

Cape May Star and Wave

159TH YEAR NO. 12 CAPE MAY, N.J. SERVING AMERICA'S NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK CITY WEDNESDAY, March 20, 2013 50¢



HOUSE OF THE WEEK

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LCMR LACROSSE COUNTING ON ITS YOUNG TALENT

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Who will be responsible for high flood insurance?

By CHRISTOPHER SOUTH
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY - "This is a scene we acted out time and again over the years," said Cape May homeowner James Testa.

Testa is one of several Cape May property owners who are afraid they are going to have to shoulder the burden of some hefty flood insurance rates for Convention Hall.

After Hurricane Sandy at the end of October 2012, it was revealed that the city did not have flood insurance on the new Convention Hall,

which opened on Memorial Day, last year. City Manager Bruce MacLeod later announced the building did have some flood insurance through the Municipal Excess Liability (MEL) portion of the Joint Insurance Fund (JIF).

"Charlie (Hendricks) has been hitting the council constantly for the lack of insurance and the lack of timeliness in acquiring of insurances," Testa said. "We were uninsured when Sandy came roaring by."

MacLeod said the city first obtained flood insurance through the Federal

Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

wouldn't be able to buy this insurance from anyone other

'We will ask (city officials) what the hell they are doing so we can see the real facts.'

- Homeowner Jim Testa

"They are the only ones who can provide the initial layer of insurance for this type of building, qualifying for a maximum of \$500,000. We

than FEMA," MacLeod said. "The only way it would be different is if the city made a decision in the future to self-insure the first \$500,000."

In November, MacLeod said the insurance application to FEMA had been submitted and was essentially lost by the federal agency.

After the initial \$500,000 of insurance, there is an additional \$2 million in coverage through the MEL. MacLeod said a third layer of insurance is to buy more flood insurance from another carrier.

Testa said part of the quest by interested residents was to get a proper elevation certificate.

"Charlie was at the last (city council) meeting demanded a copy of the certificate, and

was told he would be getting the certificate," Testa said.

According to Testa, Hendricks provided a copy of the elevation certificate, but said it is incomplete.

"We will ask (city officials) what the hell they are doing so we can see the real facts," he said.

"It's part of the continuing debacle," Testa said. "Put aside (Convention Hall's) failure as commercial operation, we have this large thing sitting in the V-zone and we are being charged multiple

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Christopher South/Cape May Star and Wave

Goodbye Connie, Hello Kimberly

At last week's Cape Mape Point Board of Commissioners meeting, the governing body and residents said goodbye to Borough Clerk/Administrator Connie Mahon, left in photo, who is taking a job as the administrator in Middle Township. At the same time, greetings were extended to Kimberly Hodsdon, to Mahon's right, who has been working for the City of Wildwood. There will be a reception for Mahon on Saturday, March 23, from 4 to 7 p.m. at the Red Store on the Circle in Cape May Point.



Christopher South/Cape May Star and Wave

Above, attorney David Nash reads a scenario about an abusive relationship, while members of the Cape May County Prosecutor's Office, in background, assist him.

Anti-Bullying Conference aimed to stem violence

By CHRISTOPHER SOUTH
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY COURT HOUSE - Cape May County Prosecutor Robert Taylor co-sponsored a Bullying/Domestic Violence Prevention Conference to help bring awareness of bullying and perhaps stem future domestic violence.

Taylor opened the conference, which began with a program Monday evening in the county administra-

tion building, and which continued Tuesday morning in the Wildwoods Convention Center.

According to Taylor, there is a link between bullying in youth and future domestic violence and child abuse.

"Sixty percent of those who bully in school go on to commit one crime before they are 24," Taylor said. "Forty percent will commit

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LT council recognizes Eagle Scout Jackson Sole, talks summer

By BETTY WUND
For the Star and Wave

LOWER TOWNSHIP - Jackson Sole, a senior at Lower Cape May Regional High School, was recognized by the Lower Township council for his achievement of Eagle Scout in the local scouting program.

"Myself and Deputy Mayor Norris Cark, and Councilman James Neville, we had the honor to attend your Eagle Scout court of honor last Saturday. It was one of the nicest ceremonies I have ever attended," said Mayor

Michael Beck.

"I will read my notes about your project," said Beck. "For his Eagle Scout project Sole led a crew and planted a vineyard at the parish of St. John Neumann Church on the St. John of God campus on Town Bank Road in North Cape May. The vines that have been planted are the same grapes that St. John uses to make its Communion wine. After they are pressed they will be used during the Eucharist. The garden is dedicated to the memory of his late father, a former scoutmaster and community beacon.

"Beacon would be an understatement," Beck said.

Sole is a member of the National Honor Society, has a 3.85 GPA, and holds 12 varsity letters. At various times he has been the captain of the varsity football, lacrosse and wrestling teams during his four years at LCMR. He has received many awards including the Union League of Philadelphia Good Citizenship Award, was a delegate to the New Jersey American Legion Boys State in the summer of 2012 and has awarded while being involved in scouting for 12

years. Sole will be going to Virginia Tech to study agribusiness in the fall.

"Congratulations, I watched you grow over the years," said Councilman Glenn Douglass. "Good luck at Virginia Tech." Clark said, "I wish you the best."

"The greatest gift I received through scouting is the friendships that have developed through the years. Thank you for being an advocate of Boy Scouts and supporting us," Sole said.

"What we (in government) do pales compared to what parents and leaders do. This

doesn't happen overnight. For the amount of time a parent puts into their son or daughter, they get back more," said Beck.

The business of the township followed, including the proposal and passing of a resolution to oppose the senate creating an early voting system.

"This would dramatically increase retraining of poll workers, hours and chain of custody requirements. These laws will require municipalities to use these buildings for 15 days prior to an election," Beck said. "For 15

days we would have the town hall opened up. You would have the availability of the residents prior to the election to come in and vote. The residents would be inconvenienced with use of the buildings and other events. Even at night we would have security guards posted. It would be very costly.

"The mail-in vote in the 2008 was 7.65 percent. In 2012 it had risen to 10.1 percent. As we move into the electronic age maybe the voting should be online. Maybe when you

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