

# WCM

Continued from page A1

said West Cape May has very little debt related to capital projects.

In round figures, taxpayers fund nearly three-quarters of the municipal budget. By comparison, Cape May taxpayers only fund about 48 percent of their budget because they have more revenue streams, such as parking meters and the room tax.

Costello said the borough was able to apply \$45,000 from the sale of the liquor license, now held by Sunset Liquors, to the 2013 budget. When the voters approved by referendum the sale of the liquor license, they also approved a ballot question asking if they want the money to go into a dedicated fund for tax relief. Costello said this was the first time the fund was being used for tax relief.

In other business being discussed by the board of commissioners, Commissioner Carol Sabo reported she had attended a meeting of the History Committee, and the idea of changing the name of Borough Hall Alley to Harriett Tubman Way had

been abandoned. She said honoring the noted champion of the Underground Railroad was something to be considered, they did not think renaming the street was the way to go.

Mayor Pam Kaithern said the borough had not heard from Atlantic City Electric about repairing a small section of sidewalk on Broadway. "I did talk to the county and they have been advised about it," Kaithern said.

Borough Solicitor Frank Corrado said the borough had received a letter from Congressman Frank LoBiondo, asking them to review their new FEMA flood maps to see if there were any significant changes.

Those who are interested in finding out about their flood insurance requirement can go to [www.region2coastal.com/sandy/table](http://www.region2coastal.com/sandy/table). There is a place to type in your address and click in "Get Details," and it gives information about insurance requirements.

Deputy Mayor Peter Burke said there were some older homes in West Cape May that were basically sitting on the ground. Kaithern said some

of those homes would still be eligible for flood insurance, but might have to pay a higher rate. Burke said he was worried that new construction was adding to the potential for flooding.

The commissioners also passed an ordinance establishing a cap bank. The cap bank is an account by which the municipality can bank the amount they are under the budget cap, to be used if needed over the next two years.

Like other municipalities have been doing, the borough passed an ordinance replacing the current recycling policy and to begin single stream recycling. Kaithern said the benefit is not paying tipping fees on items that would have gone into the trash, and receiving a larger rebate for recyclables from the county.

The county has advised municipalities of the mosquito spraying season, which is April 15 to Nov. 15. The county said due to a wet winter they anticipated a large mosquito population. Residents are advised to not let water stand on their property.

# Ship

Continued from page A1

board." He said when the Vigorous arrived on-scene, the Triumph was attempting to rendezvous with another cruise ship to transfer supplies.

"That didn't work out at nighttime, so we established communications and discussed the situation with the master of the vessel. The next day, we coordinated with another cruise ship to help transfer supplies over," Magee said.

Magee said the unexpected operation required a wide-range of planning and discussion of "what if" scenarios. The commander said his crew is trained in all aspects of search and rescue; however, this particular instance was highly unusual.

"We're trained for search and rescue and we're also trained for migrant interdiction, which involves embarking a large number of people and ensuring the safety of large groups of people at sea," he said. "So between both of those, we were able to apply what we'd learned in that situation. Although, helping 4,000 people at sea is unusual for any Coast Guard ship."

Magee said the Coast Guard has received a high amount of praise from passengers who were aboard the ship.

"We have got some feedback from several of the pas-



Cain Chamberlin/Cape May Star and Wave  
The USCG Cutter Vigorous returned home to Cape May on Monday.

sengers that were onboard that felt better and knew things were going to go right with us on scene," he said.

Despite the five-day ordeal, Magee said the crew maintained its schedule and continued its drug interdiction operation in the South Caribbean Sea. The crew worked in support of the Joint Interagency Task Force - South, which combines agency capabilities to stop the flow of narcotics into the United States. He said Vigorous partnered with the Columbian Navy during the operation.

The crew also participated in a community service project with the Floating Doctors organization, a non-profit medical relief team dedicated to reducing the burden of

disease in developing communities. The humanitarian effort helped restore a nursing home in Boca Del Toro, Panama.

Magee said this particular 60-day tour truly encompassed all of the operations and duties the Coast Guard is responsible for such as maritime law enforcement, relief efforts and search and rescue.

"It was not a boring patrol, that's for sure," he said. "We're happy to be home."

Nearly 100 family members and friends of Coast Guard personnel were present at the Cape May Training Center pier on Monday to welcome the roughly 85 crewmembers aboard Cutter Vigorous home.

# Stream

Continued from page A1

said. "If you're making recycling easier, people are going to recycle more. That's the whole premise," Baron said.

According to Baron, results from other communities with single-stream recycling have

increased their recycling from 10 percent to 30 percent.

"Once you've increased recycling you're going to save money because you're going to get larger rebates on the amount you recycle. You're going to save money on the tipping fees. Instead of throwing it in the landfill it went into the recycling stream," Baron said.

Ocean City was one of the leaders in bidding out single-stream recycling to a private hauler, he said, adding Ocean City received a 30 percent reduction in collection costs by switching from dual-stream to single-stream.

"We're up and running. We're waiting with bated breath for the results as how much we can increase recycling," Baron said.

He added the county MUA will evaluate the amount of recyclables collected in six months, which includes the busy summer season. Results will be included in the MUA's year-end report.

# Rises

Continued from page A1

2013.

The increase in the tax rate was deemed necessary for several reasons. One is a lower rate of tax collection. The rate of tax collection dropped from 97.86 percent to 97.21 percent between the current year and the prior year. Another is the loss of over \$23 million in assessed value due to successful tax appeals. The township was forced to add another \$1.085 million to the amount raised by taxation to cover the 2013 budget.

Former mayor Jack Sparks voiced his objection to the 2.9-cent tax increase, saying departments should be told to cut their operating expenses by 5 percent. He said the federal government was saying there was nothing to be cut, yet after another review \$5 billion was identified that could be removed from the budget. Sparks urged council not to pass the budget Monday night, but give it another review.

"I'm saying sit back and look at it again," Sparks said.

Mayor Mike Beck said the budget was as trim as it was going to get.

"We pinch pennies here," Beck said.

Beck said Lower Township residents pay the third lowest

tax bill in Cape May County, and the two lowest municipalities don't have police departments.

Sparks said he was infuriated by an item in the budget that earmarked \$25,000 for an attorney to handle labor negotiations. He said that amount was taken out, replaced with a \$2,500 figure, which was again replaced by \$25,000. Township Solicitor Charles Sandman said the changes were made during consideration of how to finalize current contract negotiations. He said when he was appointed solicitor, the firm of Blaney and Donohue were handling the negotiations, and had only about 10 hours of work left on the contract, which was represented by the \$2,500. Sandman said he could have taken over the negotiations, but the current firm was about 95 percent finished and he recommended they continue, thus the full amount of \$25,000 was reinstated in the budget. Sandman said it would have cost more to have him brought up to speed on the negotiations.

Sparks concluded by telling council a (roughly) 3-cent increase was a lot.

Beck said the number of tax appeals was also a lot, calling it "shocking." Beck said the manager and council have been working to get a

budget without any layoffs, and believes they have done a good job. He said taxes have gone up 4 percent in four years, and the last two budgets had a zero tax rate increase. He said part of the struggle was to see how the workforce could be trimmed without affecting services.

Sparks told council to be considerate of the taxpaying population, saying Lower Township was "a poor town." Beck indicated a certain amount of money needs to be raised regardless, saying, "Ford doesn't give us an discount (on new vehicles) because we are a poor town."

Resident Robert Rizzo asked about the tax lien sale and its impact on the budget. Beck said it has an impact, but it doesn't happen right away. Costello said the township budgeted \$1.1 million for uncollected taxes.

Rizzo asked if the township was going to have another reassessment, and Beck responded, "We're looking at it."

"This year?" Rizzo asked.

"I would like to," Beck said. In 2004-05 the township was subject to a revaluation, which saw many assessments take a large increase. The most significant increases in taxes were seen on the water

Please see Rises, page A3

*Best Brunch in South Jersey!*

## MAD BATTER

OPEN FULL TIME!!!  
Breakfast & Lunch Everyday 8 - 3pm  
Dinner from 5pm

Gluten-free menus available  
Vegan and vegetarian fare

LIVE MUSIC  
Thursday thru Sun • 7-10pm

HAPPY HOUR  
Daily @ THE BAR 3-6pm  
1/2 price drinks!!!  
Bar Menu available

Early Birds  
Sunday thru Thursday 5 - 6pm  
Buy 1 dinner entrée & get the second 1/2 price

At the Carroll Villa Hotel  
19 Jackson Street • Cape May, NJ  
**609-884-5970**  
[www.madbatter.com](http://www.madbatter.com)  
[carrollvilla.com](http://carrollvilla.com)

**AART's**  
Cape May Taxi  
[www.capemaytaxi.com](http://www.capemaytaxi.com)

We're on your side  
**CALL 898-RIDE (898-7433)**

- safe and reliable
- All local communities
- clean, comfortable
- airports
- local and distance
- child safety seats

**FRANK THEATRES**  
APRIL 5 THRU APRIL 11

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

\*\*Tyler Perry's Temptation PG-13 11:30, 2:00, 4:50, 7:25, 9:55  
Oz the Great & Powerful 3D PG 1:50, 7:20  
Oz the Great & Powerful 2D PG 11:05, 4:35, 10:05  
Olympus Has Fallen R 11:00, 1:40, 4:15, 7:05, 9:45  
2D The Croods PG 11:15, 4:10, 9:15  
3D The Croods PG 1:30, 7:00  
The Call R 2:10, 7:35  
\*\*The Host PG-13 11:25, 4:20, (9:50 Fri-Wed)  
\*\*42 PG-13 Premier Thurs, April 11th 10:00pm  
\*\*Evil Dead R 11:50, 2:25, 4:55, 7:30, 9:40  
\*\*Jurassic Park 3D PG-13 11:00, 1:45, 4:30, 7:15, 10:00  
\*\*2D GI Joe Retaliation PG-13 11:40, 4:45, 9:35  
\*\*3D GI Joe Retaliation PG-13 2:25, 7:10  
\*\*No Passes

**TIDES**  
APRIL 2013  
Eastern Standard Time

	High	Low		
	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.
3	2:19	2:59	8:38	8:51
4	3:30	4:12	9:45	10:01
5	4:38	5:17	10:46	11:07
6	5:39	6:13	11:42	
7	6:33	7:02	12:05	12:31
8	7:21	7:47	12:58	1:17
9	8:06	8:28	1:46	1:59
10	8:48	9:06	2:31	2:38

**Moon Phases**

Last Quarter, April 3  
New Moon, April 10  
First Quarter, April 18  
Full Moon, April 25  
Apogee, April 15  
Perigee, April 27

**CAPE MAY**  
WINERY & VINEYARD

"We have the Oldest Roots in the County"

Open Daily 12 - 5pm for Tastings • 16 varieties to taste  
Open till 6pm on Fridays & Saturdays

WINERY TOURS EVERY SATURDAY

Try our new release of  
2010 Pinot Noir, Zinfandel & Isaac Smith Red Reserve

Great Selection of Cheeses & Cured Meats  
Come Enjoy the Fireplace on a Cold winter's day

**Gift Certificates and Gift Baskets**

Award Winning Wines

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

Oyster Bay

**STEAK & SEAFOOD**  
RESTAURANT and BAR

Serving Dinner Thursday thru Sunday  
Bar Open at 4pm Dinner from 5pm  
Happy Hour Thursday & Friday 4-6:30

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

**Cape May Star & Wave**

(ISSN 519-020), Volume 159 Number 14. Published weekly by Sample Media, Inc., 112 E. 8th St., 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

OPEN DAILY FOR LUNCH, DINNER & LATE NIGHT

Featuring Coldest Beer in Cape May!  
Craft & Seasonal Beers from around the world  
Cape May Brewing Company Honey Porter  
Brick Oven Pizza • Burgers • Seafood • Ribs  
Wings • Chicken • Nachos • Soups • Salads

Now Offering a Complete Gluten Free Menu  
From Appetizers to Desserts

"Few restaurants wear the Shore's casual new spirit  
as well as Lucky Bones Backwater Grille"  
- Craig LaBan, Philadelphia Inquirer 2006  
"Best Lunch" & "Best Family Dining"  
- New Jersey Monthly

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

THE EBBITT ROOM

AT THE VIRGINIA

THE 2013 DINING SERIES  
PRESENTS

**PIG & PINOT**  
Thursday April 11<sup>th</sup>

To mark the first harvest of our own Beach Plum Farm Berkshire Pigs we are celebrating the entire animal and the distinct flavors that each cut holds. Head to tail cooking from our own sustainable farm. The menu is a journey from nose to tail, featuring Pied de Cochon, Braised Cheek Ravioli, Pork Belly Porchetta, Roasted Bone-in Loin Chop and a Dark Chocolate and Pistachio Torte, served with Davis Bynum Pinot.

TO RESERVE THE PIG & PINOT DINNER  
CALL 609-884-5700.

Seating is limited. Reservations required. \$75+ per person.

LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR COMPLETE DINING SERIES AT VIRGINIAHOTEL.COM

25 Jackson Street, Cape May New Jersey