

Cape May Star and Wave

154th YEAR NO. 28 CAPE MAY, N.J. SERVING AMERICA'S NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK CITY THURSDAY, JULY 17, 2008 50¢

INSIDE



New Tourism Commission members making mark

By CHRISTOPHER SOUTH
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY - The newest members of the Cape May Tourism Commission started taking initiatives during their first meeting, asking the commission to take a stand on more beachfront bathrooms and holding a special meeting with the city's PR firm, the Sherry Group out of Morristown, N.J.

New commission member Gus Andy said the city's main attraction is always going to be the beach, and he called for more amenities such as bathrooms and showers. "What do you want the Tourism Commission to do?" commission member Bob Steenrod said. Andy said the commission should take a hard look at what other communities do to promote beaches. He said there are few bathrooms and

showers on the Cape May beachfront, something many visitors would welcome. "There is no sense inviting people if you are not going to treat them right when they get here," Andy said. Commission member Mary Stewart said the Tourism Commission could strongly recommend the city consider providing more bathrooms and showers, but the Tourism Commission couldn't fund such a project.

Andy said ADA compliant access to the beach does not exist in Cape May. New commission member Dagmer Chew asked to be part of a meeting with the new public relations firm, requiring the scheduling of a special meeting. Members Steenrod and Stewart were going to meet with the PR firm today at the Chamber of Commerce offices, but Chew said that would give people the

impression the firm was meeting with the Chamber and Mid-Atlantic Center for the Arts. Steenrod is the chamber president and Stewart is the chief outreach officer for MAC. Having three commission members at the meeting required public notice, for the meeting scheduled at 2 p.m. today in the City Hall auditorium.

- SPORTS**
Cape May Point and Wildwood Crest lifeguards compete, **B1**
- ARTS**
Sean Taylor in search of Americana, **A10**
- East Lynne Brings 'Magic' to Cape May, **A12**
- COMMUNITY**
Ed Hutchinson elected trustee of Kiwanis International, **A4**
- Annual 'Can You Dig It' sandcastle contest returns, **A12**

JULY TIDE TABLE

	HIGH		LOW	
	am	pm	am	pm
7/17	8:13	8:29	2:07	1:45
7/18	8:53	9:07	2:45	2:25
7/19	9:31	9:43	3:21	3:05
7/20	10:08	10:19	3:56	3:45
7/21	10:45	10:55	4:30	4:28
7/22	11:24	11:34	5:06	5:14
7/23		12:08	5:44	6:05
New Moon			July 2	
1st Quarter			July 9	
Full Moon			July 18	
Last Quarter			July 25	



Christopher South/Cape May Star and Wave
The lifeguard headquarters has a lookout platform (with clock attached) but no way to access it. At right, lifeguards Brandon Pomerantz and Mark Panny enjoy a quiet day after a busy weekend where rescue boards like the one below were used as a result of Hurricane Bertha.



Remodeled headquarters inadequate?

By CHRISTOPHER SOUTH
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY - When the city of Cape May decided to do something about the lifeguard headquarters at Beach Avenue and Grant Street, it originally came up with a plan to build a two-story, 4,262 square foot building to replace the existing two-story structure. Plans submitted in August 2007 called for a completely new structure costing in the neighborhood of \$800,000. But by February of this year, the project had been scaled down to a one-story facility estimated to

cost \$611,000. So far, the city has spent \$454,238 to renovate the Cape May Beach Patrol headquarters, with about \$20,000 being held back until the contractor puts some finishing touches on the building, correcting some relatively minor problems. "It needs a handicapped accessible ramp, and there are various things that need to be attended to," construction official Bill Callahan said. Callahan said beach patrol Captain Buzz Mogck is preparing a list of items needing to be

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Lifeguard contract tabled for details, another meeting

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CAPE MAY - City council tabled a resolution approving a new contract for the Cape May Beach Patrol because some details still needed to be worked out. At the beginning of Tuesday's city council meeting, Mayor Edward Mahaney announced Resolution 170-07-1007 was being removed

from the agenda because there were still details that needed to be included in the final document. He said the city and the union were aware of the matter. He said the document would be completed so the city and the union could review the agreement in its entirety before city council authorized the contract. According to UAW Local 2327 president Fran Smith, the city and the union have a

tentative agreement. "We ratified it with the rank and file, the lieutenants, wall to wall," he said. "We notified the city it was ratified. The contract was ratified by a 49-1 vote. Smith said last week there was still one issue still to be decided, but he didn't believe it would affect the collecting bargaining agreement. He said the union was still trying to get the city to adjust the dates for qualifying for a pen-

sion. The guards wanted the number of qualifying days brought in line with other communities, which require a guard to work an average of about 50 days to qualify as one year of service for pension purposes. Cape May requires guards to put in 60 days, which is not possible for many guards. Mahaney said the resolution would be back on the table at the earliest opportunity. City council changed it's schedule

from two meetings per month to four with the understanding the schedule would be reevaluated in September.

Cape May City Council will meet again on July 21 at 7 p.m.

Farmer's market vendor hurt during storm

By CHRISTOPHER SOUTH
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WEST CAPE MAY - Cape May resident Carol Elwell, who was selling beach chairs and umbrellas at the West Cape May Farmers Market, Tuesday, was injured when sudden high winds brought down a tree limb striking her in the head and back. According to her brother-in-law, Robert Elwell, his

brother Lou and sister-in-law were vendors at the Farmers Market, which runs until 7 p.m. Just before closing a particularly strong gust of wind running through the area, causing someone to remark, "We're not in Kansas anymore." Moments later, with most of the market goers on their way out and vendors packing up to avoid the storm, emergency vehicle sirens could be heard

approaching West Cape May Borough Hall. An apparently injured woman was on seen lying on the ground being attended to by Cape May Police Chief Diane Sorantino. The woman, Carol Elwell, was transported to Cape Regional Medical Center where it was determined she had some broken vertebrae and a broken and a broken ankle. According to Robert Elwell,

Carol was scheduled to have surgery on her ankle last Thursday. West Cape May Mayor Pam Kaithern said it was fortunate that the chief of police and the West Cape May OEM director were both on the scene to offer assistance and stay with her until paramedics arrived. "Our thoughts and prayers go out to Carol and her family," Kaithern said.

LOWER TOWNSHIP - Representatives from the Bayshore Mall asked township council to update a resolution passed in 2005 supporting turning a portion of Sheriff Taylor Boulevard into a two-way street. The road provides access to the Bayshore Mall off Sandman Boulevard between Shunpike and Bayshore Road. However the road is one-way into the shopping center only, and there is no egress to Sandman Boulevard. But Scott Hummel, representing the Bayshore Mall, said a number of people, perhaps those who are not familiar with the area, leave the shopping center parking lot by driving the wrong way on Sheriff Taylor Boulevard. The Delaware River and Bay Authority is in the process of

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Council asked to support two-way Sheriff Taylor Boulevard

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11th Annual Sam Maitin Summer Chamber Music Festival

Duo Cantiga Saturday, July 19 - 8pm
Christopher Kenniff, Classical Guitar and Katherine Harris, Soprano
Works by Dowland, Sor, Brahms, Levy & Granados
St. Paul's Parish Hall • 9910 3rd Avenue • Stone Harbor, NJ
concert tickets \$20/\$15 seniors • \$10 students
for more info visit www.accessstoart.org

Sunset Cruise Wednesday, July 23rd on the Miss Avalon LLC,
Benefits the Access to Art's Chamber Music Festival • Wine, Live Music & Hors d'oeuvres
6:30pm at 14th & Ocean Drive, Avalon Tickets \$50 send checks to Access to Art, Inc.
417 E Pacific Ave, Cape May Court House, NJ 08210

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