

Cape May Star and Wave

159TH YEAR NO. 16 CAPE MAY, N.J. SERVING AMERICA'S NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK CITY WEDNESDAY, April 17, 2013

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HOUSE OF THE WEEK

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LT files grant application for promenade

By CHRISTOPHER SOUTH
Cape May Star and Wave

LOWER TOWNSHIP – The township is applying for a grant to pay for the construction of a concrete promenade on top of an existing stone jetty near the ferry terminal.

Township Manager Mike Voll said the township is considering putting a concrete walkway on top of the existing rock jetty near Douglass Park. Voll said the concept is to have railings and make the 800-foot concrete promenade ADA compliant and give seniors the opportunity to relax and watch sunsets.

"The committee has come up with the idea of calling it Sunset Promenade," Voll said.

The concept also includes allowing fishing at the bay end of the promenade. Voll said Superstorm Sandy changed everyone's mind on the proposal for a fish-

ing pier, perhaps in the area of Lincoln Avenue in North Cape May. Residents were concerned about traffic and parking if a fishing pier was constructed there.

"This addresses all the concerns about the fishing pier," Voll said, adding that it would be less expensive to build than a fishing pier.

Township Engineer George Curvan has estimated the project would cost \$1.1 million, but Voll said the township is hoping not to spend any township dollars on the project.

Township grants coordinator Colleen Crippen said the county did not give parameters for a county Open Space and Recreation Fund grant application, so the township has applied for the entire cost of the project. The grant application was one of two file don Monday, the other

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Christopher South/Cape May Star and Wave

Go green, young lady

Above, a representative from the Wetlands Institute shows a group of young ladies a live whelk from a tank of local sea creatures. The exhibit was one of many at the Cape May Green Festival, held April 13 at Convention Hall.

'Shipwrecks out of the Port of Cape May,' topic of Cape May Forum lecture

By CAIN CHAMBERLIN
Cape May Star and Wave



Diver Bart Malone

CAPE MAY – Maritime history buffs and Cape May Forum supporters met at Cape May Stage Friday night to hear legendary diver Bart Malone give a lecture titled "Shipwrecks Out of the Port of Cape May."

The presentation was part of the Forum's 2013 Salon Series, which are being held Friday nights from 7 to 9 p.m. at various locations around Cape May City. The Salon Series events are relaxed and informative lectures, featuring regional experts on an array of topics, followed by question and answer peri-

ods. The theme of this year's Cape May Forum is "Water Matters."

Malone, an avid shipwreck diver of over 40 years and curator for the Museum of New Jersey Maritime History in Beach Haven, stood before a packed crowd at Cape May Stage and spoke about the numerous shipwrecks strewn across the ocean and bay waters from Barnegat down to Cape May and northern Delaware.

He spoke of the history of these ships and how they met their fates along with his own personal accounts of diving to them.

He said he finds the historical nature of the items he is authorized to recover to be fascinating, which would explain the two car garage

and portions of his home that are full of deep water treasures he has discovered over the years.

"Divers like me are out for the artifacts," he said.

Malone has been aboard multiple dive boats in his decades of underwater experience, currently diving with a team of fellow shipwreck voyagers led by Brian Sullivan and Rusty Cassaway on the Research Vessel Explorer, which launches from Utsch's Marina. The crew has mapped out hundreds of wrecks from North Jersey to Virginia and often spend days diving to one particular vessel.

Malone has salvaged and

collected artifacts from many of these wrecks, with the exception of military related vessels, from which it is illegal to retrieve items.

The highly experienced diver and maritime historian referred to that as a sore subject. He said the New Jersey shoreline is packed with sunken ships victim to German U-boat attacks during WWI and WWII. While some were struck by torpedoes, others were sunk by underwater mines set in the Chesapeake Bay, Delaware Bay and surrounding areas of Long Island. Some of these victims are deemed salvageable by under federal law because they are not mili-

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Cape May Point working on design for new sign at boro entrance

By CHRISTOPHER SOUTH
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY POINT – The Cape May Point Board of Commissioners received a report from Lynn Smith and John Safrit on a sign being designed for the entrance to Cape May Point.

Cape May County has been encouraging municipalities to erect signs at the entrance to their towns. Recently Cape May City Council has discussed putting a new sign near the Tuna and Marlin Club.

Smith said he wanted to approach the design from

a historic aspect and create a sign that resembled arched gates at the entrance of the Point, then known as Seagrove. The original arches were rustic looking, made of split logs.

"I didn't want it to be that rustic," Smith said.

Smith and Safrit enlisted Janet Payne to help them get a design on paper.

"Janet did an amazing job of creating exactly what was in my head," Smith said.

The concept is of a white sign, perhaps eight to 10 feet long, with Chippendale panels at the base. Smith said they agreed their initial idea

was too top heavy, and they decided to lower the height of the sign.

Safrit said they took Payne's design to Media in Motion, and they were coming up with a final design and cost estimate.

Mayor Skip Stanger said some residents have offered to donate the cost of the sign, and the borough was willing to accept more donations.

The Cape May Point Board of Commissioners honored resident Lee Schupert as part of the National Day of Recognition. Schupert is the director of the county's RSVP program (Retired and

Senior Volunteer Program), which she said works with the county's meals on wheels program, free income tax preparation program and Spanish/English translation service, to name a few. Schupert said mayors in 832 towns across the United States were honoring local volunteers.

Commissioner Bob Moffatt said a loading zone had been designated for the Red Store. Moffatt is compiling a list of residents' concerns about traffic and parking in the borough. He said he has recently been in touch with Joan Dollinger from St. Mary's By the Sea Retreat

Center and Anthony Fucci of the Marianist Retreat Center, who said the would work with their guests on parking matters.

Moffatt said parking will continue to be a concern, with what with eight new houses on Brainard, five new houses on Ocean, and three new houses on Stites avenues, with each home bringing multiple cars into the borough.

Deputy Mayor Anita vanHeeswyk referred to a local news article reporting on discussions of flood elevation. She said the article did not discuss flood insurance rates, which she said

are of concern to the Board of Commissioners. She said an ordinance being passed would make the deadline for applications for review of the Point's discount through the Community Rating System. The borough is looking to increase the discount for residents from 15 to 20 percent.

vanHeeswyk said the earliest the 20 percent discount could be extended would be October.

Mayor Skip Stanger said the single stream recycling system is underway. Residents may place cans, bottles, plas-

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COMMENTARY.....	A8	ENTERTAINMENT.....	B6	COMMUNITY.....	A4	OBITUARIES.....	A6	SEA & DO.....	B1	TIDES.....	A2