

Erik

During his 20 years as a professional musician, Simonsen has also been a dedicated educator. Before working at Teitelman, Simonsen taught music at the Cape May County Special Services School. After writing the music curriculum, he started playing original songs for the kids, which was where he came up with the idea for the new children's album.

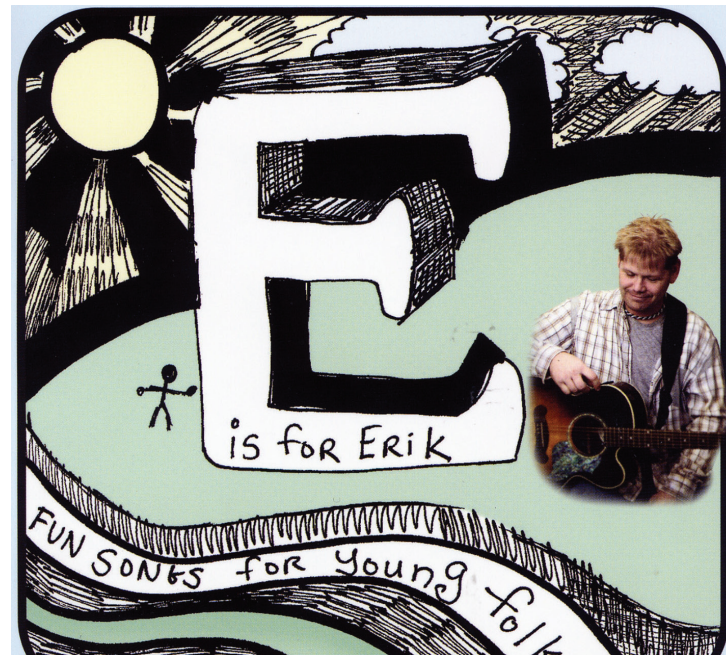
"A lot of the kids - you needed to do hands on activities with them. You couldn't do your traditional teachings of reading music, notes and scales and things like that because they weren't going to learn it as well," he said. "They were more into things like rhythm activities and things with props. So, I started racking my brain finding songs to go along with those sorts of lessons and I found it easier to write them myself. I got a great response from it."

Simonsen played the songs not just at the special services school, but other schools he

has visited around the region. Some teachers he knew requested certain songs, so he would do small text recordings of a single track and hand them out. Simonsen said he's been writing the music and lyrics for over a decade, but began the recording and compilation aspects of the project in 2012 after he realized how much of an impact they could make in the classroom.

Local musician, Bill Caterini, who also works at the school district with Simonsen, engineered, recorded and produced the album at his studio, Cat. House Sound, LLC, in Wildwood. Caterini also designed the website for the album and placed the album on TuneCore, which distributes the tracks to music sources like iTunes, Amazon, Spotify and Rhapsody for purchase.

"Bill and I started working together at school and he really wanted to get the ball rolling on the album when I



The 'E is for Erik' CD cover designed by Patty Morgan.

told him about it," Simonsen said. "He really just took it and ran with it."

Caterini said the TuneCore

account gives him and Simonsen a better idea of how many people are listening and downloading the album or

certain tracks. Caterini was surprised with some of the results.

"It's a bigger hit in Europe right now than in the United States," he said. "There are more tracks streaming over there than here."

Caterini said hard copies of the album are also available online, along with the "E is for Erik" coloring book. His cousin, Patty Morgan, an artist from Philadelphia, designed the coloring book. All 12 pictures for coloring coincide with the 12 tracks on the album. Patty is a teacher and arts department chair and is presently teaching at the West Catholic Preparatory High School in South Philadelphia. Simonsen said the coloring book is a great addition to the album because it's just one more thing that enhances the learning experience and hands on activities for children using it.

He said nine of the 12 songs are original, with a few being

traditional melodies and songs he changed the lyrics to, such as "We Must Learn to Live Together" and "Counting All Our Change." In writing his own songs for the album, like "Irish Jig," "Everything We Grow," "100 Days" and "Clean Up," Simonsen said he, Caterini and Ed Dobbs, who also helped record the album, were able to use a multitude of different instruments and sound effects they wouldn't have used otherwise.

"I had as much fun making it as hopefully the kids have listening to it," Simonsen said. "All the things I would never do with my band or record are on here, like sound effects and strange instruments - stuff you wouldn't normally do with contemporary music."

After designing the website and putting the album tracks online for download, Caterini went a step further with the album and submitted it in the

Please see Erik, page A3

House

Continued from page A1

Mayor Ed Mahaney, also a committee member, said ordinances are always a work-

in-progress even after they are passed, in order to evolve with the changing times. He said the primary focus of the committee was to observe the

use of these properties for major events. Mahaney said it's important to maintain the charm and ambience of Cape May by not letting the commercial zones encroach on the residential areas and respect the rights of property owners, while allowing the city to maintain its designa-

tion as a resort town. "We have to handle this intelligently and keep the economy going while not sacrificing the quality of life," he said.

Committee member Deputy Mayor William Murray, concurred with Mahaney on the evolving use of these homes.

"We're talking about the use here, and the reasons people come to Cape May have evolved over the years. When I first came 10 years ago, I remember there wasn't such a thing as a destination wedding or anything like that..." Murray said. "What we're trying to do here in essence is to take into consideration the evolving changes of why people come down here."

The economic drive of major events like destination weddings was evident during public comment when Maryland couple, Don and Michele Wimer, told the committee about their experience planning their daughter's October 2014 wedding in Cape May. Don said the wedding would host around 125 people and cost roughly \$48,000.

He said they planned to rent two neighboring houses on Maryland Avenue for a week at \$7,000 and would also be renting 30 hotel rooms at the nearby Grand Hotel at \$12,600 for three nights. Don also mentioned the costs of the catering, flowers, photographer and tent rental, which could all be done through local business owners.

Mahaney said Cape May has become the third largest host of weddings in the nation and acknowledged the business and revenue they bring to the community. He said it also leads to greater tourism, as many of those who attend the weddings have not been to Cape May before and will likely return. However,

he said the venues for these weddings in the city have changed.

"It used to be staged in hotels, but now they rent one or two large houses and you have 100 to 140 people at a residential property before and after a wedding," he said.

Murray said having that many people in one or two homes that sleep 10 people presents fire and safety hazards, as well as parking issues.

Mahaney requested the input of Dee Lanzalotti, broker and owner of Jersey Cape Realty during the meeting. She said short-term leases are for 180 days or less. She said the leases explain city occupancy limits but the tenants are rarely asked what the property will be used for during their stay.

"We don't address events in our lease, but it's something we want to look into," she said. "Sometimes people ask us about having an event, but I imagine there are times they don't ask us."

She said occupancy limits refer to the number of people sleeping in the home, not the number of people who visit the house. She said when a tenant signs the lease, they agree to the occupancy limit and the real estate agency does enforce it.

"If they say there are 10 people staying there for a birthday party and there are actually 20 people staying there, it's a violation of the lease agreement," she said. "We've stood there while they pack up and leave. We police it."

Lanzalotti said the real estate agency typically finds out about these violations when neighbors report a high level of parking or people at the house during the evening hours.

Committee member Bonnie Pontin, who owns the John Wesley Inn, said it's not just up to the committee to figure out what needs to be done with these resort houses but it's also up to the property owners to define in their lease agreements what events their tenants can and cannot have.

The Resort Home Advisory Committee is also considering the implementation of an "event notification form," which would be documentation submitted by a tenant or property owner to the city before any large event held at a residential property.

Committee member Mary McKenney, who owns Cape May rental property, proposed the event notification form as a way for the city to monitor resort house use this season without taking any action, such as implementing fees.

Police Capt. Robert Sheehan, who serves on the committee, said the notification form would be extremely useful to the department, as they would know where and when large events in the city are being held. McKenney proposed the notification form be necessary for events of 30 people or more at a single residential home.

Trenton Avenue resident Charles Hendricks said he agreed with the one-year trial run of the event notification form to help the city monitor the growing trend, as it would also help rental homeowners who already have events booked for 2014.

Mahaney said the proposal will be reviewed by all committee members before the next meeting, which will be held Wednesday, Dec. 11 at 2 p.m. in the City Hall Auditorium.

BREAKFAST & LUNCH
Friday thru Monday 8 - 3pm

BREAKFAST
Tues, Wed, & Thurs 8:30 - 11:30

DINNER FROM 5PM

LIVE MUSIC EVERY NIGHT

HAPPY HOUR DAILY
@ THE BAR 3 - 6PM
1/2 PRICE DRINKS!!!

A SPECIAL EVERY NIGHT OF THE WEEK • 11/21 - 12/23

SUNDAY THRU THURSDAY from 5 - 8:30 PM Buy 1 dinner entrée & get 1 free with the purchase of an appetizer or dessert

SUNDAY THRU THURSDAY - New Bar menu & drink specials from 6 - close featuring wings, sliders, nachos, tacos & more...

FRIDAY & SATURDAY - Early Birds from 5 - 5:30 buy 1 entrée, get 1 1/2 price

Holiday Gift Card Special
until 12/24 - Mad Batter/Carroll Villa Gift Cards Stretch your Budget!
BUY A \$100 GIFT CARD & RECEIVE AN EXTRA \$20 ON US!
For every \$100 gift card you purchase we will add an additional \$20!

At the Carroll Villa Hotel • 19 Jackson Street, Cape May NJ
609-884-5970 • madbatter.com • carrollvilla.com



HOLIDAY SANTA

Available Friday, Saturday & Sunday

Call Early For Reservations
Santa's Hot Line
609 884.6785 or
609 425.6897

FAB NEW BAR!

Oyster Bay

RESTAURANT and BAR

Happy Hour from 4 to 6:30PM
OPEN WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY BAR ONLY!
Comfort Food & Bar Menu

OPEN FRIDAY & SATURDAY
Serving Full Menu in
Dining Room from 5PM

615 Lafayette Street • Cape May, NJ • 609-884-2111

The Merion Inn
Food Since 1885 Sweets

SO MUCH IS HAPPENING THAT WE HAVE TO PUT IT IN REALLY FINE PRINT SO WE CAN FIT EVERYTHING IN!
(see below...)

11/28 Thanksgiving Day-Noon-8 pm
Just want lunch? We are also serving our \$16.95 Express Meals Noon-1 pm!
Piano: Jon Pruitt 12-4, Dean Schneider 4-9

11/29-12/1 Dinner & Cocktails 5 pm
Missed Thanksgiving? No worries!
Turkey Dinner served all weekend, & don't forget it's your last chance for our **\$35 3-course prix fixe dinner**

12/1 SUNDAY BRUNCH 10:30-1 PM
BENEFITTING ANIMAL OUTREACH
Enjoy Paula Johns, Vocals, with Dean Schneider on Piano
Tickets \$35 can be purchased from www.aocmc.org or call 609.898.1738

11/30 SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY!!
You will receive a **\$10 AMEX CREDIT** to dine at The Merion on Sat., 11/30 as long as you pre-register your Amex card at ShopSmall.com

SPECIAL HOLIDAY HOURS AND MENUS:
Dinner, Cocktails and Live Piano Music
Thurs.-Sun., and every night between 12/19 and 1/5 (last day, when food items 50% off!)

Open 3:30 pm on Sat., Dec. 7, 14 & 28 to accommodate parade- and tour-goers.
Christmas Eve-special menu 4-8 pm
Christmas Day-special menu 2-7 pm
New Year's Eve- seatings 4:30-5, 7 and 9:30

106 Decatur St. at Columbia Ave., Cape May
Reservations and gift cards 609-884-8363 or online www.merioninn.com

CAPE MAY
WINERY & VINEYARD

"We have the Oldest Roots in the County"

Open Sunday - Thursday 12-5pm • 7 wines to taste
Open 12-6pm on Friday & Saturdays

WINERY TOURS ON SATURDAYS AT 3:00PM

Award Winning Wines

Gift Certificates and Gift Baskets

711 Townbank Road, North Cape May, NJ 08204
609-884-1169 • Call for Reservations

GIVE THE GIFT OF MUSIC
Piano Lessons in your Home

609-770-7201
dewatersjr@verizon.net

FRANK THEATRES

NOVEMBER 29th THRU DECEMBER 5th

RIO STADIUM 12
3801 Rt. 9 South #1 • Rio Grande, NJ 08242
Additional Pricing for 3D Features
24 Hour Movie Hotline 609-889-4799

*Hunger Games: Catching Fire PG13 11:00, 2:00, 5:00, 8:00
*Hunger Games: Catching Fire PG13 12:00, 3:30, 7:00, 10:00
**2D Frozen PG 11:40, 2:10, 4:40, 7:10, 9:40
**3D Frozen PG 11:10, 1:40, 4:10, 6:40, 9:10
Thor: The Dark World PG13 11:20, 1:50, 4:20, 6:50, 9:30
Last Vegas PG13 2:40, 5:10, 7:30, 9:50
Free Birds PG 11:30
*Homefront R 11:45, 2:30, 5:20, 7:40, 9:55
**Delivery Man PG13 11:50, 2:20, 4:50, 7:20, 9:45

* No Passes • \$6 Tuesdays, all shows all day

Cape May Star & Wave

(ISSN 519-020), Volume 159 Number 48. Published weekly by Sample Media, Inc., 801 Asbury Ave., #310, Ocean City, N.J. 08226. Subscription price in Cape May County \$22; East of the Mississippi \$25; West of the Mississippi \$29. Periodicals Postage at Pleasantville, N.J. and additional mailing offices.
POSTMASTER: Please send address changes to the Cape May Star and Wave, 600 Park Ave., #28, West Cape May, N.J. 08204.

159 Years Old
1854-2013

LUCKY BONES
BACKWATER GRILLE

LUNCH & DINNER DAILY FROM 11:30AM

Coldest Beer in Cape May!
14 ON TAP
Dogfish Head Craft Beers
Cape May Brewery Honey Porter
Leinenkugel Summer Shanty
Sierra Nevada Limited Selections
Stella Artois

Featuring All Natural
ORGANIC BEEF & CHICKEN
PLUS! Healthy Kids Menu
BEST GLUTEN FREE MENU AT THE SHORE

THIN CRUST BRICK OVEN PIZZA

Lucky 13
\$13 ALL DAY • UNTIL 5:00PM

SUNDAY: Oven-Roasted Turkey, Stuffing, Mashed Potatoes, Rich Gravy
MONDAY: Grilled Local Fish Tacos, Pico de gallo, Baha Sauce & Fresh Crema
TUESDAY: Low-Country Shrimp & Grits
WEDNESDAY: Local Artisan Bucatini Pasta
pan-tossed rustic Marinara two 1/4lb house-rolled Meatballs
THURSDAY: Sautéed Fresh Calves' Liver, Onions & Bacon
FRIDAY: Beer Battered Fried Fisherman Platter
Local Hand-Shucked Clams, Gulf Shrimp, Local Catch, Hand-cut Fries & Slaw

1200 RT. 109 SOUTH CAPE MAY, NJ • 609-884-BONE (2663) • WWW.LUCKYBONESGRILLE.COM