

## INSIDE



**COMMUNITY**  
Historic Cold Spring Village's 'Hands-On and Homespun', **B1**

**AREA**  
Access to Art's Chamber Music Festival, **A10**

**CAPE MAY**  
MAC's Kids' Playhouse presents puppets and magic, **A8**

**SPORTS**  
Shore Shot basketball camp first session results, **A5**

RELIGION/OBITUARIES...A6  
OPINION/LETTERS.....A8  
ARTS.....A10  
MOVIES.....A13  
WEATHER.....A14  
SPORTS/OUTDOORS.....B1,2  
EDUCATION/YOUTH.....B3  
COMMUNITY/LIFESTYLE..B4  
CLASSIFIED.....B8,9,10,11  
PUBLIC NOTICE.....B11

	HIGH	LOW		
	am	pm	am	pm
5		12:20	6:01	6:10
6	12:32	1:14	6:47	7:11
7	1:26	2:12	7:37	8:18
8	2:26	3:14	8:31	9:27
9	3:32	4:17	9:28	10:35
10	4:40	5:19	10:28	11:40
11	5:46	6:18	11:27	

## Beach Theatre loan could be made this month

By CHRISTOPHER SOUTH  
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY - After researching the issue, city solicitor Tony Monzo offered an opinion saying the city could loan \$100,000 from a small cities grant to the Beach Theatre Foundation.

Monzo's opinion is contrary to a June 22 memo from city manager Lou Corea, in which he says the foundation does not conform to the loan program established under fed-

eral guidelines. Monzo disagreed, but said his disagreement is with the Department of Community Affairs interpretation and not with the city manager.

"I don't want there to be the understanding that Lou and I are at loggerheads over this issue," Monzo said.

According to Monzo, when he first discussed the loan issue with DCA, he spoke with Jim Colello, who had taken over the small cities program. The city maintains a \$600,000 grant from DCA

through the Small Cities Community Development Block Grant program, from which it may loan money to qualified applicants. Monzo said the individual he spoke to told him the Beach Theatre Foundation met the requirements of the small cities program and the city should be able to move forward with the loan, but Colello needed to review the paperwork.

"He is now on leave and not available, and Bruce Benton has taken over his position," Monzo said.

According to Monzo, Benton is the one who gave Corea the information saying the Beach Theatre Foundation does not fit the program.

"Lou was conveying the information he was given," Monzo said, "Lou was not giving his opinion."

Monzo said some of the confusion stems from a grant management agreement drawn up when the city received the initial grant. Monzo said the agreement said the money might be loaned for projects that cre-

ate jobs. However, Monzo said, it is Housing and Urban Development (HUD) guidelines that dictate how the small cities program is administered, and the regulations say the project qualifies if it creates or retains existing jobs.

"Even though the regulations said the grant could be provided for the creation or retention of jobs it appears as though the grant management agreement just says the

Please see Beach, Page A2

## CCA Youth Art Program



By LESLIE TRULUCK  
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY - The Cape May Elementary School is hosting the Center for Community Arts' (CCA) Youth Arts Program (YAP) from 9 a.m. to noon for eight weekly sessions from June 25 to August 17.

The CCA has three camps going simultaneously on a rotating schedule in Cape May, Lower Township, and Wildwood. The camps each cover a different art form each week and all camps cover the material in different orders as they share materials. A famous artist is discussed each week to introduce the different art forms.

"It's not heavy on art history but we give them a little dose," said art instructor at West Cape May Elementary Janet Payne. Payne is the instructor for YAP in Cape May.

The first week at YAP focuses on sculpting and the kids are looking at examples from George Segal and Red Grooms.

"They're so creative. For this project they had to come up with who these people are and what they're doing," Payne said. This week the kids created a doll-sized scenario with five figures in a particular theme.

Please see YAP, Page A5



Leslie Truluck/Cape May Star and Wave

Pictured at left, Morgan Maslow, age 12, and Ian Smilyk, age 10, above, work on clay sculptures. Below, Jennifer Hudson leads the students in a "shaking" exercise to vent their artistic frustrations.



## Party boat business not all fun and games for owners

By CHRISTOPHER SOUTH  
Cape May Star and Wave

LOWER TOWNSHIP - Before 8 a.m. each morning the party boat captains on boats like the Sea Star, Miss Chris, and Porgy IV stand near their docks sipping convenience store coffee and watching as people arrive looking forward to a four, six or eight-hour fishing trip.

This time of the year people are looking to hook summer flounder.

"They all want to catch doormats," Butch Boyd from the Miss Chris said.

But the chances of catching a doormat-sized flatfish are

fairly small he said because of over-fishing.

"There are 3,500 boats between these two bridges," Boyd said, indicating the two spans - one leading into Cape May, the other leading into West Cape May, "and they are all catching fish."

Boyd and fellow captain Mike Scanlan said they are also competing with the part-time charter boats. On June 18, Dan Glaze, president of the Cape May County Party and Charter Boat Association, said about

75 percent of all charter boats are now a part-time business.

Paul Thompson of the Porgy IV, who docks at the South Jersey Marina in Lower Township, said many of these charter boat captains are retirees who are subsidizing their own fishing by taking

fares. Thompson said it's easy for a boat owner to get a charter license and then they can take a few guys out fishing, charge them \$100 a head, and the boat owner has his gas paid for. Boyd called Thompson's remarks.

"You have all these guys who are retired and don't need to make a living, so they are supporting their hobby," he said.

Glaze said due to easier financing there are more boaters today than in the past, and many of them are out

fishing. At the same time, Thompson said, a lot of commercial charter boats aren't getting trips.

According to Boyd, a lot of part-time captains and amateur fishermen are killing their entire catch, which depletes the stock.

"There is more fuel, effort, and hours spent killing fish than was spent on World War II," Boyd said.

Captain Bob Schumann said today's amateur fisherman can be better equipped for much less money than when he started fishing.

"My first Sea LORAN (Long Range Navigation) system cost \$5,200. Now a hand held GPS device costs a couple hundred dollars," he said.

Scanlan said years ago the amateur fishermen would follow the party boats looking for fish. Now, because of the availability and affordability of electronic devices for finding fish, wherever the fish are.

"The fish don't have a chance," Boyd added.

Of course, that's only when the weather is good enough to fish. Glaze said the wind has been blowing a lot this year. On Monday, Thompson, who

was preparing to make a trip noted a northerly wind that carried a chill in the air.

"It's July 2 and people are wearing sweatshirts or jackets," he said.

Thompson said captains need the cooperation of the weather, and this year it has been cooperating less and less.

"We had the wettest April on record," he said.

"The only things we got to worry about are the fish, the weather, and the people - and we can't control any of them," Thompson said.

Thompson said they just have to forget about the weather in April and due what they can now. The captains have also gotten past the annual slack fishing period in June - something they call the "June Sloop."

"Everything depends on the conditions," Scanlan said, "the wind, the tide, and the water temperature."

But Glaze said party and charter boat fishing is off 40 to 50 percent in 2007, and it's not just because of the elements. Glaze feels that because of the loss of tran-

Please see Party, Page A2

*"The only things we got to worry about are the fish, the weather, and the people - and we can't control any of them." Paul Thompson, Porgy IV party boat.*

## WCM wants to be a 'real community'

By CHRISTOPHER SOUTH  
Cape May Star and Wave

WEST CAPE MAY - Residents attended two workshops with a professional planning firm from Alexandria, Va., last week, to help form a vision for the West Cape May commercial/historic district.

Rhodeside and Harwell, a landscape, architecture and planning firm, visited the borough for two days to assess the existing conditions and elicit input from business owners and residents concerning how they would like the community to look.

Representatives from the firm gave presentations on June 28 and 29 in Borough Hall, where they presented their findings and listened to public comment. Residents told the planners they wanted West Cape May to remain a

"real community" with a year 'round population and year 'round amenities, including the type of retail that would be supported by a year 'round population. People said the borough should offer economic incentives to attract year 'round businesses, and should attempt to attract retirees to come live in West Cape May, which they said is "the Heart of Cape Island."

At the same time, residents suggested the borough attempt to attract the kind of retail stores that would make people want to visit West Cape May. They said the commercial/historic district need to be made more attractive to visitors and residents. However, while residents said they wanted to see improvements in the borough, including improved sidewalks, way-finding signs and underground utility lines, but they stressed the need to

maintain the town's current character.

On Friday, June 29, Brad Garner of Rhodeside and Harwell described the commercial district, which includes Sunset Boulevard from Pacific Avenue to Park Boulevard, Broadway between the beach and Borough Hall, and the commercial area on Park Boulevard.

Garner said there were currently a lot of mixed-use streets and some overly wide streets, such as Park Boulevard, where there is room for sidewalks. Garner said the firm recommended improving the two main intersections in the borough - Sunset and Broadway, and Park at West Perry. One of the ideas included creating a traffic circle at Park and West Perry with flowerbeds and a monument. The proposal, they said, would have a

traffic calming effect, and would include improved crosswalks with pedestrian islands, improving pedestrian safety at the intersection.

Ed Hamm, an urban designer with Rhodeside and Harwell, said there were a number of short-term improvements possible, including landscaping, widening sidewalks, and using banners on utility poles.

Other improvements, he said, could include installing brick pavers, low fences, and plantings in the downtown to give it more color and character.

Long-term ideas included the development of two and three story mixed-use brick buildings on the site of existing commercial businesses. The planners recommended commercial structures with residential units on the sec-

Please see WCM, Page A5

## Whale of a Day Festival traffic advisory

NORTH CAPE MAY - The Lower Township Police wants to inform motorists and residents in the area of North Cape May and Town Bank that Clubhouse Drive will be closed from Town Bank Road to Elwood Avenue for the Annual Whale of a Day Festival on Saturday, July 7.

Traffic will be diverted up onto Shore Drive from 6 a.m. till 5 p.m. on this date.