

Ellie's Bakery

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"Whenever I took baked goods to a picnic or a party, people would take my stuff and hide it so it would be there at the end of the day when they would want it," she said, trying to contain her smile.

Eventually, McDevitt found her way to Cape May and, for a couple of years, baked at McGlades Restaurant on the pier. Soon afterwards, as in New England, she started getting some rather unique compliments on her baking skills.

"One day a customer came into the back of the restaurant and asked if I was the baker. When I said yes he asked 'Did you bake everything?' When I replied yes again, the customer said, 'As a family, we sampled one of everything you baked. I just wanted to tell you, you have my heart,'" McDevitt said with a laugh.

With comments like this, it wasn't too long before McDevitt started having ideas of opening her own bakery.

"A couple of years ago I tried to do it but the man who was in here before succeeded on buying the business ahead of me," she said. "Then in October, I was driving by and saw the for rent sign. So I started thinking about it. I called my daughter Katie and said the bakery is for

rent. She said 'Then you have to do it.' Soon I began writing a business plan."

McDevitt continued, "I had some fears right before we opened. So much so, I had written them down in a list. With the economy, some of my retirement accounts had disappeared. I thought, let me try to put my money someplace where I could influence the outcome. Then, honestly, I figured I had nothing to lose."

With this positive attitude, McDevitt formulated how the bakery was to be run, with total emphasis on being homemade.

"Everything is made from scratch in small batches. We use real butter, fresh whole eggs, real cream and either real or Belgium chocolate. There aren't 500 sticky buns or cinnamon buns back in the kitchen. They're all different because they're not coming out of a machine," McDevitt explained. "Everything we make is all rolled by hand every morning. I decide how many I'm going to make for the day and when they are gone, they're gone. That is what small batch means."

McDevitt opened her bakery on the first weekend in April with very positive results.

"On our first day, we had four different

people come in, buy some products, then come back again for more. On our second day, we had to close our doors 15 minutes early because we were sold out of everything," she said. "I don't know if this trend will continue, but after the first weekend, I was very happy."

"The sense I'm getting is people appreciate having a bakery here. They have commented how this is a welcoming place. How comforting and cozy it is in here. We have people who sample our things and then say 'Oh, there is real butter in this' in a very surprised tone."

McDevitt hopes the positive beginnings continue at her bakery. "I mean, if you are being selective about what you eat and you're only going to have one, then why not make it be really good?" she said. "If we have people who are happy to see us here and keep coming back, we'll consider these good signs of a successful first year. That, and if we break even, of course."

Ellie's Bakery on Broadway is located at 301 N. Broadway Ave., West Cape May. They are open the weekends from 7:00 am till 2:30 pm until after Memorial Day Weekend when they will be open everyday except Tuesdays.

Tip leads to prescription drug arrests in N. Cape May

NORTH CAPE MAY - The Lower Township Police department received a tip on May 1 around 1 p.m., saying an individual would be walking in the area of Willow Drive, North Cape May, and would be in possession of an unknown quantity of Oxycontin and Percocet prescription drugs.

Surveillance was set up in the area of Willow Drive and shortly thereafter the subject was seen traveling westbound on Willow Drive, where police approached him.

Police identified the individual as Robert Stansbury, 49, of the 1800 block of Bayshore Road, Villas. Police alleged Stansbury turned over two bottles of prescription narcotics containing 120 Percocet pills

and 88 Oxycontin 40 mg pills. The street value of the narcotics is approximately \$40 per pill for the Oxycontin and \$20-25 for per pill for the Percocet. The total street value was approximately \$6,500.

Stansbury was arrested at the scene and charged with possession of prescription narcotics and possession with the intent to distribute.

A follow-up investigation led to the arrest of Stella Kovacs, 67, of the 1800 block of Bayshore Road, Villas, for allegedly supplying the pills to Stansbury. Kovacs was charged with possession with the intent to distribute.

Stansbury was lodged in the county jail on \$30,000 cash bail. Kovacs was charged and released.

Fishermen's fund

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Smeltzer said.

A fund has been established at Sturdy Savings Bank, and contributions may be sent to Sturdy Savings Bank/Lady Mary Family Fund, 701 Washington St., Cape May, N.J., 08204.

Checks and cash are also being collected at the Lobster House Office, 6 Schellenger's Landing Road, Sear Gear Marine, Rt. 109 and Fourth Avenue, Atlantic Cape Fisheries, Ocean Drive, and Cape Port Marine, 795 Rt. 9. Checks can be mailed to all locations using Cape May, N.J., 08204 as the destination.

Smeltzer said the group is also trying to put buckets around town for collecting donations, and all the money

will go into one fund.

"A lot of kids were left behind, and we know we are not going to put them through college, but we want the families to know we care," Smeltzer said.

A dozen or so other people met at the Nature Center of Cape May, Tuesday, to discuss what they could do to memorialize the six men who lost their lives on the Lady Mary March 24. After the vessel sunk, the bodies of Captain Royal Smith Jr. and his brother Timothy Smith were recovered by the Coast Guard. The body of Tarzon Smith was recovered this week. Three others, Frankie Credle, Frank Reyes and Jorge Ramos were never found and are presumed dead.

The Friends of the Cape

May Fisherman's Memorial are seeking to have the names of the six men added to the memorial, but also want to build up a fund for maintaining the monument.

Gretchen Ferrante from the Nature Center said City Manager Bruce MacLeod told her the city every now and then received donations for the upkeep of the memorial, and the money goes into a dedicated fund. Ferrante said in early discussions, the Friends of the Cape May Fisherman's Memorial are looking at creating a donor card people can use with their donations. The group would like to establish a mailing list and would reach out to contributors on a regular basis.

Some in the group believe the Fisherman's Memorial

has not always been kept up the way it should be, although the Shade Tree Commission and the Cape May Garden Club has helped with the maintenance. Ferrante said she has been in touch with John McNulty of Bayshore Landscaping, who has family members in the fishing industry, and McNulty has offered to donate labor for the upkeep of the memorial.

"We want to make sure something is done," Ferrante said.

Jeff Reichle of Lund's Fisheries also said he felt the

memorial was not being kept up the way it should be, and supported raising funds for its upkeep. At the same time he cautioned against raising funds that would go into a dedicated fund for maintenance.

"We would also like to have a fund to help families," he said. The Friends of the Cape May Fisherman's Memorial also talked about having a blessing of the waters during HarborFest. Because of the sense of tragedy from the sinking of the Lady Mary, the group agreed that would be

the focus of a memorial service at the monument. In years past, the names of all fishermen lost at sea have been read, and the group expressed interest in reviving the tradition to help bring attention to the dangers faced by those working in the fishing industry.

The Friends of the Cape May Fisherman's Memorial is planning another meeting in three weeks, on June 2, at the Nature Center of Cape May, at 6 p.m. The Nature Center is located at 1600 Delaware Ave.



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