



## HOUSE OF THE WEEK

Real Estate Resource



## HIDDEN VALLEY FITTING NAME OF HORSE FARM

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# Planners reject Beach Shack expansion

## Parking deficiency, stacking plan ultimately doom 13-room addition

By JACK FICHTER  
Cape May Star and Wave

11:20 p.m.

CAPE MAY — The city's Planning Board voted 5-4 to deny preliminary site plan approval for an expansion of the Beach Shack Motel at 205 Beach Ave.

Following four sessions of testimony totaling 15 hours, attorney Stephen R. Nehmad, representing Cape Coachman Realty LLC and principal Curtis Bashaw, had the application nixed by the board at July 12 hearing that concluded at

The project called for the addition of 13 hotel rooms for a total of 79 rooms and the use of stacked parking to decrease nonconformity with city parking regulations.

An issue at the forefront was a deficiency of parking spaces exacerbated by an expansion of the outdoor seating at the Rusty Nail restaurant located on the property. The application called for 32 stacked parking spaces which requires a parking attendant to retrieve cars parked in long rows.

Planning Board Engineer Craig Hurless stated the hotel with the proposed expansion would measure 8,770 square feet with the indoor space at the Rusty Nail restaurant at 7,188 square feet making the restaurant 18.5 percent of the total use of the property. He said the figure did not include outdoor seating. He said using a calculation from the International Building Code of 15 square feet per occupant for 110 proposed outdoor seats for the

of 1,650 square feet. Hurless said adding that figure to the indoor seating indicated the restaurant used 22.8 percent of total floor area.

Twelve variances were requested from the applicant including the building setback from Beach Avenue of 18.54 feet when 20 feet was required by city code, side yard setback on the west side of 6.1 feet when 10 feet is required, side yard trash enclosure setback on the east side of 3 feet when 10 feet is required and lot coverage

of 86.2 percent when the maximum permitted is 75 percent.

Hurless said his calculation for necessary parking included 79 spaces, one for each hotel room, one space for every four restaurant/bar seats for a total of 329 seats based on a seating plan provided by the applicant and parking spaces for 26 employees. He said 188 parking spaces would be required.

"The existing number of park-

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Jack Fichter/CAPE MAY STAR AND WAVE

## A flash of innovation

Following a lightning strike June 21 that burned out a motor that turns two beacons in the lantern room of the Cape May Lighthouse, the Coast Guard has installed a strobe light that flashes every 15 seconds. The two beacons will be returned to service when a new motor arrives.

# Beach safety panel wants Army Corps, DEP rep to attend

By JACK FICHTER  
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY — The July meeting of the city's Beach Safety Committee has been canceled while the board tries to get a state or federal representative to attend future session.

The most recent meeting of the committee was held June 13. City Manager Bruce MacLeod said discussion at that meeting mentioned attempting to get representatives from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers or state Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to attend a future meeting of the committee.

He said a Beach Safety Committee meeting tentatively scheduled for July 11 or July 13 was moved to August so conformation of attendance by representatives of the Army Corps and DEP could be made.

MacLeod said the city's beach safety brochure is

now on the city's website and two email blasts were sent prior to the July Fourth weekend to warn bathers of the shore break, a sharp drop off between the high and low tides lines.

The brochure was updated this year to put more emphasis on preventing neck, head and back injuries.

At the June 13 meeting, Beach Safety Committee member Dennis DeSatnick questioned whether the committee was not just "going in circles" trying to find a solution to injuries to bathers in the surf zone of the city's beaches. He requested a representative from DEP or the Army Corps attend a committee meeting.

He said no one on the committee was an expert on beach slopes or injuries.

"We're not coming up with the answer as to what's causing these injuries in the surf zone," DeSatnick said

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# State Police, MedEvac helicopters visit aviation summer camp

By CAROL R. EMMENS  
Special to the Star and Wave

ERMA — The Naval Air Station Wildwood Aviation Museum and the Federal Aviation Administration's William J. Hughes Technical Center sponsored Aviation Career Education summer camp for 21 students ages 12-17 to explore careers in aviation.

During the week, the importance of science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) and their relationship to careers in the aviation industry was emphasized.

Bruce Fournier, chief operating officers of the NASW Aviation Museum and academy director, said the camp is not just for those who want to be pilots, but for anyone interested in any aspect of careers in aviation on Earth or in space.

He said the positions are far ranging in all aspects of aviation — commercial, military and government — and include air traffic controllers, software and aerospace engineers, executives, airplane and helicopter pilots, mechanics, safety inspectors, technicians. Positions exist at scores of companies and government departments as well as at local and international airports at home and abroad, Fournier said.

Last week's activities were kicked off by fly-ins at the Cape May County Airport. The State Police flew in a helicopter and explained its use and allowed the students to sit inside; there are 30 licensed pilots in the force. A three-member flight team from AtlantiCare Regional Medical Center flew in a MidAtlantic MedEvac helicopter. To emphasize the

importance of medical helicopters, the students were told that if an emergency arose, the flight team would have to leave at once.

Lindsey Wan, who attends the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, Md., talked about her experiences. She noted that her parents are first-generation immigrants from China.

"It is an amazing opportunity and a way to give back to the U.S." for her to attend the Naval Academy, she said, noting that about 25 percent of the cadets are women.

On Tuesday through Thursday, students attended demonstrations and talks at the Technical Center. On the agenda were numerous activities, tours and discussions. They took part in simulated air traffic control and cockpit demonstrations,

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NASW photo/CAPE MAY STAR AND WAVE

Students talk with a U.S. Coast Guard helicopter pilot during Aviation Career Education summer camp.



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