEPTEMBER 2009 TIDE TABLE

	HIGH		LOW	
	am	pm	am	pm
9/3	7:56	8:10	1:39	1:41
9/4	8:31	8:45	2:12	2:19
9/5	9:05	9:19	2:43	2:57
9/6	9:38	9:53	3:14	3:36
9/7	10:12	10:28	3:46	4:16
9/8	10:48	11:05	4:20	4:59
9/9	11:30	11:49	4:58	5:48
Full Moon			9/4	
Last Quarter			9/11	
New Moon			9/18	
1st Quarter			9/26	
Perigee			9/16	
Apogee			9/27	

Engineer updates council on city projects

By CHRISTOPHER SOUTH
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY - City Engineer Jim Mott told council the materials for repairing the roof on the Fire Museum would be in by the end of the week or early next week as he updated council on all city projects, Tuesday.

Mott asked council if the ban on construction on Saturdays could be waived for the project. Mayor Edward Mahaney Jr. said generally the city does not encourage construction project over a holiday weekend but said he had no problem with allowing construction on Saturday, Sept. 12, if necessary.

Mott said he received bids on a bundle of building renovation projects in Cape May. He said he received bids on Aug 28 ranging from \$70,000 to \$100,00. He recommended the city award the contract to R. Maxwell Construction Company, Inc., of Pleasantville, which provided the low bid of \$70,000. The projects include the reinforcement of the roof on the public works building, where solar panels are going to be installed.

Mahaney said the city was getting the benefit of the economic downturn in that it was getting reasonably priced bids for construction work.

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Public pool-pools pools and permits

By CHRISTOPHER SOUTH
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY - Property owners in the city told council they liked having parking permits, but urged the city to consider regulations on pools.

Nancy Brown Chaney asked city council if the "murmuring" she heard concerning the on-street parking permits being rescinded were true. She told council she did not believe they could do that after having created a "property right."

Mayor Edward J. Mahaney Jr. said the ordinance creating the on-street parking permit had already been rescinded and he disagreed that the city had created a property right. Asking City Solicitor Anthony Monzo to address that issue, Monzo said the city had not created a property right, and had in fact raised the point that legal issues could present a challenge to the parking permits.

The city created an off-street parking permit to primarily aid the elderly who have no off-street parking. Mahaney said of the 50 applications for on-street parking permits, which reserve a space for the permit holder, only a dozen or less met the spirit of the ordinance. The city sought to narrow the parameters of the ordinance to exclude second home owners who were providing parking permits to their renters, however a lawsuit was filed and the city decided to rescind the ordinance with a

Please see Pools, Page A2



Cape May's 400th celebration

Jennifer Kopp/Cape May Star and Wave
August 28 marked the day of the discovery of Cape May by Henry Hudson in 1609. 400 years later, the City of Cape May celebrated with a parade, a beach party, presents for the 400th car over the bridge and much more. Dignitaries from the Netherlands helped the city celebrate its origins. Above, the Honorable Onno van Veldhuizen, mayor of Hoorn, Holland, along with Shirley Stiles, clicks his heels to the sounds of the Quaker City Mummies during the parade. Despite not knowing what a Mummer actually was (or Shirley, for that matter), the mayor certainly got into the spirit of the moment. At left is the Honorable Frank M. Visser and his wife Margot Ahlers on their way down the Washington Street Mall to East Lynne Theatre where the judge staged the performance "People of Cape May vs. Johan Van Buren." More photos, pages A8 and A9.

First Presbyterian holding benefit

By CHRISTOPHER SOUTH
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY - The First Presbyterian Church of Cape May has announced a "big" benefit concert Sept. 20 to support community service projects in Cape May.

According to Bruce Jeffries-Fox, elder and chairman of the Church Growth Committee at First Presbyterian, the concert benefits the many community outreach programs they sponsor at the church, including Jazz Vespers, providing a facility for self-help groups such as Alcoholics Anonymous and Narcotics Anonymous; provides a facility for the East Lynne Theater Company; the Music Together childhood education program; free English language courses; the Community Food Closet, and many more.

Jeffries-Fox said First Presbyterian hosts 12 to 15 programs he described as "vitally important to the people they serve, and in these difficult times when so many are out of work, they are even more important."

"Our music programs at our church are quite strong and unique. A lot of other churches do community work, but a lot of our groups are partnering with others like the theater group and support groups, and we are unique in that. But music is a characteristic of us and we are quite strong in that area," he said.

Jeffries-Fox said another dimension of First Presbyterian is being "the Visitors Church," which it has been since the late 1800s. He said they have been trying to welcome visitors and make them feel more comfortable.

They have even reserved two parking spots in their lot for visitors.

The benefit concert will provide big talent including many from the most popular Jazz Vespers musical acts, such as Grammy-winning musicians George Mesterhazy and Barry Miles, jazz masters Lois Smith, Michael Pedicin, Rita Stafford, Bob Ferguson, The Antfarm Trio, and Behn Gillece.

"We tried to get the biggest names we could and the people who got the biggest audience appeal," Jeffries-Fox said. "It's going to be an amazing show. The support players are just as good as the headliners."

Jeffries-Fox said all the performers are graciously donating their time and talents.

"We don't usually do this, but we did one about two years ago for the stained glass windows that were falling apart and it was a huge success, so I don't know if we will do this regularly or if this would be the last," Jeffries-Fox said.

He said there are a number of on-going programs that need money and they have new ideas they would like to pursue that would also take money. The stained glass restoration project required the church to raise \$250,000, which they were able to do in six months, thanks to Jazz Vespers, individual and family donations, and donations from 40-50 businesses. Jeffries-Fox said he thought the fundraising would take a couple of years and he was amazed home the congregation, community and busi

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County girls being fierce with talent

By JOHN K. ALVAREZ
Cape May Star and Wave

ERMA - When it comes to entertainment, America certainly has talent in abundance. Nowhere is that more evident than at the studio of the Jersey Cape Dance and Gymnastics Academy, where, for over 25 years, dance instructor Stina Smith has been enlisting, educating and encouraging children to express themselves through movement. So well does Smith, along with her collaborators Annika Nash and Kendra Hemingway, teach children how to dance in competition, the scouts of NBC's "America's Got Talent" came calling.

"Actually, they (NBC studios) called us after saw some videos of our dances on YouTube," Smith said. "Part of me thought someone was playing a joke on us. But then NBC started e-mailing us legal forms. We submitted more videos and NBC narrowed it down to four of our numbers. Then, from those four, they chose The Pixie Six."

The Pixie Six is a dance group of young talented girls: Katya Simonsen, Madison Roberts, Kaylee Clayburn, Maxine Marshall Ava Landis, Regan Frame whose ages range from eight to 11 years old. Though young in age, all of the young ladies have dancing experience going back to when they were two or three. So, it is with no sur-

prise when they were asked if they liked dancing, all the Pixies answered a uniformed and enthusiastic, "Yeah!"

For some, like Simonsen, dancing is a family tradition. "My grandmother; she's from Russia. She teaches rhythmic gymnastics. So, I wanted to try it," Simonsen

said with a beaming smile. Smith, then added, "Katya was one of our spokespeople. We had to choose which child would be speaking and she was one of them. So she was used to getting all the questions."

After weeks of rehearsing the time arrived for the first

audition. The Pixies, with teachers and family members at their side, made their way out to Las Vegas. When asked how many other people were there for the auditions, all the Pixies giggled as they said, "A lot!"

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The Pixie Six, in their personalized denim jackets, grace the stairs at the studio. Behind are, left to right, instructors Stina Smith, Kendra Heminway and Annika Nash.