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Cape May Star and Wave

159TH YEAR NO. 4 CAPE MAY, N.J. SERVING AMERICA'S NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK CITY WEDNESDAY, January 23, 2013 50¢

Church takes community role seriously with 'compassionate care' programs

By CHRISTOPHER SOUTH
Cape May Star and Wave

ERMA - Compassion is a term used a lot in the circles of the Nazarene Church.

According to Pastor Charles Gates, the denomination is heavily involved in disaster relief. They were active in providing compassionate relief after the 7.0 magnitude earthquake in Haiti. After the earthquake the church put together care packages for earthquake victims. The church, including the Seashore Community Church of the Nazarene in Erma, was heavily involved with helping some 200 people in Wildwood who were displaced by Hurricane Sandy.

"People here started working with local officials immediately. We were prepared to bring in whatever was needed," Gates said.

In Lakewood there was a tent city of 80 to 100 people, and the church was instrumental in providing toiletries and other necessities.

However, there is a local, immediate and ongoing need right here in Lower Township, and the church continues to adapt to meet the need.

Seashore Community Church has a Compassionate Care Ministry. Almond Weech, from the Bahamas, is the church's Compassionate Care Program Director.

"Almond is well versed in this. It's one of his programs," Gates said.

Timothy Golden is the Youth and Young Adult Director, and he recently delivered between 500 and 600 coats donated from three Nazarene churches, located in Media, Lansdale and Fairview Valley, Pa. The Seashore Community Church program has



Christopher South/Cape May Star and Wave

Above, a sign outside Seashore Community Church of the Nazarene lists some of the programs the church runs to help the community. Pastor Charles Gates said churches are called to serve, particularly to children, widows, and the needy.

received donations of food and clothing from as far away as Virginia. The coats are being distributed out of a thrift store set up in the church's garage, which has grown out of the local need.

Gates said they are selling items of clothing for \$1 to \$5, but they will give them to those who can't afford them. The clothes are either new or used but in good condition. If they receive clothes that are too bad to use they are recycled.

"It all started out with a food closet. The food doesn't stay here long," Gates said. Gates said the food closet

has about two weeks or less of food supply at any given time.

"People are actually using this as a grocery store," Gates said.

The church used to participate in a program called Angel Ministries, which offered food at about one third of the cost they would pay in the grocery store. Gates said it was actually easier to work with the Community Food Bank of New Jersey, the government, and other churches to supply the

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Christopher South/Cape May Star and Wave

Martin Luther King Jr. remembered at CCA event

Above, a drum circle, including the Macedonia Baptist Youth, plays at the annual Martin Luther King Jr. remembrance ceremony, sponsored by the Center for Community Arts and held at the Cape May Methodist Church. Pictured above, left to right are Teran Broadnax, Renin Broadnax, drum circle leader Jeff Hebron, and Alijah Broadnax. CCA is also partnering with the Mid-Atlantic Center for the Arts and Humanities, as they do each year, with a Black History Month display. This year the theme is, "Celebrating Community Service: Black Fraternal, Social and Civic Organizations of Cape May County." See photos on page A10.

Cape May man marched in inaugural parade 60 years ago

By BETTY WUND
For the Star and Wave

CAPE MAY - A navy veteran and teacher, Cape May resident Sam Taylor reminisces about his experience marching in the inauguration parade of Dwight D. Eisenhower Jan. 20, 1953. That was 60 years ago nearly to the day of Obama's second inauguration. He still treasures the scrapbook he compiled, with its now crumbling pages, which includes this experience.

In 1953, he was enrolled in the John Marshall High School in his hometown, Richmond, Va.

The school was named after Chief Justice John Marshall.

"It was the only school in the United States with a national monument (of Marshall) on its campus at that time," Taylor said.

Marshall served the Supreme Court from 1801 to 1835. His home was in Richmond.

Taylor was a member of his high school band at the time of President Dwight D. Eisenhower's first term inauguration.

"Our band actually was better than the West Point band. We were chosen because we won so many contests," he added.

Taylor played the trombone and marched on the left of the band's parade formation. He was separate from the formation because he set the pace for the 75-member band.

"I remember President Eisenhower with Vice President Nixon, and former presidents Truman and Hoover standing close to the parade route," he said.



Betty Wund/Cape May Star and Wave

Above, Cape May resident Sam Taylor sits with a scrapbook containing photos from the 1953 Presidential Inauguration. He marched in the parade with his high school band.

Taylor said at one point the president was standing only three feet away.

Taylor said he recalls vividly the one-day experience of participating in the inauguration parade. The band left school sometime before daybreak for the four-hour trip to Washington.

"At that time it was a long trip. We didn't have I-95. It took four hours to get to Washington. The band waited another four hours for the parade to start," said Taylor.

It was a five-hour parade, and Taylor believes it was the longest in history to that date. The band never did see

the inauguration ceremony, held before the parade and they immediately returned to school when the parade was over.

Taylor's school had a student body of about 900. It was not a military school but the students were given the choice of signing up for the cadet corps. Taylor said about half joined the corps. He graduated in 1954 and enrolled in the ROTC program while at the University of Richmond. From there he went on to Officer Candidate School (OCS) in Newport, R.I.

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Council authorizes 'Cool' contract

By CHRISTOPHER SOUTH
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY - Most of the people the city contracts with are run of the mill.

The guy Cape May City Council authorized a contract with last week was Mr. Cool - literally.

Michael Cool, owner of MC Events in Galloway Township, has been hired as a consultant to help bring events to Cape May, and specifically to Convention Hall. Cool said he would be working to attract a combination of performing arts events, conventions, seminars and other uses of the facility.

"I expect to be spending a fair amount of time there, to become familiar with everyone there...I will have a very hands on approach," Cool said.

Cool worked for the last 34 years at Stockton College, spending the past 23 years as director of performing arts. The Galloway resident made the decision to retire in the spring and started to con-



Performing arts event consultant Michael Cool

sider what he wanted to do next. In the fall he decided to start his own consulting and programming firm.

"It's nice to have consulting opportunities to help organizations in the area accomplish goals," he said. (MC Events) was a vehicle to do that."

Cool can hardly begin to name some of the acts he has booked over his career at Stockton.

"Dizzy Gillespie, Lionel Hampton, Miles Davis...just a long list of jazz performers," he said.

Harry Connick Jr. made his Atlantic City area debut at Stockton.

"I had the responsibility to bring guest artists into the area," he said. "Stockton has become a cultural hub in this area of the state, and Cape May has a lot of potential to be a hub for not just history but for performing arts as well."

Cool said with there already being two very nice theater companies in Cape May, with Convention Hall opened last Memorial Day Weekend he believes there is an opportunity to bring more people into town. Those people, he said, will stay in the lodging facilities and eat at Cape May restaurants.

He said he views Convention Hall as a brand new, start-up operation, and the first challenge is to make people aware it is there.

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