



Special to the Cape May Star and Wave

New hires, same faces

CAPE MAY – Police Chief Diane Sorantino of the Cape May Police Department announced the hiring and swearing in of Patrolman Scott Krissinger (left in photo). Krissinger was initially hired as a Special Law Enforcement Officer Class II in the spring of 2006 and has been with the department in that capacity until his recent appointment as a full time, permanent member of the department. Also sworn in was Officer Derrick Murphy as the department's year-round Special Law Enforcement Officer Class II, filling the position previously held by Patrolman Krissinger. Officer Murphy was also initially hired in the spring of 2006.

AMP

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attorney in regard to his farm," Corrado said. Wilde asked commissioners that she get a written notice of any future meetings. Neither the Star and Wave nor the Cape May County Herald were given notice of the meeting, but Corrado said they were not required to inform the media because it was an informal meeting. He said in no way was it a secret gathering, it was simply a discussion about the draft between the borough, Stevens Street residents, farmers and Milam. Corrado said Milam is the co-sponsor of a bill dealing with farming practices that passed the Assembly, but not the Senate. Corrado said borough officials agreed the bill didn't clearly state or understand aspects and interests within the Right to Farm Act, leading to the concern of a lack of balance between the right to farm, what events and activities can and should be held on the farm, and the impact they have on the municipality. Corrado said the bill and the draft didn't seem to grasp the need for local control over

farms and the recreational activities and events held at them. "It's a very important issue to West Cape May," he said. During public comment, Wilde also said she felt the letter sent to the SADC by the borough mimicked the letter sent by Bashaw, whose farm borders Willow Creek Winery. "I found that shocking," Wilde said. "I also felt it very clearly said that the borough was very unsupportive of agricultural entities being in West Cape May and also the winery in West Cape May. I found that very, very upsetting. I hope that's not the case, but that's the way it came across." Wilde said she gave a copy of her letter and the borough's letter to others involved in farmland preservation as well as to people in government. She said many had a similar reaction to the borough's letter. "Their first reaction was it's obvious to them, that there are some huge misinterpretations of the Right to Farm Act, whether they be to feather one's own nest or there's just people who don't under-

stand the Right to Farm Act," Wilde said. The Board of Commissioners had no response to Wilde's comments. After the meeting, Wilde said she didn't agree with certain content in the borough's letter, especially a section that says the borough should "retain an appropriate degree of control over the frequency, intensity and logistics of agriculture-related marketing activities, particularly on-farm direct marketing activities, and on-farm direct marketing events." Wilde said her winery, scheduled to open July 4 weekend, is one-half-mile off the road where no one would be disturbed by large events. Wilde has a 12,000 square foot structure being constructed on her property capable of holding 400 people. She said she has a legitimate parking lot with handicapped spaces and a two-lane roadway being constructed leading to the winery, as well as following all the fire codes. She said in no way will she be having events that disrupt traffic on Stevens Street.

Borough wants narrower definition of farmland events in Ag-Management Plan

By CAIN CHAMBERLIN
Cape May Star and Wave

WEST CAPE MAY – A letter from Borough of West Cape May to the State Agricultural Development Commission (SADC) says a local Agricultural Management Plan "should exclude activities – such as restaurants, catering and 'life event' facilities, and recreational facilities – that inappropriately expand the notion of 'agriculture' into the conventionally commercial realm." Willow Creek Winery Director, Kevin Celli said "life event" refers to weddings, anniversary parties and other events that people enjoy having at a winery. He said West Cape May officials seem to believe the AMP is limiting the practices of

farms but the state is actually encouraging agritourism activities on farms, such as educational tours and tastings at vineyards, hayrides, U-pick and U-cut event, weddings and special events. "They're saying whatever a farm has to do to sustain its property, as long as public health and safety are the number one concern, that they should be able to do anything they can," Celli said. "If somebody wants to get married at a vineyard, the reason they want to get married on the vineyard is because it's a beautiful property and you're preserving farmland." Celli said every winery from California to Long Island, from here to Italy has catering for events like weddings, which has built their businesses.

Corrado told the Star and Wave the section referring to the frequency of events in the AMP was too broad allowing events on a regular basis. Corrado said there needs to be a clear nexus between the farm, what it produces and the events it has. He said the Right to Farm Act and the AMP are not intended to convert farms into all-entertainment facilities. Corrado said if there are large events, the borough should be notified in advance, but Celli believes the winery shouldn't have to go to the borough for a permit every time they wish to have an event. Corrado said the AMP also fails to address issues such as the cost of increased police and emergency services, insurance requirements, signage

and cleanup for large events. "We don't want the places turning into wedding facilities, bars or night clubs," Corrado said. Bashaw says in his letter to the SADC that the AMP section on background music at farm events was too vague. He said it should be limited to indoor facilities and should comply with local noise ordinances. Bashaw said food sales at farms should be prevented from turning into restaurants and bars under the appearance of farm marketing. He also recommended the hours for marketing activities be changed from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. to perhaps 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. The borough letter suggested changing the times as well.

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Meters

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be more steps in the process.

Mayor Ed Mahaney referred to it as a "fact-finding process."

"We're trying to eliminate variables that could be caus-

ing the problem," Mahaney said. "When the meters are installed we'll monitor the water flow to see the outcome." Mahaney noted in the original water contract with West Cape May, the city agreed to do annual calibrations of the meters. MacLeod said the new meters being installed are much more technologically advanced than the meters installed 20 years ago. He said the new master meters will be able to accurately measure water flow from low-flow to water flow exceeding 5,000 gallons per minute.

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**THE RAVEN R 12:00, 2:30, 5:05, 7:40, 10:05
**5 YEAR ENGAGEMENT R 12:40, 3:50, 7:25, 10:10
HUNGER GAMES PG-13 12:50, 3:55, 7:05, 10:05
THE LUCKY ONE PG-13 12:20, 2:45, 5:00, 7:15, 9:40
THE 3 STOOGES PG-13 12:10, 2:20, 4:40
**SAFE R 7:20, 9:50

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Include your name, address, daytime phone.
Email to: cmstar-wave@comcast.net
Mail to: 600 Park Blvd. #28, West Cape May, N.J. 08203

Cape May Star & Wave
(ISSN 519-020), Volume 158 Number 18. Published weekly by Sample Media, Inc., 112 E. 8th St., Ocean City, N.J. 08226. Subscription price in Cape May County \$22; East of the Mississippi \$25; West of the Mississippi \$29. Periodicals Postage at Pleasantville, N.J. and additional mailing offices.
POSTMASTER: Please send address changes to the Cape May Star and Wave, 600 Park Ave., #28, West Cape May, N.J. 08204.
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	High	Low	
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2	5:00	5:42	11:06 11:40
3	5:58	6:34	11:58
4	6:53	7:25	12:38 12:48
5	7:47	8:15	1:33 1:39
6	8:40	9:06	2:26 2:29
7	9:33	9:58	3:20 3:21
8	10:27	10:51	4:14 4:15
9	11:23	11:46	5:08 5:11

Moon Phases
Full Moon, May 5
Last Quarter, May 12
New Moon, May 20
First Quarter, May 28
Perigee, May 5
Apogee, May 19