



Cape May considers new vendor for parking services

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House of the Week

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'A Line in the Sand' opens in Cape May

Segregated beaches topic of new exhibit

By RACHEL SHUBIN
Special to the Star and Wave

CAPE MAY — "A line in the sand" takes on a new meaning via photos and original artwork exploring the racially segregated beaches of Cape May and Atlantic City before the Civil Rights Era.

Visitors to the Carroll Gallery at the Emlen Physick Estate, 1048 Washington St. in Cape May, are treated to a rich history of local Black culture.

The exhibit, "A Line in the Sand," opened Jan. 13 to mark Martin Luther King Jr. Day and will be on display through March 25. It is a collaboration among Cape May MAC (Museums + Arts + Culture), the Center for Community Arts (CCA) and the Chicken Bone Beach Foundation (CBBHF). Admission is free.

Before the civil rights movement of the 1960s, Black persons were limited to recreation on specific beaches because of the color of their skin in Cape May and Atlantic City, according to MAC.

"It's important to know there were no segregation laws [in Cape May], but there was de facto practice," exhibit curator and CCA Community History Committee member Hope Gaines said. "The reason [Blacks] went to Grant and Windsor beaches was because it was where the Black lifeguards were posted."

The exhibit is methodically laid out and focuses on the artwork and photos, with informational plaques identifying the known subjects. The local history provided is abundant while exploring the accounts of the



Rachel Shubin/Special to the STAR AND WAVE

Artist Chanelle René, who created original paintings for the exhibit 'A Line in the Sand' at the Emlen Physick Estate in Cape May, stands in front of her triptych three panels on canvas named 'BFF.'

Black community and celebrating the turning of segregation on the beaches into a continued tradition.

"Our gallery is a small space, so we try to pack a lot in to bring great history to the public," MAC director of media relations Susan Krysiak said. "I love this variety of work and great local history; it really brings a lot of different voices to this issue."

The bright pinks and blues of the artwork by Cape May County artist

Chanelle René are eye-catching and a draw into the exhibit. Her artwork is nestled among historic photos, 54 from CCA and 21 from CBBHF.

"The exhibit was beautifully designed by Steven Olszewski, taking, of course, a cue from Chanelle's color," Krysiak said. "We have a great selection of representation in photos of people enjoying the beach despite

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HPC proposes ban on parking beneath homes

Members say it's out of character with Cape May's historic district

By JACK FICHTER
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY — The Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) is recommending to City Council an ordinance change to prevent parking under houses, decks, porches or habitable space. Such a prohibition already exists in the historic district. The change would not apply to hotels and motels.

At a Jan. 8 meeting, HPC solicitor Chris Gillin-Schwartz, who is replacing Robert Fineberg, said the concept first would be sent to the Planning Board to ensure it is consistent with the city's master plan.

The HPC will send a memo to council requesting the ban.

HPC Chairman Warren Coupland suggested an ordinance limit raising the first floor of houses for flood protection to no higher than 10 feet.

"We're not fans of parking outside the historic district in ways that are different from parking inside the historic district," HPC Commissioner Jim Testa said.

Gillin-Schwartz said a state statute regulates raising the height of buildings.

HPC Commissioner Janice Wilson Stridick said when the Windsor Hotel burned down and Regent Beach condominiums were constructed, park-

ing was allowed under the building. She said it works well and aesthetically does not detract from the streetscape.

Commissioner John Boecker said the ordinance change would still permit that type of parking. The change could prohibit under-structure parking for residential multifamily buildings with fewer than six units.

He said applicants could seek a variance from the regulation. Applicants still must comply with the HPC design standards, Gillin-Schwartz said.

The commission also discussed prohibiting new construction with garage doors that face the primary frontage for attached garages.

Boecker asked Deputy Mayor Lorraine Baldwin to assist him in writing the memo to council and the Planning Board.

"I think of this as an expansion of our views of the historic district to the whole city and that means parking outside of the historic district did not have this before," Testa said.

HPC Commissioner Tom Carroll said council should reference other towns where most of the houses are on stilts with parking underneath.

"Does that feel like Cape May at all to you or is it totally away from how our

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Sports complex planned at airport

By JACK FICHTER
Cape May Star and Wave

ERMA — A 60,000-square-foot air-domed sports complex is proposed for the grounds of the Cape May County Airport.

Real estate agent and mortgage broker Bob Buglak and a partner plan to construct the facility in the vicinity of the Lower Township Municipal Utilities Authority water tower on the airport campus.

Buglak cited Diamond Nation, a facility in Flemington, as an inspiration to plan a fa-

cility in Bensalem, Pa.

It has a 100-acre campus consisting of 125,000 square feet of indoor facilities, 700,000 square feet of turf fields and the ability to play as many as 12 games simultaneously, along with an outdoor pool and indoor pool, track and basketball court.

The Bensalem plan did come to fruition.

Three years ago, Buglak and his wife moved to Wildwood and their son began playing for the Cape Express Soccer Club. He said the team's winter playing field was Total Turf in Pittman, a

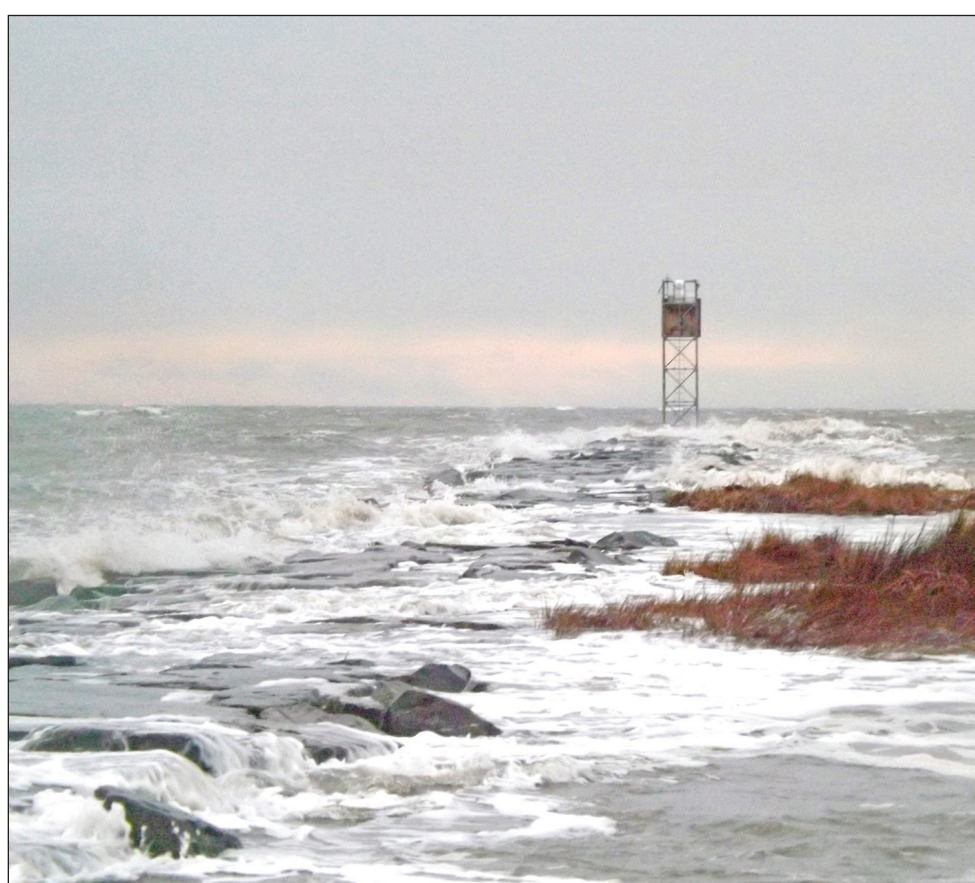
long drive from home.

"There's nothing in Cape May County that is indoor-related, so that sparked the idea," Buglak said.

A smaller facility here could help the community and bring in revenue for different businesses in the off-season, he said.

Buglak began visiting domed facilities. In addition to providing playing fields for soccer and flag football and a basketball court, a domed complex here could provide space for self-de-

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Ed O'Neill/Special to the STAR AND WAVE

Stormy weather

Wind-driven waves cover the jetty at the Cape May Canal near the Cape May-Lewes Ferry terminal Jan. 10 as a series of storms has marched across the county this month.



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