

Memory of Mesterhazy's musical impact still resonates

By R.E. HEINLY
Special to the Star and Wave

CAPE MAY — George Mesterhazy was so influential in the musical component of Cape May's Victorian renaissance that his influence and memory are still alive today a decade after his premature death in 2012 at age 59.

This renaissance, from the 1980s through 2000, added many cultural components to Cape May's historical architectural and maritime recreational offerings.

It resulted in an economic boom and expansion of the seasonal economy from what was once only the summer to the fall, spring and Christmas shoulder seasons.

Cape May became the envy of other southern New Jersey resorts, which continue to this day to try to emulate it. Additionally, attractions such as restaurants, theaters and nature study became additional

key components in this second golden age.

Mesterhazy and close colleague and friend Barry Miles were the major musical giants of that age. They were based at the Merion Inn (now Cricket Club), where they and an astonishing number of other jazz greats entertained nightly. Quickly other musical hot spots emerged throughout the city.

Mesterhazy's unique talents and personality enabled him to mentor many proteges who went on to become world-renowned. Several of these plus a large crowd of his avid aficionados attended the annual tribute concert to him this year that was part of Cape May MAC's Music Festival.

It was held at the Episcopal Church of the Advent. Miles was its main organizer along with his trio

that included Andy Lacais and David O'Rourke. They were joined by other Mesterhazy proteges Paula Johns and Dean Schneider among others.

Miles remains a world-renowned jazz pianist, composer and mentor. The longtime Cape May-area resident recently moved to Florida but makes an annual pilgrimage back to Cape May for the Mesterhazy tribute.

Miles aptly summarized Mesterhazy's contribution to the musical world especially in Cape May.

"George was as fine a person as he was a musician, world class. He was so rightly beloved and is so dearly missed. Our tribute this year is entitled 'A Time for Love' and we ended it by all of us, musicians and audience, singing 'What the World Needs Now is Love Sweet Love,'" Miles said. "George would

have loved it. George lived it. George certainly deserved it."

Jazz events are typically more spontaneous

and emotional than classical concerts. That was certainly true of the Mesterhazy tribute. Musicians and audience alike enthusiastically contributed to honoring Mesterhazy's memory while simultaneously reliving the golden age of music in Cape May.

PRODUCE PLACE

3714 BAYSHORE ROAD AT TOWNBANK ROAD • NORTH CAPE MAY
609-889-9045
OPEN YEAR ROUND • SALE PRICES GOOD NOW THROUGH TUESDAY AUGUST 13th, 3PM

SWISS CHEESE \$5.99 LB.	SPECIAL SMOKED TURKEY \$4.99 LB.	SPECIAL Golden Roasted Smoked CHICKEN \$4.99 LB.	SPECIAL Honey Maple TURKEY \$4.99 LB.	OUR OWN STORE COOKED TURKEY \$11.99 LB.
-----------------------------------	--	--	---	---

Domestic Ham.....\$3.99 lb Cooked Salami.....\$3.99 lb Ham Capicola.....\$4.99 lb Peppercorn Ham.....\$4.99 lb Honey Ham.....\$5.99 lb Mrs. Ressler's LIMITED SUPPLY Roast Beef.....\$6.99 lb	ORDER ON OUR WEBSITE 	Cucumbers..... 3/99¢ lb Romaine Lettuce..... 99¢ hd NJ Plum Tomatoes99¢ lb Long Hot, Cubenelle, Jalepeno Peppers..... \$1.59 lb Russett Potatoes 5lb/\$1.99 Seedless Watermelon \$3.99 ea
---	---------------------------------	---

OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK FOR ALL YOUR RETAIL & WHOLESALE NEEDS

Utz & Herrs **Potato Chips**
LARGE BAGS 2 FOR \$7
MUST BUY 2

PLEASE CALL AHEAD FOR ALL LARGE HOAGIE AND BREAD ORDERS SO WE CAN SERVICE YOUR NEEDS

READ ABOUT GOVERNMENT, SPORTS, ARTS, ENTERTAINMENT AND MORE IN THE CAPE MAY STAR AND WAVE

SLOW DOWN, LOOK TWICE, SAVE A LIFE

TIDES: Aug. 7-14, 2024

DATE	HIGH		LOW	
	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.
7	10:46	10:51	4:28	4:24
8	11:24	11:27	5:01	5:05
9		12:03	5:35	5:49
10	12:04	12:43	6:09	6:37
11	12:43	1:24	6:45	7:27
12	1:26	2:10	7:23	8:23
13	2:15	3:06	8:09	9:29
14	3:20	4:10	9:06	10:36

MOON PHASES
First quarter, Aug. 12 • full moon, Aug. 19

Cape May Star & Wave
167 YEARS OLD • 1854-2022

CAPE MAY STAR AND WAVE (ISSN 519-020)
Volume 170 Number 32

Published weekly by Sample Media, Inc.,
963 Lenape Drive, Lower Township, NJ 08204

Published Weekly (52 times a year)
SUBSCRIPTION PRICE: By mail for \$42 a year; \$75 for two years; \$22 for six months. Periodical Postage at Cape May Court House, N.J. and additional mailing offices.
POSTMASTER: Please send address changes to the Cape May Star and Wave, P.O. Box 2427, Cape May, N.J. 08204.

CIRCA 1912
COLD SPRING GRANGE RESTAURANT

NEW MENU "SOUP & SALAD BAR"

- Buffet Style Dining
- Beautiful Historic Setting
- Family Friendly Menu
- Free Parking
- BYOB

Soup & Salad Bar: Thurs-Sat, 12 PM - 5 PM
Brunch: Sunday 10 AM - 3 PM
Brunch Reservations Recommended (609) 848-0114

735 Seashore Road, Cape May NJ 08204



AWARD-WINNING ACADEMIC MEDICINE. DOWN THE SHORE.

INTRODUCING COOPER UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL CAPE REGIONAL.

We are excited to bring our award-winning academic medicine to our new neighbors in Cape May and Atlantic counties. Residents and visitors will now have greater access to top specialists, more programs and services, advanced technologies, innovative treatments, and outstanding cancer care at MD Anderson Cancer Center at Cooper.

Together, we're creating something truly extraordinary for communities down the shore.

EXTRAORDINARY HAPPENS HERE.



609.536.4103
CooperHealth.org/AtTheShore



Cooper University Hospital Cape Regional