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Cape May Star and Wave

159TH YEAR NO. 2 CAPE MAY, N.J. SERVING AMERICA'S NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK CITY WEDNESDAY, January 9, 2013 50¢

Cape May's Mahaney, Swain sworn in for second term

By CHRISTOPHER SOUTH
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY - Mayor Ed Mahaney and Councilwoman Terri Swain were sworn in for second terms on New Year's Day.

Councilman Bill Murray was chosen deputy mayor by Cape May City Council. Murray was also chosen by the council to be the Class III Planning Board member, a position he filled for two and a half years.

Swain was reappointed as the Business Improvement District (BID) board member, a position she has held for four years.

Mahaney gave a state of the city address, highlighting the city's integrated sustainability plan, which he said included sustaining economic growth, sustaining environmental stewardship of pristine resources and sustaining the infrastructure that provides programs and services for residents and visitors.

"And to sustain the quality



CAPE MAY - Above left, on New Year's Day, Mayor Ed Mahaney takes his second oath of office as mayor of Cape May from Judge Louis Belasco. Holding the Bible is Mahaney's sister, Patricia Brand. Above right, Belasco also swears in Councilwoman Terri Swain, who easily won reelection for her second term.



Christopher South/Cape May Star and Wave

of life you all have come to expect," Mahaney said. Mahaney said the sustainability plan was a major

undertaking, but they have addressed it in a systematic fashion. Mahaney said during his

first term the city obtained over \$6.6 million in grants, some of which were dedicated to the Open Space Lafayette

Street Project. "The city has partnered with Cape May Elementary and JCP&L and we are in the

process of acquiring all the land there," he said.

Mahaney said the goal was to improve the area as an active and passive recreation site, with something for all ages. He said the city acquired \$1.6 million in Green Acres and Blue Acres funding to acquire property for the Lafayette Street project.

Mahaney also referred to the acquisition of over 78 acres of what he described as a pristine wildlife sanctuary in east Cape May. Cape May acquired \$4.4 million for the city's share of the project.

Mahaney touched on water supply and conservation, in light of the recent LTMUA application for new wells. Mahaney said Cape May was advised in 1995 they couldn't drill more wells in the Cohansey aquifer without affecting neighboring municipalities' supplies. As a result, Cape May built a \$5 million desal plant, which provides 66 percent of the water used

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Independent Team sworn, seated in Lower Township

By CHRISTOPHER SOUTH
Cape May Star and Wave

LOWER TOWNSHIP - The final piece of the Independent Team puzzle was put in place, Jan. 3, when Norris Clark took the oath of office as councilman at large/deputy mayor.

Clark and Mayor Mike Beck were each sworn in by State Sen. Jeff Van Drew - Clark for his first term and Beck for his second term as mayor. The third member of the team, Councilman Jim Neville, was sworn in previously, because his term began after the Nov. 6 election was certified.

Van Drew referred to the swearing-in as a very special event.

"I've been at a good number of swearing-ins, but this one is different," Van Drew said. "This is an example of the American way. We see so much hyper-partisanship in politics today, and that is not

the American way." Van Drew said there is far too much concern regarding internal politics, and he said the election of three independents transcends that.

"We have a responsibility to represent and work for the people. Some think this is naïve or not possible, but it can be that an underdog, working hard, the people will support them," he said.

Van Drew said this happened in the largest municipality in Cape May County, and he was proud of them.

"These guys will represent you well," he said. "I ask you to help them and work with them."

Beck said he always wanted to have Van Drew swear him in, saying, "You have my respect. I always thought you were there for the people."

Beck has always been a registered Republican who chose to run for mayor as an independent four years ago. Van Drew was the lone



Above left, Mayor Mike Beck takes the oath of office, Jan. 2, from State Sen. Jeff Van Drew during the annual reorganization meeting. Beck won his second term as mayor in November. Above right, Van Drew is shown swearing in Norris Clark as councilman-at-large/deputy mayor. Clark ran with Beck and Ward 2 Councilman Jim Neville, who was sworn in shortly after the election.

Democrat elected to the Cape May County Board of Chosen Freeholders when he

served there.

During council comments, Neville referred to his swear-

ing in, first in the municipal clerk's office and then at the first meeting following the

certification of election.

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Baby New Year is a little coastie

By CHRISTOPHER SOUTH
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY - The first baby of the New Year born at Cape May Regional Medical Center was born to PO3 John and Ashlyn Meeks of Cape May.

The mother, Ashlyn, is a dental assistant who in February will have been working for a year for Dr. Chie Li Ee in Cape May.

Ashlyn gave birth to their second daughter, Maci Ann, at 12:14 on New Year's Day. Maci Ann weighed 7 lbs. 8 oz. and was 20 inches long and was delivered by Richard Michner, M.D., Obstetrician.

John is a Petty Officer Third Class and boatswain's mate stationed at Coast



The Meeks family at Cape Regional Medical Center. Guard Station Cape May. According to Meeks, a

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High school taking appropriate steps

By CHRISTOPHER SOUTH
Cape May Star and Wave

ERMA - As a way of showing kids how to take some appropriate steps in life, science teacher David Pacevich is organizing two dance lessons prior to the Winter Wonderland Dance on Jan. 26.

Pacevich said they are bringing in local professional dance instructor Tom Cupp for the first of the two nights. On Monday, Jan. 14, Cupp will be giving instruction in swing dancing, from 7 to 8 p.m. in the lobby of Lower Cape May Regional High School's auditorium. Although primarily for the students, Pacevich said the public is welcome.

The second night of instruction will be on Tuesday, Jan. 22, from 7 to 8 p.m., when stu-

dents will be teaching other students what they learned the first night.

Pacevich said the bottom line is he is hoping the dance instruction will result in more appropriate behavior at school dances. He said it might even bring more chaperones out to the dances.

Asked how the school administration responded to this idea, Pacevich said, "They were loving the idea that someone would take charge of this."

Pacevich said there is an issue of suggestive dance at school sponsored dances, which he called "inappropriate grinding." But he said he and other faculty members are not the only ones bothered by it.

"I surveyed some of the student body, and a group I polled said they didn't plan

on going to the school dance because they felt uncomfortable doing those dance moves," Pacevich said.

Pacevich said there has to be an appreciation for the people dancing and the people who have to watch the dancing.

Pacevich said they formed a committee and have had several meetings. He said they are developing a music library that is appropriate without being suggestive. He said they are also asking DJs to take some responsibility for what they play.

"DJs in the past have accepted requests and without prior screening of the songs played. They can be really suggestive. The words are twisted a little bit so that the older public doesn't

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