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CAPE MAY

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WEATHER ALMANAC
BY WAYNE ROOP

APRIL (Normals: 60°/44°, 3.51")			
	High	Low	Precip.
16	57°	38°	
17	64°	32°	
18	75°	45°	
19	59°	48°	
20	56°	47°	.85"
21	67°	48°	.17"
22	52°	46°	.33"

Parking permit ordinance passed despite objections

By **CHRISTOPHER SOUTH**
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY - Cape May City Council passed a new version of its parking permit ordinance last week despite some objections in order to have a working ordinance before the beginning of the 2009 tourist season. The city also placed a moratorium on applications for the permits to

coincide with the 20-day waiting period before the ordinance takes effect.

City council decided to amend the parking permit ordinance when it realized the ordinance, in practice, was getting away from the intention of the ordinance, which was to relieve hardships on those without off-street parking, particularly the elderly. The amendment was created to prevent second-home owners who rent from

obtaining a parking permit to provide to their renters. It would also limit the permit holder to a space within 300 feet of his or her property, and would prohibit issuing permits to multifamily dwellings.

A number of second-home owners attended the meeting to protest what they considered was unfair treatment by the city. Toni Lewis said she has paid taxes for 33 years as a part-time

resident and has never received a break on her taxes.

"We can pay the full cost but never receive the full benefit," she said.

The use of the permit was being limited to five months for part-time residents.

Another member of the public suggested allowing a permit to be issued

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Beach Theatre is key

Commission votes to include building as contributing structure in the historic district

By **CHRISTOPHER SOUTH**
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY - The Cape May Historic Preservation Commission voted unanimously Monday to propose rating the Beach Theatre as a key contributing structure in the historic district.

Although the theater is already listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the Beach Theatre is not listed on the city's historic survey, but it is eligible. What was lacking was a request to rate the building and include it in the survey.

Resident Barbara Skinner prepared a presentation to the HPC, which she asked Jeanne Powick to provide on Monday because she would be out of town.

Powick said Skinner made the request for a rating about a month ago, when she provided the HPC with a package of information related to the request for rating. Skinner was asked to hold her request until Monday's meeting in order to give the HPC members enough time to review what she had provided.

Powick said the Beach Theatre met a number of the criteria for being designated on the survey. The 1950 theater,

Please see Beach Theatre, page A2



Christopher South/Cape May Star and Wave

West Cape May's Hannah Mohr took a third place in Friday's talent show in Lower Township. Below, Casya Lewis got it all started singing "Respect." **For more photos, see page A10.**

CM chooses Mott Assoc. as city engineer

By **CHRISTOPHER SOUTH**
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY - After hearing presentations from three engineering firms the city selected Mott Associates, Ocean City as city engineer.

The city had received a dozen proposals and narrowed the field down to Mott, Fralinger Engineering, and Schaeffer Nassar Scheidegg. The three firms made presentations on April 21 and Mott Associates was named the next day.

Mott Associates was already contracted to do the engineering for the new Cape

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Beach tags up \$1 in Cape May

By **CHRISTOPHER SOUTH**
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY - The city helped balance the 2009 Beach Utility budget by increasing the cost of some beach tags.

City Manager Bruce MacLeod said the cost of a daily beach tag would rise \$1, from \$4 to \$5 per day, which he said is consistent with neighboring communities. In addition, the cost of a 3-day tag would increase from \$9 to \$10. A seasonal beach tag is still \$25.

The state requires the Beach Utility to be self-liquidating. Beach maintenance and lifeguard wages come from beach tag sales.

The city also raised the fee for ambulance/EMS service from \$425 to \$500. MacLeod said the fee has not been raised in five years, but the cost to the city has gone up "quite a bit."

Mayor Edward Mahaney said, like the Beach Utility, the city's construction office is also required to self-liquidating. Some fees were being raised to bring them in line with state fees, while local fees increased slightly or not at all. Still, he said, there was a decline in revenues as the level of construction had dropped, making it difficult for the office to pay its expenses from permit fees. Mahaney said the city would more strictly enforce construction codes and issue fines where required.

Lower Township's talent entertains, benefits residents

By **CHRISTOPHER SOUTH**
Cape May Star and Wave

ERMA - There was electricity in the air April 24 when 29 acts took the stage over the course of three hours, delighting the crowd and collecting money and food donations to help the food pantry at Saint Barnabas by the Bay.

Lower Township You've Got Talent was staged at Lower Cape May Regional High School for the second year in a row. According to Eileen Kreis from the Township Manager's office, the event raised \$1,250 after expenses and two large containers of food.

"That will help a lot of people," Kreis said.

When the final tally was in, first, second and third place trophies were awarded in the four age groups: 5-9, 10-12, high school and adults.

In the youngest group, First Place winner Grainne (pronounced Grahnyuh) McKnight's curls bounced as she performed Irish Step Dancing wearing a costume decorated with traditional Celtic designs. Second Place winner Juliana Bobik dazzled the crowd with a dance routine to an updated version of "Itsy Bitsy"

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Memorials recovered after theft from Wilbraham Park

By **CHRISTOPHER SOUTH**
Cape May Star and Wave

WEST CAPE MAY - Two granite memorials placed in Wilbraham Park prior to a tree dedication cer-

emony were placed in the park by Department of Public Works employees around 4:30 p.m., April 23. One was purchased by Ebby Bolger to place by a memorial tree to honor her late husband, John Bolger, a World War II veteran.

Kaithern said the West Cape May Volunteer Fire Company donated almost \$1,000 in trees and those were going to be dedicated at 10:15

a.m. on Friday, April 24. However, Department of Public Works employees arrived at the park

Please see Memorials, page A2

'What was the point ... Who knows what twisted motives or logic people follow? It's just nuts.'
-Mayor Pam Kaithern

emony were stolen overnight, only to be found in the weeds off Second Avenue on Tuesday.

According to Mayor Pam Kaithern, two granite memorial



Christopher South/Cape May Star and Wave

It's time to play ball!

Marissa Mulville and Colin Flynn wait for the opening pitches to start the softball and little league season. Opening day ceremonies took place Saturday, April 25, at the Bakely sports fields. **For more photos, see page A16.**

'I'm just happy to be alive'

Soldier wounded in Iraq visits Star of the Sea

By **CHRISTOPHER SOUTH**
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY - Specialist Robert Andrzejczak visited Our Lady Star of the Sea Regional School last week as a special guest during the school's prayer service.

The North Cape May resident was invited by Lower Township Mayor Mike Beck, who teaches at Star of the Sea. Andrzejczak attended a Prayer Service and was given an American Bear, which sings "America the Beautiful."

Andrzejczak shook hands with many of the students and signed autographs with "Bronco Bob" for seventh and eighth grade students.

Andrzejczak, 22, is a Lower Cape May Regional High School graduate. He joined the U.S. Army in October 2005, and was deployed to

Iraq in August 2006. On Jan. 7, he was on patrol in a Mine Resistant Ambush Protected (MRAP) vehicle that was struck with a grenade thrown by an insurgent.

Andrzejczak was riding in the rear of the convoy and

was the vehicle's rear gunner. He was in the turret manning his .50 caliber machine gun on what seemed like a normal day. He said it was quiet compared to his first patrols when they were attacked every day.

"It went from really up-tempo to this time being extremely laid back," he said.

According to Andrzejczak no one in the convoy saw the attack coming. He said he was facing the back and the attack came from the sides. One enemy combatant was spotted on a rooftop, and they believe he gave the signal for the attack. Another person was in the market next to a chicken coop and he threw a grenade with an armor piercing round.

Andrzejczak said the type of grenade resembles a World



Robert Andrzejczak

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