

Rigby not running

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"It's been a good experience," Rigby said. Rigby said he is rather proud of getting a Smart Growth Planning Grant for the borough, which they used to hire an urban design planner to create a plan for the business district. "That is a vision most of the community has bought into and would like to see enacted. It would create a real town center," he said. Rigby believes a town center would create a sub-sector

of Cape May's business district and it would be a boon to West Cape May's business district. He said the entire district would be walkable, and he did not foresee parking being a real issue. "The only time of year I can't park in front of my house in unit block of Second Avenue is the July 4th weekend," Rigby said. He said a neighbor on Third Avenue said the same thing. Rigby said the key to getting the Smart Growth Planning Grant was going to Trenton and meeting with the person

in charge at the Office of Smart Growth. He said the borough only received \$35,000, but believes the borough didn't need a lot to do an urban plan. Rigby said the biggest event in his term was the suit brought by Sixth Street Partners. "If we had lost it would have been shattering for West Cape May. We had done due diligence in planning and had plan endorsement. If we had plan endorsement and a builder's remedy forced down our throat, that would have

sent shockwaves throughout the state. But that was a big victory. I just hope the judge finds for us in our affordable housing lawsuit," he said. Rigby said while there are two commissioners meetings per month, he has been to at least four meetings a month for most of his term. "Night meetings are not my favorite," Rigby said. Rigby said he hopes the new board of commissioners would not stop the planning. "I hope they would affirm an interest in planning. The biggest single project is our

creekfront land," he said. Rigby said he would like to see the state or some foundation acquire land along Cape Island Creek and turn it over to the borough for passive recreation. Mayor Pam Kaithern commended Rigby on his service as an elected official. "Dick has been an excellent commissioner, an excellent leader for town. The work he has done has been tremendous. There's a term I like to use, 'quietly making noise.' That's the kind of leader Dick has been - quietly working to

meet the goals we set out when elected. I'm hopeful he will still be able to participate in some type of volunteer role. His knowledge and contacts are quite valuable," Kaithern said. Kaithern and incumbent Commissioner Peter Burke have picked up election packets. Other individuals who have picked up petition packets for the May election are Jim Labrusciano, Richard Hemenway, Mike Bean, and Ramsey Geyer. Geyer is the only one to have turned in his petitions.

Copperfish chef on Travel Channel

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avor to the scallop, protects it from getting scorched. Johnson also told his audience he would be serving the scallops medium rare, saying, "You can eat anything from the ocean raw, but not from fresh water." Johnson made a sauce with leeks, baby Portobello mushrooms, Marsala and white wine, heavy cream and Gorgonzola cheese, to accompany his scallops. As for modern and fun, Johnson prepared Sloppy Joes, which featured regular store brand ketchup, mustard, vinegar and brown sugar in the sauce. The switch was using sliced beef and Vidalia onions, placing this on slightly toasted bread

and topping it with cole slaw he made, with the surprise ingredient being sun-dried cranberries. Johnson then braised Waluu, a Pacific fish, dredged in Ancho chili powder and served on a chick pea salsa made with roasted grape tomatoes and dried plums. He finished his demonstration with Tres Leche (Three Milk) Cake topped with blackberries cooked in Marsala. As an afterthought, Johnson decided to add some of his leftover three milk mixture to the sauce and give it a creamy, rich flavor. "I knew that would work," Johnson said after tasting it. That is precisely the kind of cooking Johnson is trying to demonstrate for his audience - taking ingredients

that ought to work together and trying them despite it not being "according to the recipe." Johnson said spoon and cup measuring is for baking, which he called "a science," and something he is personally not fond of. Johnson said, on the other hand, cooking hot food is not all that cerebral. "I like to show people things and to not be afraid of food, to make it easier for people to try new things. Cooking isn't rocket science, it isn't that hard - it's a lot easier than people think," he said. Johnson said he would like to do more cooking demonstrations, but in the current economy the idea isn't doing as well as he would like, despite the audience enjoying a

three course meal plus dessert for a reasonable price. Last season he was able to do demos every week from January to June. He is planning another demo for next Tuesday, Saint Patrick's Day. However, he wants to advise people not to expect corned beef and cabbage. "In the last seven to 10 years the Irish have really come around with their cuisine," he said. Johnson would earnestly like more people to come out and participate in the cooking demos, to sign up and learn something about cooking. "When I do demos I try to introduce people to other ingredients that complement certain spices and herbs that go well with other things. And everyone uses salmon, for

example, but there are other fish that are comparable to salmon but lend a different flavor and characteristics," Johnson said. "I try to introduce my guests to different tastes, different characters of flavors. You can take one ingredient and apply to another, to another... it's almost endless." Copper Fish is located at 1246 Route 109 South, Cape May, and can be reached by calling (609) 898-0354 or visiting www.CopperFishRestaurantNJ.net. Reservations for the chef demos are preferred. Demos are always Tuesday evenings at 6:30 p.m. Prices vary.

Wind, solar equipment

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"The county would do it for us," Township Manager Kathy McPherson said. "I've already had a complaint," Mazurek said. Galestock said if there was a need to perform a noise reading the person doing the reading should be "schooled" in the use of the equipment. Deputy Mayor Kevin Lare asked Galestock why the applicant for a windmill permit should be burdened with an engineering survey to certify the windmill's noise level was below 50dB. Galestock said it was the windmill's foundation that needed to be certified. "Soils are different, and you won't get a permit without an engineer's report," he said. "Whether or not it stays up depends on the foundation." Lare also questioned whether a 50-foot height

restriction was beneficial. "Is 50 feet high enough?" Lare said. "They can get a variance," Councilman Thomas Conrad said. "That costs money," Lare said. Lare added the township might want to consider different requirements in different areas. "I'd recommend you send it to the planning board with that direction," Galestock said. Galestock said that if the township allows the erection of windmills "by right" it would experience problems. He said going through the zoning process is more expensive for the applicant but it gives the township more control. Following up on Lare's comment on height, Conrad suggested allowing taller windmills on an acre of land.

"Height is a function of a few things," Galestock said. "Depending on the type of windmill, the higher you go the output can increase exponentially." Presently the township allows an output of 3kw for an entire property. Township solicitor Anthony Monzo said setback requirements might settle the issue of height in some areas. "Small lots would require small windmills," he said. Mayor Mike Beck said flight patterns might also restrict the height of windmills in some areas of the township. "That's another reason for an engineer to certify it," Galestock said. Meanwhile, in West Cape May, adopted ordinances outlined requirements and fees for windmills and solar panels. "The ordinances set all the parameters, where it can be,

what safety elements, how the structures put in," West Cape May Mayor Pam Kaithern said. "The fees are a part of it, but not the major part of it." Kaithern said if people follow the requirements of the application they would need to get zoning and construction permits only, and not go before any boards. "If it's a conforming solar structure or windmill, there will be a minimal cost from permitting," Kaithern said. The West Cape May ordinance requires that on lots smaller than a half-acre, the windmill must be no more than 50 feet, and 80 feet for between a half-acre and three acres. If the lot exceeds three acres a maximum of 150 feet is permitted. Wind turbines are not permitted in front yards or on rooftops. The borough set the permit fee for rooftop solar installation at \$50, and wind/ground solar installation at \$100.

Thanks to firefighters

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around 4:28 a.m. and found the rear of the first floor of the structure fully involved. Inderwies said when firefighters arrived they found heavy fire coming out of every window and door of the attached first floor apartment. He said the heat was intense enough to damage three vehicles parked in back of the house. "In the beginning we were doubtful we could stop the fire from spreading to the rest of the house," Inderwies said. Faced with this possibility, the firefighters immediately went into the main house to open walls and check to see if the fire was spreading. "We had to open walls and locate any spread and we found some before it escalated," Inderwies said. Firefighters were then able to contain the fire to the back room with minimal extension into the first floor of the main

structure. Inderwies said fighting this fire was labor intensive, but he was happy with the outcome. He said the owners in the front were evacuated safely. The occupant of the rear apartment suffered smoke inhalation and burns and lost all personal possessions. Inderwies said the occupant was being given assistance by the America Red Cross. Inderwies said the fire took about an hour and a half to control and he thanked all the departments that helped with the effort - Cape May, West Cape May, Cape May Point, the Coast Guard, Townbank and Erma fire companies. He said the effort was also assisted by the Villas Fire Company and Lower Township and Rio Grande Rescue Squads. The fire is still under investigation by the Cape May Police Department and the Cape May County Fire Marshal, and as of Tuesday no cause had been determined.

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