

Sheehan retires from Cape May Police Department

By JACK FICHTER
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY — The city's police department announced the retirement of Capt. Robert Sheehan on July 1 after serving the department for 31 years.

According to the announcement, Sheehan began his police career with the Cape May Police Department in April

SHEEHAN

1990. He served as a patrol officer, detective/detective sergeant with the detective division, patrol sergeant, lieutenant and as a chief of police.

In 2018, City Council approved an \$800,000 tentative settlement with Sheehan, after he was demoted three years previous by a vote of Mayor Edward Mahaney and councilpersons Bea Pessagno and Roger Furlin with the instatement of a three-and-a-half-year contract with Tony Marino as chief of police. Sheehan continued as a captain. The settlement agreement included

the dismissal with prejudice of a pending Superior Court action, Sheehan v. the city of Cape May and released all claims.

Sheehan's lawsuit against the city brought claims under the Contentious Employee Protection Act, commonly known as the whistle-blower law. According to the complaint, Sheehan sought to be reinstated as chief of police with all lost wages and benefits.

A new City Council was seated two weeks later and was unable to reinstate Sheehan as chief of police due to a contract with Marino that

would have required an order from a judge to terminate.

The city spent \$29,000 on a disciplinary hearing over the dates of Sheehan qualifying for firearms testing that resulted only in him receiving a four-day suspension which was tendered in unused vacation days.

City Council approved a resolution Jan. 6, 2018, apologizing to Sheehan and family "for the needless disruption of his career, his life and his family's comfort and wellbeing." The resolution was titled "A resolution to recognize Cape May

City police Capt. Robert Sheehan and to honor his continuing service to the city."

The resolution states, "The previous City Council took abrupt, unexplained and unwarranted action to demote Sheehan to his previous rank of captain the day before his appointment as police chief would have been affirmed and made permanent."

It also notes Sheehan served Cape May, West Cape May and Cape May Point in an "exemplary and dedicated fashion and earned the respect of all whom he engaged."

Cape May Stage's Broadway Series brings rock, blues to Convention Hall

By CAROL EMMENS
Special to the Star and Wave

CAPE MAY — Shows are reopening on Broadway, and locally the Broadway Series is returning for everyone who wants to see live musical performances.

Presented by Cape May Stage, each show features highly acclaimed singers/musicians performing at Cape May Convention Hall.

First in the series is Rock n Radio, starring three dynamic singers: Scott Coulter, Natalie Douglas and Blaine Alden Krauss. Each will perform rock 'n' roll favorites such as "Hey, Jude" and "Natural Woman."

Individually the singers have won many awards and performed on the stages at Lincoln Center, Carnegie Hall and elsewhere.

"They come from 54 Below, the old Studio 54. They are all accomplished Broadway singers and they sing the songs we grew up listening to on the radio," said Roy Steinberg, producing artistic director for Cape May Stage.

Steinberg selected Rock n Radio to open the series because he said he wanted "a fun and uplifting show and to escape what we've been through the last one and a half years."

The second show features Junior Mack singing the blues. Influenced by a variety of blues, rock and gospel singers, Mack has been inducted into the Blues Hall of Fame and has worked with or shared the stage with many well-known blues singers such as The Allman Brothers Band. Self-taught, Mack picked up a guitar and started playing when he was only 9 years old.

Mack is a Grammy Award-nominated blues guitarist.

"Mack performs on the label Alligator Records and I know the owner, Bruce Iglauer. I asked him if he knew any artists who would

come to Cape May and he named Mack, who lives in North Jersey," Steinberg said.

In 1971, Iglauer spent his savings to start Alligator Records; it grew from its modest beginnings to be a major, successful and independent blues label. It produces the recordings of the best blues singers and musicians such as Elvis Bishop, James Cotton, Lil' Ed and The Blues Imperials and Shemekia Copeland, who is known for her rousing performances in Cape May.

As many as 1,000 people can be seated at the Convention Hall, depending on the event. Cape May Stage's Robert Shackleton

Playhouse has seats for 134, but because of the pandemic the number of seats is very limited and fewer people can attend.

The shows at the Convention Hall have been both a plus and a challenge for Steinberg. Unable to use the theater's staff, Steinberg had to find technicians to do the audio and lighting. In addition, to ensure a safe environment for the performers and the audience, he even had to learn about air conditioning, which he said "was not a class at the drama school."

Convention Hall provides a venue in which food and drink can be served to the audience members who

reserve a table. That, too, provides benefits and challenges.

"I had to find caterers, servers and clean-up crews, but it provides a party-like atmosphere," Steinberg said.

For tickets, visit capemay-stage.org.

SCHEDULE

- Rock n Radio: 7 p.m. July 12
- Junior Mack Sings the

- Blues: 7 p.m. July 26.
- Karen Ziembra: 7 p.m. Aug. 2
- The New York Rat Pack: 2 and 7 p.m. Aug. 16
- Broadway to Italy: Anthony Nunziata in Concert: 7 p.m. Sept. 13

TIDES: July 7-14, 2021

DATE	HIGH		LOW	
	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.
7	7:03	7:21	1:00	12:36
8	7:47	8:01	1:43	1:17
9	8:29	8:40	2:23	1:57
10	9:10	9:19	3:03	2:37
11	9:49	9:56	3:41	3:18
12	10:29	10:35	4:19	4:00
13	11:10	11:15	4:58	4:45
14	11:54	11:58	5:38	5:34

MOON PHASES
New moon, July 10 • first quarter, July 17

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