



House of the week

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Atlantic City Ballet stages 'Dracula'

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165th YEAR NO. 43 CAPE MAY, N.J. Serving America's National Historic Landmark City WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2019 \$1.00

Sheriff, county sue AG over ICE agreement

By ERIC AVEDISSIAN
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY COURT HOUSE — Cape May County Sheriff Robert Nolan and the county government filed a lawsuit Oct. 15 in U.S. District Court against Attorney General Gurbir Grewal over the 287(g) agreement being terminated.

"We tried to work with the Attorney General's Office to show the state why this program is so important," Nolan said. "We have

been left with no other option than to take this matter to court. I thank so many residents of Cape May County who have voiced their support to me."

Grewal issued Directive 2018-6, known as the "Immigration Trust Directive," which prohibits local law enforcement agencies from cooperating with Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) as well as voluntarily participating in the 287(g) program.

The Cape May County Sheriff's Office first entered the 287(g) pro-

gram in 2017 under former Sheriff Gary Schaffer. Nolan continued the 287(g) program.

Only three Cape May County officers were trained by federal immigration officials to assist ICE at the county jail. Under the agreement with ICE, suspects at the county jail are checked against a federal database otherwise not accessible to county law enforcement.

The agreement that Nolan had with ICE pertained only to individuals who entered the Cape May

County Jail. In February, Nolan renewed the agreement with ICE without first consulting the state.

In a July 6 letter, Veronica Alende, director of the Division of Criminal Justice for the Attorney General's Office, wrote that Grewal issued the Immigrant Trust Directive, which limits the types of voluntary assistance local, county and state law enforcement officers may give to federal immigration authorities.

The directive clarifies that law enforcement agencies cannot

enter into, extend or renew agreements such as the 287(g) program without the attorney general's granted written approval or if the agreement were necessary "to address a national emergency."

Cape May and Monmouth counties' sheriff's departments are the only law enforcement agencies in New Jersey with 287(g) agreements.

On July 23, the Cape May County Board of Chosen Freeholders

See Sheriff, county, Page A4

City Council divided over library bond

Funding would cover Cape May's share of school rehabilitation

By JACK FICHTER
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY — In a 3-2 vote, City Council introduced an ordinance to bond \$1.9 million for its share of the cost to restore the Franklin Street School for use as a county library branch.

The bond ordinance, however, seems likely to fail at a public hearing for the ordinance scheduled for Nov. 18, based on comments from council members Zack Mullock and Stacy Sheehan on Oct. 25.

Four yes votes are required to approve a bonding ordinance and it appears it may receive only three votes. Sheehan said she discovered an environmental study was conducted on the Franklin Street School only by examining

council's bill list.

"There was high lead count in the main part of the building, not the gymnasium," she said.

Sheehan said as of Jan. 1, the acceptable lead limit is going to be reduced from 40 micrograms to 10 micrograms of lead per square foot on floors and samples taken in the main building of the school found 1,600 micrograms of lead.

She asked if lead abatement would increase the cost of renovating the school. City Manager Neil Young said the environmental study was conducted for preconstruction purposes.

"It would only need to be addressed if we disturb said building," he

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City proposes transferable commercial beach badges; increases cost of some tags

By JACK FICHTER
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY — City Council introduced an ordinance that would develop a commercial beach tag that would be transferable and cost \$50 per year. In addition, the ordinance would raise fees for seasonal, preseason, three-day and weekly beach tags.

On Oct. 15, City Manager Neil Young said preseason tags are currently priced at \$20 annually. He said that rate would remain through Dec. 31. From Jan. 1 to April 1,

the cost would be \$25. In season, the cost would be \$30, Young said.

Weekly tags would increase from the current rate of \$18 to \$20. Three-day tags would increase from \$12 to \$15, he said. The daily rate would be unchanged at \$6.

One of the causes for the increase in beach tag prices is the rise in minimum wage from \$8.83 per hour to \$10.30 per hour, he said.

"Most of our taggers are paid on the lower scale. We

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Frank Scott/Special to the STAR AND WAVE

Enjoying the magic of the season

Ash Grasso, left, and Gray Grasso portray Harry Potter and Hermione Granger during the 28th annual Pumpkin Festival presented by the Lower Township Rotary Club on Oct. 19 at Historic Cold Spring Village. Below right, the Elliott Circus (Mark, Amanda and Harper). Below left, Steve and Matthew Gaddy as Pugsley and Uncle Fester from 'The Addams Family.'





CONGRESS HALL

MASQUERADE Ball

FRIDAY OCTOBER 25TH | 8PM - 11PM
Congress Hall Ballroom
\$25 PER PERSON

Includes One Specialty Cocktail, Plus Full Dessert & Candy Bar
Wear your favorite costume for a chance to win prizes!
caperesorts.com/halloween