

Cape May Star and Wave

153rd YEAR NO. 33 CAPE MAY, N.J. SERVING AMERICA'S NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK CITY THURSDAY, AUGUST 9, 2007 50¢

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AUGUST TIDE TABLE

	HIGH am	LOW pm	HIGH am	LOW pm
9	5:40	6:10	11:18	
10	6:41	7:04	12:30	12:17
11	7:34	7:53	1:22	1:11
12	8:21	8:37	2:09	2:00
13	9:05	9:18	2:52	2:47
14	9:46	9:56	3:31	3:30
15	10:25	10:33	4:09	4:13

Beach Theatre Foundation prompts council for \$

By **LESLIE TRULUCK**
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY - Jerry Gaffney, co-chair of the Beach Theatre Foundation, requested council provide him with a date they can expect to receive the \$100,000 loan from a small cities grant program. The loan money will go directly to Frank Investments to prevent demolition and to enable the foundation to run, refurbish,

and hopefully purchase Beach Theatre over a one-year period beginning on the Sept. 30 loan deadline.

"You can be confident that it will go through by then," said Councilman David Kurkowski.

"We would like to have it sooner. I believe we are ready to sign within days if we had the check in hand," Gaffney said. The lack of a date stalls the foundations fundraising events to cover the additional

\$10,000 needed as a security-deposit with Frank Investments.

Gaffney said since the \$640,000 in repaid loan money from the Congress Hall is already in the city treasury and under council control he doesn't understand the delay in issuing the funds because "the City of Cape May has the power and authority."

Gaffney also said the foundation is close to finalizing an

agreement with Frank Investments which would go into effect when the loan money is issued.

"Authorize the money right away and take care of technicalities later," he said, "I am turning away donations because there is no agreement yet."

Gaffney said he has gone before council three times and that he will no longer continue to pursue them on this issue.

"I will advise the foundation that we are just being delayed," he said.

Gaffney questioned whether the foundation still has the undivided commitment of the council and if the money is still available in the city treasury to which Mayor Jerome E. Inderwies and Councilman David Kurkowski assured him they did.

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Sailing the A.J. Meerwald



By **LESLIE TRULUCK**
Cape May Star and Wave

LOWER TOWNSHIP - The one-time commercial oyster schooner A.J. Meerwald has docked at Utsch's Marina for the month of August offering evening sails and "Sailor

For a Day" classes for kids. Educators use a hands-on approach by asking visitors to participate in the sailing classroom.

After Captain Jesse Briggs gave a briefing on lingo, the guests line up, repeat and perform commands: "dig-in, walk the line, hold the line, drop the line!" First Mate Katie Gray sang the shanty

'Cape Code Girls' as guests helped raise the 2,000-pound sails.

"If anyone wants to get really nautical they can help coil the rope, that's when the real work begins," deckhand John Parlapiano said.

The bulwarks once overflowed with harvest but today the oyster schooner is used for education and recreation. A schooner by definition is a sailboat with two or more masts. Named for Augustus J. Meerwald, the schooner was built with three sails in 1928 in Dorchester New Jersey. Executive

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Cape May Point looking at future of school district

By **LESLIE TRULUCK**
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY POINT - The Fire Hall was filled with concerned residents who met to discuss the future of their non-operating school district with Commissioner of Education Lucille E. Davy and Assemblyman Jeff Van Drew.

Flyers advertising the meeting quoted Governor John Corzine's Property Tax Relief and Reform Web site saying "school districts without schools will be eliminated."

As a non-operating school

district, children of Cape May Point are bussed to surrounding schools but they are governed by their own school board.

Davy said, "I understand you are here because you're concerned that we will consolidate the districts and it will raise your taxes," which was met with cheers.

"We are not talking about a single school district for Cape May County. We are changing and enhancing the role of the county superintendent and the link to local school districts," Davy said. "Legislation has directed

the department of education to send the county superintendent to provide the commissioner with a plan on how we can make it more efficient," she said.

"We want to control spending by making sure the school

system is efficiently spreading services. The technology is changing faster than we can keep up with it, and we cannot spend money on inefficient education systems because we need to prepare our kids for the changing

twenty-first century," Davy said.

"The NJ QSAC holds to high standards not only for education productivity but also how they govern themselves and maintain professionalism," Davy said. The

Department of Education established the NJQSAC (New Jersey Single Accountability Continuum) in 2006 as the monitoring and evaluation system for public

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Local veterans trying to do some good

By **CHRISTOPHER SOUTH**
Cape May Star and Wave

LOWER TOWNSHIP - Commanders from local veteran service organizations met at Lower Township Hall recently, to see what could be done to help veterans get medical treatment.

Lower Township resident Stephen Sheftz said the local service organizations have been asked to try and locate all veterans residing in the area whether they belong to an organization or not. Sheftz said many young people have been asked to make sacrifices over the years and now they are not getting the services to which they are entitled.

To ensure veterans are getting proper medical attention, for example, the servic-

es organizations like the Veterans of Foreign Wars, American Legion and the Disabled American Veterans have been attempting to get vans for transporting veterans.

"We've made some progress," Sheftz said. "We were to get a van - the DAV is buying four new vans and (DAV commander) Joe Harris had us scheduled to get one. But things change. People up north thought we didn't need one."

Sheftz said he wrote to the DAV's state commander and said some local veterans have to travel to Elsmere, Del., to get medical services. If they have no transportation they could end up taking a bus to Atlantic City, then a train or

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Never fear, Underdog is here!



By **ALISON DOLAWAY**
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY - Cape May parade icon Suzanne Muldowney, better known as Underdog, has a lot of grievances to voice.

Known for her living impersonations of cartoon characters as well as her own fanciful creations,

Muldowney has a lot to say about the new Disney movie "Underdog," set to come out in theaters Aug. 3.

Many may only recognize her in a red long-sleeved tunic with the letter "U" sewn across the chest, completed with red trunks, tights, and boots. And to finish off her costume, a blue cape. What kind of super-

hero would Underdog be without a cape?

This handmade ensemble can't be missed, especially when Muldowney wears it while walking and dancing down the streets in Cape May's annual Baby Parade and West Cape May Christmas Parade, just to name a few.

Muldowney is a regular in

other parades in this resort and in other communities.

One of her concerns about the movie is the rating, PG, meaning that it may contain some material inappropriate for children. She believes Underdog is meant to be "family-oriented," according to Muldowney.

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