

# Cape May Star and Wave



160TH YEAR NO. 1 CAPE MAY, N.J. SERVING AMERICA'S NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK CITY WEDNESDAY, January 1, 2014 50¢



## HOUSE OF THE WEEK

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## CAPER TIGERS 1-1 IN TOURNEY, 2-2 OVERALL

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Cain Chamberlin/Cape May Star and Wave  
Above, shoppers take advantage of good weather, visiting the Washington Street Mall in Cape May.

## Happy New Year 2014, everyone

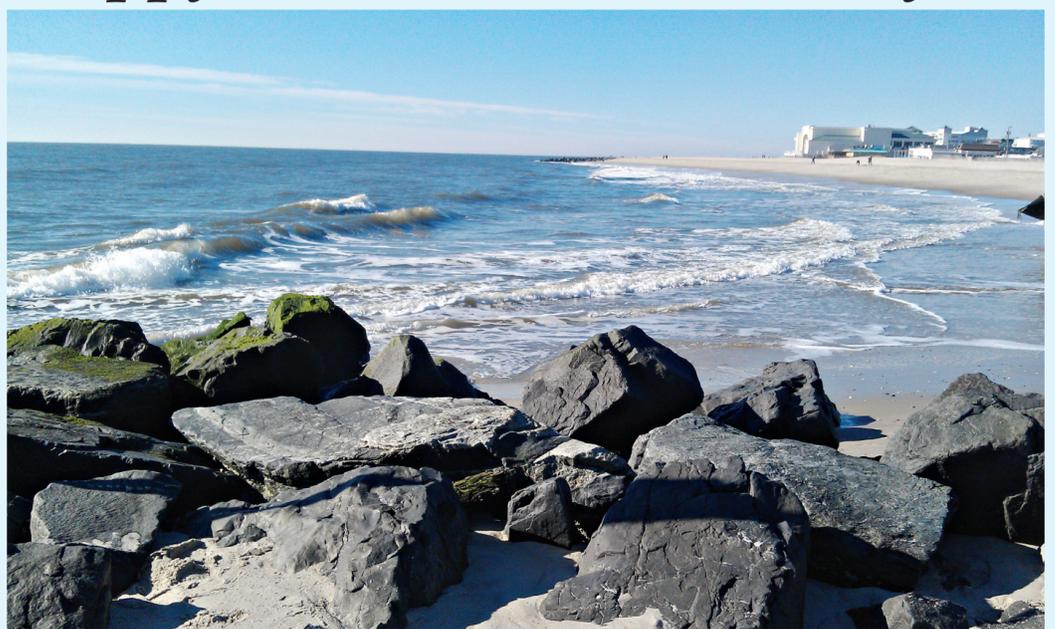


Photo courtesy of Karen Knight

Above, Cape May Convention Hall can be seen in the right rear of this photo. The weather was quite sunny and bright leading up Sunday's cold and rain. With little wind and sunny skies, the beaches of Cape May can be a very fine place to be. This shot was taken near the jetty between Madison and Philadelphia avenues.

## Holidays were very good to merchants

By CAIN CHAMBERLIN  
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY – It's no secret that small business owners must work exceptionally hard to keep their ventures and commerce above water in today's frail economy, but Cape May entrepreneurs claim to have had strong sales in recent months. The holidays are considered to be a salvation for most businesses, especially when sales during the first three-quarters of the year are not as ample as expected. According to the National Retail Federation, holiday sales increased 3.5 percent to \$579.5 billion from 2011 to 2012. On average, holiday sales have increased 3.3 percent for the last 10 years, which begs the question of

how much supports small, local businesses. Joanne Klineburger, Business Improvement District (BID) Chairwoman and owner of the Great White Shark shop on the Washington Street Mall, said the consensus among local merchants this year seemed to be that 2013 was a strong year, especially during the holidays. "I think for the holiday season, everyone has been happy. We had the weather on our side," she said. "Each year has been an improvement over the last since around 2008. Rentals and hotel reservations have been up the last couple of years too, I believe." John Cooke of the Victorian Motel and past president of

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## Soup-er Bowl offers respite in dead of winter

By CHRISTOPHER SOUTH  
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY – What are you doing in the dead of winter? Many locals understand how quiet it can be in January through March in the Cape May area, and they look for things to do. "You know it's a dry spell around here – there's not a lot going on during that time when you are the only car on the street going into Cape May – so it's like, let's have a party," said Bernadette Matthews, executive director of the Center for Community Arts. For the past eight years that dead of winter party has been the Soup-er Bowl Fundraiser for CCA's WCFA-LP 101.5 FM, which is always held on the Friday before the NFL's Super Bowl Sunday. This year the Soup-er Bowl will be

held on Jan. 31, but unlike the NFL, the Soup-er Bowl is not about the competition. "It's all about soup,

such selections as a kale and sausage soup, two or three different types of chili, clam chowder, chicken noodle, and

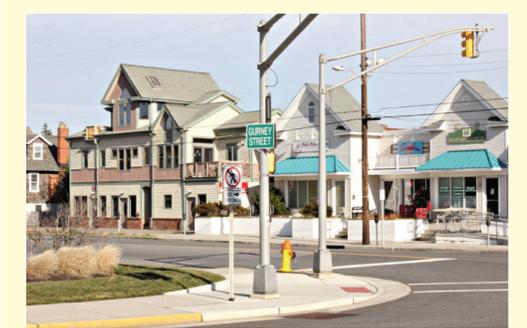
at least one vegetarian soup. But whatever the selection, Matthews said soup just goes with the cold January weather.

"For this event, the soups are a hit," she said. In addition to the homemade soups, there are two types of auctions going on at the Soup-er Bowl. One is a live auction with John Alvarez as

*'It's all about soup, salad, desserts and spirits.'*

– CCA director  
Bernadette Matthews

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Cain Chamberlin/Cape May Star and Wave  
Above, a view of Gurney Street and Beach Avenue.

## Contract awarded for Gurney St. drainage

By CAIN CHAMBERLIN  
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY – City council has passed a resolution awarding a \$177,460 contract to F.W. Shawl and Sons of Marmora, to replace the storm drainage pipe on Gurney Street.

At the Dec. 17 meeting, Mayor Ed Mahaney said the storm drainage piping from the beachfront through the seawall and up the street to nearly Columbia Avenue will be replaced, likely in February or March.

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## Grant will allow opening of Colonial House

CAPE MAY – The Greater Cape May Historical Society's treasurer, Joan Green, announced the Society has received an operating costs re-grant for 2014 from the Cape May County Division of Culture and Heritage, under the direction of the County's Board of Chosen Freeholders. The Division administered the funds that had been provided through a grant from the New Jersey Historical Commission, a Division of the

Department of State. This re-grant will help the Society continue its mission to collect, preserve, document, interpret and share the history of the greater Cape May area. The Society has been in existence since August 1974, and is steward of the Colonial House Museum, c 1730, located at 653 1/2 Washington Street, Cape May, next to City Hall. The museum was originally a tavern and the family

grant provided funds to help defray expenses for installation of new gallery lighting in the exhibit room. Previously the exhibit room had fluorescent lighting that could not be adjusted based on need. The Society continues to improve the Colonial House Museum to preserve it for future generations. The Colonial House Museum, c1730, the oldest house in Cape May open to the public, will reopen on or about June 15.

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