Starz Watte Cape May

153rd YEAR NO. 30 CAPE MAY, N.J.

SERVING AMERICA'S NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK CITY

THURSDAY, JULY 19, 2007

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INSIDE

Bomb squad destroys flare on Cape May beach



SPORTS Cape May Superathlon: a unique spin on lifeguard competition, **BI**

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First case of rabbit fever reported in county, A7

CAPE MAY

Group wants city to be 'dog-friendly', **A2**

THEATER

Cape May Stage 'Moonlight and Magnolias' an intense comedy, AII

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By CHRISTOPHER SOUTH Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY - It took two blasts from the Atlantic City Bomb Squad to blow up a white phosphorous flare that washed up near the Cove area at the end of Beach Avenue, the middle of last week.

On Wednesday, July 11, police cleared the beach and street for 500 feet around the lifeguard headquarters

to do about what appeared to be a piece of military ordinance. According to Fire Chief Jerry Inderwies, the object was cylindrical, about three inches in diameter and about 18 inches long.

"It looked very similar to a mortar. That's why precau-tions were taken," he said.

The object was identified as a white phosphorous flare – a

between Grant and Windsor Avenues, while law enforce-ment tried to determine what type commonly used by the military. White phosphorous, sometimes called "Willy sometimes called "Willy Pete" by military personnel, is easily ignited and burns at extremely high temperatures. There are other known health risks associated with white phosphorous.

Cape May County Prosecutor Robert Taylor said last week they did not know the source of the flare, only that it had washed up on the beach. Inderwies said

guard headquarters – about a half mile away. Asked by the Star and Wave if that was in accordance with standard operating operating procedures, Inderwies said, "That will be addressed at a later time," suggesting the lifeguards should not have moved the flare.

The bomb squad attempted to destroy the flare, setting off an explosive charge at

lifeguards transported the 4:10 p.m. Twenty minutes flare from the Cove to life- later a second, more powerful later a second, more powerful charge was detonated to destroy the flare.

"The Atlantic City Bomb Squad pretty much took care of the device and it looks like everything is clear now,² Taylor told reporters after the second blast.

Inderwies said they would have top clean up some debris from the blast and would be able to open the beaches shortly thereafter.







West Cape May is Jersey fresh

		HIGH		LOW	
	am	pm	am	pm	
19		12:27	6:05	6:14	
20	12:28	1:12	6:45	7:04	
21	1:12	1:59	7:24	7:58	
22	1:59	2:50	8:05	8:57	
23	2:53	3:43	8:50	9:57	
24	3:52	4:37	9:39	10:56	
25	4:53	5:30	10:31	11:50	

JULY TIDE TABLE

Diane Rea, top left, of West Cape May's Rea's Farm, sells corn at the weekly Farmer's Market held Tuesdays at Borough Hall. Above, Emaleigh Kaithern, age 14, of West Cape May, jumps up to help a customer pick out a farm-fresh zucchini. Left, there is nothing prettier - or tastier - than a fresh peach like these from Schober Farms in Monroeville. West Cape May's market opens at 3 p.m. and features live entertainment, crafts and food vendors as well as produce.

Photos by Christopher South

Residents want Lyle Lane closed for band concerts

By LESLIE TRULUCK Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY - Residents Victorian Towers from addressed City Council July 17 concerning the opening of Lyle Lane to traffic during the bandstand concerts.

'It just isn't the same for us," resident Shirley Stiles said.

Residents of Victorian

Towers said having Lyle Lane Stiles said. closed for concerts does not benefit them alone but also for children who enjoyed dancing in the street. Residents explained that it is dangerous for people on wheelchairs to wheel themselves through the street with traffic passing through.

"To appease the group at the Victorian Towers we need to have the road closed,"

Victorian Towers residents Nena Kowalski, Florence Chmelko, and Jean Benigno spoke in agreement that concerts are less enjoyable with Lyle Lane open to traffic. "We appreciate the restora-

tions being made to the park and we are not against opening the road when the park is finished but until then we want the street open for our

accessibility," Stiles said. "It is a work in progress," City Manager Lou Corea said explaining that changes in lighting, benches, water features, and handicap access

are being made to the park. "I have addressed the band concerts since day one, when Arthur Ram was instrumental in getting the Rotary to build the bandstand and having the street closed on

Saturdays for the concerts," Council Member Neil S. Farve said.

"I saw there were some problems at the concerts and we need the street closed from traffic but it is not a policy decision and Lou (Corea) has the authority," Farve said.

"Not at this time do I see them getting the street back but I am willing to see what I can do to make it better for them," Corea said.

The group at the Victorian Towers anticipates meeting with City Manager Lou Corea in hopes of resolving this conflict.

Lower not considering dog ban on beaches

By CHRISTOPHER SOUTH

Cape May Star and Wave

LOWER TOWNSHIP - The Two Mile Landing Restaurant was cleared to reopen after being cleared by the state engineer.

The restaurant had been closed after part of the floor collapsed in the adjoining Crab House Restaurant, July 7. The floor sunk several feet,

and nine people were injured, none seriously.

Lower Township manager Joe Jackson announced the state's decision at Monday's township council meeting saying, "The state has allowed the Two Mile Landing Restaurant to reopen. Their engineer has analyzed the Crab House and the Two Mile Landing restaurants, and the construction official has gone over them

with a fine tooth comb."

The Crab House remains closed, and the state has required certified inspections of Two Mile Landing once a week until the season is over.

Donnelly, Chris а spokesman the for Department of Community Affairs, said the state Division of Codes and Standards confirmed the state sent a structural engineer and an investigator to

the Crab House/Two Mile Landing on July 10 because they were concerned about the cause of the collapse. The investigators determined reinforcing bars in the concrete planks supporting the structure rusted out due to deterioration from environmental conditions. A section of the concrete planks broke and collapsed. Donnelly said

Please see Open, Page A4

Manager says 'pass' on Ponderlodge

Two Mile Landing open for business

By CHRISTOPHER SOUTH

Cape May Star and Wave

LOWER TOWNSHIP Lower Township Manager Joe Jackson recommended the township forget plans for turning a portion of the former Ponderlodge Golf Course into a township recreation facility.

The township had considered leasing about 20 acres of the 245 acre site, currently known as the Villas Wildlife Management Area.

"I recommend you pass on

Wildlife Management Area," Jackson said.

Jackson said the cost of rehabilitating the deteriorating facilities there would be around \$1.2 million plus and additional \$250,000 to replace a sewage pump in the pump house.

He said there were other 'unknown" costs, which if known would make the cost of project prohibitive. the Jackson said when the land was cleared stumps were dumped into holes and buried. Asphalt tennis and

anything to do with the Villas basketball courts were then constructed on top of these sites and depressions have formed in the surfaces, apparently from the deterio-ration and settling of the buried debris.

Jackson said it is likely there is other material buried there - some of it potential hazardous.

'We would have to excavate and we would be responsible for what is underground," he "And we don't know said. what's back there."

Township solicitor Paul Baldini told council his experience was, wherever stumps were buried, there was always other material, even if more stringent requirements. He said 30 years ago people thought little of dumping what today are considered hazardous materials.

"I'm willing to bet, if there are stumps, it's more than stumps," he said.

Councilman Wayne

Please see Pass, Page A5

By CHRISTOPHER SOUTH

Cape May Star and Wave

LOWER TOWNSHIP - Lower Township Council is not currently considering change local ordinances to ban dogs from beaches along the Delaware Bay.

Some members of council reported hearing from constituents who were concerned the township would prohibit dogs on local beaches after reading an account in a local newspaper. The report suggested the township was considering banning dogs from May to October.

Councilman Wayne Mazurek said he had a petition delivered to his door signed by year 'round residents who want to be able to visit the beach with their dogs.

"I support the petition," Mazurek said. "But there are dog owners who are not responsible."

Lower allows dogs on its beaches, but laws requiring owners to pick up their dogs' waste still apply. Some residents have complained about dog owners not picking up after their dogs, which led to nine summons being issued over the past weekend. The township has a Class II police officer who patrols the beaches on an all terrain vehicle. The city code enforcement official is also checking the beaches for compli-

Plastic bag holders have also been installed to supply pet owners with bags for pet waste disposal.

Township solicitor Paul Baldini said there are also some horses being ridden on the beaches along the Delaware Bay, to which Mazurek said, "We may have to get shopping bags."

Mazurek asked residents to call the township if they notice the bag holders are empty.

"We are asking the good residents to help us keep the beaches clean," he said.

Please see Dog, Page A5

