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OCTOBER TIDE TABLE				
	HIGH		LOW	
	am	pm	am	pm
10/16	9:23	9:49	2:49	3:40
10/17	10:11	10:39	3:35	4:32
10/18	11:02	11:35	4:25	5:29
10/19	12:01	12:01	5:20	6:31
10/20	12:40	1:05	6:22	7:38
10/21	1:52	2:17	7:32	8:45
10/22	3:07	3:28	8:46	9:49
New Moon	10/28			
1st Quarter	10/07			
Full Moon	10/14			
Last Quarter	10/21			

Public gets a look inside Convention Hall

By CHRISTOPHER SOUTH
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY - About 75 members of the public showed up last Thursday evening to get a glimpse of what the new Convention Hall could look like inside.

Architect Martin Kimmel participated in the fifth public presentation on the design of a new Convention Hall, this time showing what the hall would look like if set up for a trade show, musical performance, or banquet.

Kimmel started with slides showing an airlock vestibule leading into a prefunction area. The prefunction area would have doors to the outdoor deck area and two access to the main hall. The area features soft, lounge type furniture and a two-

story glass wall providing a view of the beach.

"I feel this will be a signature place for the community," Kimmel said.

The main hall would have a

"Early in the design process the view of the beach was not considered important, but it has become important...and an asset."

- Architect Martin Kimmel

peak seating capacity of 1,258 seats, which would include placing some seating on a flat area in the front, with the main seating area on telescopic risers. The seats would face a high arched window on

the back of the building which allows for an ocean/beach view.

"Early in the design process the view of the beach was not considered important, but it has become important...and an asset," Kimmel said.

Kimmel showed a preliminary rendering of a first floor catering kitchen, which would have refrigeration, water, electrical

outlets, but would not be a cooking kitchen. During the public portion, resident Jack Wichterman said a non-cooking kitchen would not serve the needs of the Kiwanis during their annual July 4 pan-

cake breakfast. Mayor Edward Mahaney said accommodations could be made, and suggested making the Kiwanis use of the kitchen on July 4 a condition of the lease for the first floor restaurant.

"Does that satisfy the

need?" Mahaney asked. "It sure does," Wichterman said.

Kimmel also indicated the 4,100 square feet of retail space on the Beach Avenue side, which he said would be

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Images courtesy of Kimmel Bogrette

Artist rendering showing a view of the main hall of the proposed new Convention Hall as set up for a banquet.

'No promise' says Mahaney

By CHRISTOPHER SOUTH
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY - At last week's council meeting, which included a fifth presentation from the Convention Hall project architect, Mayor Edward Mahaney said he and the other council members only promised to deliver an open and transparent process - not a new Convention Hall.

"There was no promise by the city council a new facility would be built," Mahaney told the 75 people who attended the final presentation before the Nov. 4 election. "I want to be clear, the promise by city council was to provide an open and transparent process."

On Election Day, Cape May voters will decide whether or not to fund the \$10.5 million

project. If the bond referendum passes, the city will proceed with grant applications and a bidding process that should begin in early 2009.

Mahaney said when he and the present council "inherited" the project and besides the open process they promised two town hall meetings to solicit public input on the project.

"Tonight will be the fifth meeting," he said last Thursday.

Mahaney said there was no promise of "down to the penny" projections on operating costs before the Nov. 4 vote, nor would there be any decisions made about what kind of energy sources would be used, but he said the city has given all the information that was expected.

"Now it's up to the voters to approve the project based on the preliminary design," Mahaney said.

The Nov. 4 ballot will con-

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This rendering shows the prefunction area with its high arched windows and a majestic view of the Atlantic Ocean. The proposal for the new Convention Hall will be on the Nov. 4 ballot.

Battle lines drawn in national race

By JENNIFER KOPP
Cape May Star and Wave

LOWER TOWNSHIP - Growing up in Tennessee, Neal McPheeters couldn't tolerate the racial prejudice he found prevalent in the state. Ten years ago, McPheeters moved to Cape May assuming this was a good place to escape it.

An artist and former president of the Cape May County Art League, McPheeters lives on Route 9 next to Utsch's Marina under the Cape May Bridge. Two years later, McPheeters saw the letters KKK spray painted on the side of the bridge.

"I was stunned," said McPheeters. "I called the Lower Township authorities and they were great. Came and cleaned it up right away. But that was not the only time KKK was painted on the bridge. I've also seen Erma Militia painted on the bridge which is unnerving."

And it didn't stop there. A few days ago McPheeters placed an Obama/Biden sign on his lawn. His neighbor has a couple as well.

Tuesday morning McPheeters woke up to find hundreds of leaflets strewn throughout the area under the bridge including the land adjacent to his house.

"I opened my front door and saw these white pieces of paper laying on the ground. I assumed it was trash that had blown out of a truck or something like that," McPheeters continued.

He was wrong. "The first one I picked up said 'Obama=Higher Taxes,' said McPheeters. "The second one read 'Obama Sucks.' When I read the third one, I got very upset. It said 'Don't Vote for the Nigger.'"

After getting dressed, McPheeters gathered them up and called the Lower Township Police Department.

"As I was picking them up I noticed a few cars pass by. Afterwards I left to run a few errands and arrived back home just as the police pulled up. It was then I noticed my Obama/Biden sign was gone."

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New food pantry in Villas

Local food cupboards in dire need of new resources

By CHRISTOPHER SOUTH
Cape May Star and Wave

LOWER TOWNSHIP - A new food pantry available to Lower Township residents has opened at Saint Barnabas By the Bay in Villas.

Diane Pannelli, the contact person for the food pantry, said she has lived in the township all her life and she and her husband know how hard it can be to make ends meet, especially when some jobs stop for the winter.

"It's a blessing to be able to help people in much worse situations," she said.

Some of that help is now being provided by the St. Barnabas by the Bay Food Pantry, located at 13 West Bates Ave., Villas. The food pantry opened Sept. 15, and operates on Mondays only, from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m.

"Right now we are open an hour to see how things go until the word gets out there," Pannelli said.

According to Pannelli, Joseph Cirrincione, superintendent of the Lower Township Elementary School District, approached the United Way and said there was a need for help with food for some of his students' families. He spoke to Suzanne Nardi of United Way and she contacted Pastor Debra Bullock at Saint Barnabas. Bullock then brought up the idea at a vestry meeting.

"We were excited about the

prospect of doing something to help our neighbors," Pannelli said.

They made fliers and ShopRite donated paper grocery bags. They asked people to fill the bags with food donations, or if there was a need, bring the bag to the food pantry and they would fill it for you. Pannelli said most of their donations have come from parishioners, but a few local churches have called them and offered their support. They have also received a few monetary donations, even one from a Pennsylvania woman who read about the food pantry in a local daily newspaper.

Pannelli said the biggest response in terms of need came when the fliers went out

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CM Point discusses environment

By JANICE E. BROWN
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY POINT - Amid the national distress about global economic conditions, presidential election politics, and the fortunes of local sports teams, several issues continue to be of concern for the borough of Cape May Point and its residents. Dominating Thursday night's meeting were such topics as beach use and replenishment, the welfare of endangered

species, potential flooding, and the work being coordinated with the Army Corps of Coastal Engineers.

Mayor Carl Schupp called the meeting to order and opened public hearings on several ordinances, some of which were to bring the borough's code into compliance with county and state mandates; these passed unanimously with little public comment. Connie Mahon, Municipal Clerk, was present to articulate and clarify these

and other matters. The only ordinance of note was 553-08 regarding minor changes for kite-flying and the presence of dogs on the recreational beaches, as well as methods for cleaning the beaches. This ordinance prompted Commissioner Anita Van Heesyk to comment that according to the guidelines, "we've pretty much been doing everything right," in these areas.

Commissioner Joe Nietubicz alerted residents on some health matters (flu shots, antibiotic abuse) and the upcoming fire extinguisher inspections.

Under new business Mayor Schupp introduced a Proclamation designating October as Community Planning Month, as part of the national initiative, and it was unanimously adopted by the Board. He also announced that on Saturday, Oct. 25, 2008 at 11 a.m. a new fire engine will be welcomed to town, with a parade and luncheon to which all are invited.

Four new resolutions were adopted on key topics, such as authorization to sell various surplus items by on-line auction; another appointed Commissioner Nietubicz to serve as Flood Plain Manager for a four-year term. The last resolution regarded the borough's being brought into compliance with federal emergency management standards, which is timely, given flooding concerns in

own wine or beer, as the case may be.

The other license would be for a retail store selling alcoholic beverages. The commissioners envisioned a wine shop, although local wineries are permitted to sell the wine they manufacture without a liquor license.

The ballot questions would read:

"Shall the retail sale of all kinds of alcoholic beverages, for consumption on the licensed premises by the glass or other open receptacle pursuant to Chapter One of the Title Intoxicating Liquors of the Revised Statutes (s.33:1-1 et. Seq.), be permitted in this municipality?"

The commissioners indicate

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Ballot issue on WCM liquor license explained

By CHRISTOPHER SOUTH
Cape May Star and Wave

WEST CAPE MAY - Only about 20 residents and others showed up to hear the latest explanation of the liquor license questions up for approval on the Nov. 4 ballot.

West Cape May has been soliciting input for over a year on the question of offering two liquor licenses in the borough. Based on its population, West Cape May qualifies to offer one consumption license and one distribution license. The board of commissioners announced their intention in the beginning of the process to offer the consumption license to a restaurant. Currently no restaurant in West Cape May has a liquor license, but customers are allowed to carry in their



Jennifer Kopp/Cape May Star and Wave

Queen and King (x2) of the bean!

The highlight of the annual Lima Bean Festival is always the crowning of the queen and king and this year was no exception. But the big news this year is the king gets a second term. Above, West Cape May Mayor Pam Kaithern crowns Michael Wilkinson, 9, of Cape May and Haverford, Pa. as a two-term king. Danielle Pennington, 10, of Cape May, said she was "so excited" to be named Lima Bean Queen. Congratulations, both!