

# Chew

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such as the city's master plan, Flood Management Plan, Council on Affordable Housing (COAH) Plan and the Plan Endorsement Process.

Despite never having run for political office before, Chew is still no stranger to serving his community. He joined the Cape May Volunteer Fire Department in 1980 and continues to serve as an active member. In the fall of 1985, City Manager Fred Coldren offered Chew a position with the Cape May Police Department, and 25 years later Chew retired as a sergeant.

Chew also spent several years in the commercial fishing industry working on trawlers, offshore lobster pot fishing and the local docks.

Chew, 56, lived in Cape May Point until he was 10 years old and was the youngest of seven siblings. His father, Clifford, was also a waterman, as well as a minister, and built the church on Pittsburgh Avenue in 1964. His family moved to Williamsport, Pa., for six years and moved to West Cape May in 1972. He has stayed in the area ever since.

He graduated from Lower Cape May Regional High School in 1974. Chew currently lives in a home on Yacht Avenue, where he has resided since 2004. He and his wife, Dagmer, have raised two children and also have a granddaughter.

He and Dagmer are the owners of the Blue Fish Inn (former Madison Motel) located on Madison Avenue. They also own and operate the HomeStead Real Estate Company, a full service real estate company, located on Broadway in West Cape May.

Chew said he is joining the political race because he would like to see the inclusion of the people's diverse opinions in the formulation of policies, ordinances and choices. Chew said he believes that if those who are most greatly affected by a decision are included in the process of developing a resolution, they will be more willing to live with its terms.

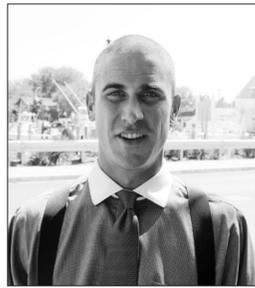
Chew said he is running for mayor because he has seen that the current administration refuses to follow the clear guidelines set forth by the Faulkner Act, which defines Cape May's government.

"We need to bring our government back to within the guidelines of the council-manager form that the voters approved. We need to return the mayor's chair back down to the main hall and sit it with the other council chairs. I will return this position to one of equal participation with all other members of council, with the privilege of facilitating the meetings," he said.

### For Council

Meier, of Vermont Avenue, ran in the last Cape May

election and is once again running for council. Born in San Francisco in 1985, Meier was raised in a Coast Guard family, which brought him to Cape May when he was 3 years old. He graduated from Lower Cape May Regional



Dan Kurkowski

High School before obtaining an associate's degree from Atlantic-Cape Community College. He is now working on a political science degree from Richard Stockton College as a part-time student.

Meier's past political experience includes being a two-time President of 4-H Teen Ambassadors, a board member and chairman of the South Jersey Teen conference held at the Grand Hotel, chairman of the Peer Leadership Conference, a delegate to the Citizenship Washington Focus and delegate at the

National Conversation on Youth Development in the 21st Century. All of these are 4-H programs.

Meier said he is also heavily involved in Cape May, being a member of the Taxpayers Association, Village Green Civic Association, Kiwanis Club, Zoning Board of Adjustment member and a board member for the Greater Cape May Historical Society.

Meier said it is his love for Cape May that has inspired him to run for city council.

"I'm passionate about being involved in Cape May both as a volunteer and an appointed city official," Meier said. "I want to ensure that those who live and visit Cape May, continue to experience the quality of life I remember growing up here."

Meier said it is important that the current and future city council follow the Faulkner Act. He said the voters chose the council-manager form of government and he believes the current mayor is overstepping his authority. He also believes that Cape May's National Landmark status is in danger. He said transparency, however, is the most important issue.

"Between Convention Hall expenses costing over the \$10.5 million dollar budget and the contracts with Temple University, there is a lot that the taxpayers don't know they're paying for," he said. "Just because the governor put a 2 percent cap on tax

increases doesn't mean that we should increase taxes by any percent."

Kurkowski is a trial lawyer specializing in protecting the civil rights of employees who have been the target of discrimination or retaliation. He also represents civil service and union protected employees such as local firefighters, police officers and teachers. Prior to entering private practice in Cape May County, he served as a city clerk in Wilmington, Del., and as prosecutor for the Attorney General. He said he now wants to serve Cape May as a councilman.

Kurkowski bought his home on Corgie Street in 2001 and has lived in Cape May full-time for two years. He said he has summered here since a child, when his parents owned a home on Reading Avenue. He said he feels strongly that Cape May is a unique community with its historic legacy, environmental qualities, and world-class recreational features that make it a true gem among New Jersey cities.

He views serving on city council as a privilege, which has led him to say he would donate his entire salary, if elected, to non-profit organizations in the Cape May community. To ensure independent thinking and decision-making, he said he is not accepting any campaign contributions.

"I just want to help people," he said. "I love this communi-

ty and simply want to serve it. I feel being on council is the perfect way to do that. This position would allow me to help the people of Cape May on a greater scale."

Kurkowski said he has been going door to door, speaking with citizens of Cape May and asking what they truly want to see from council.

"What I'm learning as I go door to door is that what the current council has (put on the table) as issues, aren't necessarily what the town believes the real issues are," Kurkowski said. "It's not really going to be my suggestions, it's going to be the voice of the town. If I see a big enough pattern in what the constituents believe the issues are, then those are the issues that should be (put on the table)."

Kurkowski said local government needs to focus on issues such as preserving the historical integrity of Cape May, parking, supporting the arts and environmental communities, and improving the quality of life for residents, visitors and business owners.

The Star and Wave reached out to all the candidates for interviews, however, Swain did not respond before publication deadline.

The Cape May Taxpayers Association is scheduling a candidates debate at the Cape May Elementary School for mid-October.

# Guard

Continued from page A1

of Wildwood after the war, where he and his wife Helen raised three children - James Jr., Steve and Sharon. Pierson said Helen and Barkalow were high school sweethearts.

### TIDES SEPTEMBER 2012 Eastern Standard Time

	High	Low	
	A.M.	P.M.	A.M. P.M.
12	5:44	5:59	11:20
13	6:30	6:44	12:11 12:10
14	7:13	7:27	12:51 12:58
15	7:55	8:09	1:31 1:45
16	8:37	8:52	2:11 2:32
17	9:20	9:36	2:52 3:20
18	10:05	10:23	3:35 4:11
19	10:54	11:13	4:21 5:04

Moon Phase	
Last Quarter,	Sept. 8
New Moon,	Sept. 15
First Quarter,	Sept. 22
Full Moon,	Sept. 29
Apogee,	Sept. 7
Perigee,	Sept. 18

Barkalow joined the National Guard in January 1950 and had a civilian job with the Bell Telephone Company.

Pierson said when Barkalow passed away in 2010, the Cape May County Army National Guard Association requested the armory be named in his memory. Pierson said a committee was put together to bring the dedication to fruition. The county was also involved. He said requests and documentation needed to be filed to meet the guidelines of the Department of the Army and National Guard Bureau.

"It was not an easy process," Pierson said. "We're pretty fortunate to get this through."

Pierson said there are 31 armories in the state, and this is only the second in New Jersey history to be dedicated to a specific individual. Pierson said a plaque along with memorabilia of Barkalow's military service will be put on display at the armory in remembrance of the Lieutenant Colonel.

The ceremony being held at 2 p.m. on Sunday, will welcome several guest speakers such as Brig. Gen. James Grant, Chief of the Joint Staff, State Sen. Jeff Van Drew, County Freeholder Gerald Thornton, members of the Barkalow family and Pierson. Col. (ret.) Leonard Tharney, who took over as battalion commander when Barkalow

retired, will also be a guest speaker at the dedication ceremony.

Pierson said the Marmora Volunteer Fire Company will have one of its ladder trucks on location to hang an American flag and honor Barkalow. Pierson is the deputy fire chief at the fire company.

He said, following the ceremony, guests will be welcome to tour the armory, meet the troops and check out some of the military vehicles outside. All members of the public are welcome to attend.

The Cape May Court House Armory is located at 600 Garden State Parkway at Crest Haven Boulevard.

# Riles

Continued from page A1

which owns the property, to decide what is done with it. He said whatever Frank

Investments does with the property would require city approval.

In terms of the property being an eyesore, MacLeod said the property has been cleaned up in the past 90 days since Gaffney first came forward. He said the rear of the building received a fresh coat of paint and the portion of the property where the theater once stood has been cleared of debris and trash. The area is now lined with crushed concrete for a firm and flat appearance. Mayor Ed Mahaney said

these improvements were the result of a letter sent to Frank Investments from City Solicitor Tony Monzo.

Gaffney said the improvements have been meager at best. He said he is concerned the property will remain as is until Frank Investments decides to do something with it, but the city could alleviate the situation by using the power of eminent domain.

"You would probably be doing them a favor by taking the property off their hands,"

Please see Riles, page A3

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Happy 70th Birthday!

Mayor "Skip" Stanger

**Cape May Star & Wave**

(ISSN 519-020), Volume 158 Number 37. 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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