



House of the Week, 314 Stites CM Point
page B1



Lady Tigers play special game,
page B2



LCMR Art Show at Mad Batter, B6



Cape May Star and Wave

159TH YEAR NO. 1 CAPE MAY, N.J. SERVING AMERICA'S NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK CITY WEDNESDAY, January 2, 2013 50¢

'Wake Little Child' song written for Newtown children

By CHRISTOPHER SOUTH
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY - Former Cape May Councilman David Kurkowski is a musician and a songwriter. He said over the years he's written quite a few songs over the years, and most of them maybe get performed once or twice.

when people think and feel and start to heal, and that's why I wrote this song," he said.

Kurkowski said he finished the song around 4 a.m. Sunday morning, and he sent it to Jennifer Hayman, his choir director in Philadelphia. The two of them went over the song after church that day, and Hayman said she would

'I wanted it to be a gentle song for children.'

- David Kurkowski

"I enjoy composition. Music is the thing that allows me an outlet," he said.

On Friday, Dec. 7, Kurkowski received a text message from his daughter telling him about the shootings at the Sandy Hook School in Newtown, Conn. Kurkowski tuned into the news, as did many other people around the nation. Kurkowski said he was shocked and dismayed, as he believed the nation was as well.

"I started to write this," Kurkowski said, referring to what became the song titled "Wake Little Child."

"I woke up Saturday morning at 8 a.m. and a lot of the words came to me very quickly. (Composition) helps in situations like this,

like to record it.

Kurkowski said he got to work on the orchestration, and he decided it would be with strings, no piano.

"I wanted it to be a gentle song for children," he said.

Kurkowski then sent a midi-track to engineer Bob Fowler in Smithville. Fowler did a lot of work with George Mesterhazy, and that is how Kurkowski knew of him.

"Bob worked on the file and developed it. He added violins and a children's choir. Jen and I arrived Tuesday afternoon at 4:30 p.m. and it was done by 7:30 p.m. Wednesday. Now it's on YouTube," he said.

Kurkowski said the song had received about 500 hits

Please see Child, page A5

Convention Hall, Sandy were big events in 2012

Compiled by
Christopher South

The Star and Wave's coverage area saw some major events in 2012, including the opening of Convention Hall and a major tropical storm - Sandy - which spared the Cape May area the devastation that occurred in the north. Cape May voters retained their incumbent candidates, while Lower Township chose a different look on council. West Cape May voters rejected a referendum to change their commission. The following is a capsule of what happened in 2012.

JANUARY 2012

BID discusses recent news stories

CAPE MAY - Freedom of speech issues were raised as the Board of Trustees of the Washington Street Mall Management Company discussed board members speaking to the press, saying it was contrary to the suggestion by City Manager Bruce MacLeod that the board not discuss the matter publicly. MacLeod was referring to a complaint filed against then WSMC chairman Steve Smarro and his wife Pam, who took a sign advertising a dinner special off the side of the Ugly Mug Bar and Restaurant. The Smarros' actions were recorded on video and still cameras, and they were charged with criminal mischief and theft. Ugly Mug owner Mike Slewak later asked the court to dismiss the charges.

Replacing water meters at Wilbraham Park

CAPE MAY - Cape May City Council authorized an agreement with Van Note-Harvey Associates of Cape May Court House for engineering services to replace two master water meters at Wilbraham Park and Canning House Lane. The replacement of the meters came after a loss of around 17 million gallons of water purchased from the city by West Cape May. The water loss or miscalculations of water use had been the topic of many discussions at borough meeting over a number of years.

Wichterman addressing school funding formula

CAPE MAY - Deputy Mayor Jack Wichterman asked Mayor Edward Mahaney to contact State Sen. Jeff Van Drew regarding the more than \$6 million Cape May City pays to send students to the Lower Cape May Regional School District.

Wichterman brought up the topic at the Jan. 3 meeting in the hopes of finding an alternative to the district funding formula, which numerous councils have tried to do in the past.

Lower Township Council split on appointments

LOWER TOWNSHIP - Several key council appointments failed after Lower Township Council voted 2-2 in the absence of former Ward 2



Christopher South/Cape May Star and Wave

Like the sands of time, beaches come and go

CAPE MAY - A dredging vessel (top) collects sand from a harvest site near Cape May's Cove Beach (above). The sand is being placed in the Lower Cape Meadows area adjacent to the Cove Beach. The Army Corps of Engineers project includes Cape May, Lower Township and Cape May Point beaches.

Councilman Erik Simonsen. Council failed to appoint Simonsen's replacement and an appointment to the Lower Township Municipal Utilities Authority.

(A-4436) allowing the direct shipment of wines to consumers while at the same time allowing out-of-state wineries to sell products in New Jersey. Small New Jersey wineries that produce less

plants.

Cape May a 'Coolest Small Town'

CAPE MAY - The City of Cape May made its way onto the "Coolest Small Towns in America" list in Arthur Frommer's Budget Travel Magazine. As part of the Reader's Choice Poll on budgettravel.com, Cape May was voted one of the most enjoyed and appreciated towns of less than 10,000 people in the country. According to Mayor Ed Mahaney, the summer peak season in Cape May can reach a population of well over 40,000 people. The U.S. Census declares Cape May has a year around population of approximately 3,700.

Cape May City Hall needs repairs

CAPE MAY - According to Remington, Vernick and Walberg Engineers City Hall needs new windows, a new roof and other renovations costing approximately \$681,000. City Engineer Ray Roberts of Remington Vernick said the engineering team did a three-day inspection of the building and found it needed numerous repairs and replacements.

Governor signs abandoned vessel bill

TRENTON - Gov. Chris Christie signed into law legislation sponsored by State

Please see 2012, page A2



Nature Center of Cape May

Nature Center hours reduced for winter

By CAIN CHAMBERLIN
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY - In order to remain a viable part of the community and adapt to tough economic times, the Nature Center of Cape May has announced it will become a seasonal facility starting in 2013.

On Jan. 1, the Nature Center closed its doors to

visitors with a reopening scheduled for April 15. The Northwood Center in Cape May Point will also closed Jan. 1 and will be opening again on April 1. The New Jersey Audubon Society, under which both facilities operate, announced it would be adjusting the hours and schedules for all

Please see NCCM, page A4



Cape May Convention Hall opened Memorial Day Weekend.

Freeholders retire, candidates named

CAPE MAY COURT HOUSE - Longtime freeholders Daniel Beyel and Ralph Sheets retired from the county board they led for nearly two decades. Beyel served as freeholder director and Sheets, vice director. Both decided not to run for re-election in November. Republicans Will Morey and Kristine Gabor ran unchallenged for the county seats and took their oaths of office to the board on Jan. 5.

Governor signs winery legislation

TRENTON - Gov. Chris Christie signed legislation

than 250,000 gallons of wine per year will now be able to open new wine outlets.

Point will water circle from wells

CAPE MAY POINT - Cape May Point is looking at conserving drinking water and saving money by digging three well in the Pavilion Circle on Cape Avenue.

Mayor Carl Schupp said watering the vegetation on the circle requires a substantial amount of water in the summer, and the commissioners didn't like the idea of using of water that had been treated for drinking to water plants. He said plans were devised to dig three wells and use that water for irrigating



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