



House of the week

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Run for the Fallen honors Marvin Hume

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New Yorker, 67, dies after being pulled from sea

By JACK FICHTER
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY — A New York man died Sept. 26 after being pulled from the ocean unconscious and unresponsive.

According to Cape May police, a call was received at the communications center at about 3:34 p.m. from the Cape May Beach Patrol regarding the need for emergency services for a water rescue at Grant Street and Beach Avenue.

Investigation at the scene revealed that the victim, James P. Lane, 67, of Binghamton, N.Y., was found face down in the surf about 50 yards from the beach. Members of the Cape May Beach Patrol transported Lane to the beach where CPR was started. Shortly afterward, Lane was transported to Cape Regional Medical Center, where he was pronounced deceased.

CMBP Capt. Geoff Rife called the drowning a tragic event. Cape May's beaches are not guarded after Sept. 8.

"The city has signs at every entrance ramp that there are no lifeguards on duty," he said. "We are very diligent and vigilant of getting those signs up the minute that we stop lifeguarding."

Rife said the last day of lifeguarding was Sept. 8. Beginning Sept 9, the beach patrol began functioning the same as the fire department, using a 911 pager system. Lifeguards also carry cell phones, he said.

"It's a different system than we are on in summer," Rife said.

A beachgoer notified the beach patrol a swimmer was in trouble, he said. A lifeguard and beach patrol lieutenant entered the wa-

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History appears to have a future on Franklin Street

Four historic buildings getting new lease on life

By JACK FICHTER
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY — The neighborhood of Franklin and Lafayette streets is on the verge of a historical renaissance, with the opening of the Harriet Tubman Museum scheduled for June 2020 and hopes for restoration of the Stephen Smith House, the Allen AME Church and a potential new library/community center in the Franklin Street School.

Stakeholders in the neighborhood gathered Sept. 24 for an informal meeting at City Hall with Mayor Chuck Lear.

"This idea developed because of the neighborhood and the work that is going on independently of each other in this historic area of Franklin and Lafayette streets," he said.

Lear called the meeting a networking opportunity for all involved in the neighborhood. He thanked the Mullock family, in cooperation with Macedonia Baptist Church, for allowing restoration of the Howell House for use as the future Harriet Tubman Museum.

In cooperation with the county and county Library Commission, the city is taking steps to preserve the Franklin Street School and the gym as the city's new library, Lear said. He said the city is in a waiting period for state grant money for library renovation.

Grants consultant Jim Rutala said the city is pursuing a series of grants. He said a state grant could provide as much as 50 percent of renovation costs of the library portion of the Franklin Street School. Rutala said the city also applied for a National Endowment for the Arts grant for the school building.

Architect Michael Calafati said plans include putting a small addition on the gymnasium with a mez-



Jack Fichter/CAPE MAY STAR AND WAVE

The former Howell House was donated by Macedonia Baptist Church for use as the future home of the Harriet Tubman Museum.

zanine for book stacks and installing an elevator serving all five floors.

Lear said it is key that the Franklin Street School be restored.

"It can start there and become a wave that takes over, it becomes a focal point of the city," he said.

Lynda Anderson-Townes, a member of Macedonia Baptist Church, said the church is fully in support of the Harriet Tubman Museum being constructed from the church's former parsonage, the Howell House. She said the church has some concerns about parking if the Franklin Street School becomes the city's new library.

Anderson-Townes said a decreasing number of black residents in Cape May is a concern.

Robert Mullock, who started the project to create the Harriet Tubman Museum, said eight workers are renovating the home and the project is progressing quickly. He said Tubman's obituary noted her headquarters for the Underground Railroad for two years was located in



Jack Fichter/CAPE MAY STAR AND WAVE

The Allen AME Church as seen from Franklin Street School.

Cape May.

The museum is expected to open June 19, 2020, which coincides with Tubman's 200th birthday, Mullock said. He noted Cape May has four buildings important to black history in a half block.

Mullock said the project goes far beyond his family's participation.

"We have set a goal for

\$525,000 to do what we have to do," he said. "We have so far with pledges, money and other types of support, where people have pledged professional services, we have raised approximately \$250,000."

Under consideration by the state is naming the museum the official Harriet

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Beach panel gathering data on slopes, injuries

By JACK FICHTER
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY — The Beach Safety Advisory Committee continues to gather data on the slope of the city's beaches and surf zone injuries to provide to the Army Corps of Engineers and state Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) at a future meeting.

The committee has concerns that sharp drop-offs on the beach may be a result of the current template used for beach replenishment resulting in injuries to bathers in the surf zone.

At a Sept. 23 meeting, Committee Chairman DeSatnick said volunteers took measurements of beach slopes for three beaches. Lower Cape May Regional High School environmental sci-

ence teacher Jeff Martin said his students took beach slope measurements every month this year since February with the exception of July.

He said students took measurements at Pittsburgh Avenue and Lifeguard Headquarters beaches. DeSatnick suggested a cooperative effort in the future using students and volunteers from the community to take additional beach measurements.

Control beaches such as the Two Mile Beach could be measured for comparison, Martin suggested. He said it takes about 20 minutes to measure a beach slope.

Those who wish to volunteer to help measure beaches may email info@desatnicks.com or call (609) 884-2545.

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Casey, Gould assail incumbents for nepotism, spending, infrastructure

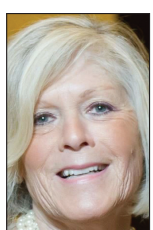
By ERIC AVEDISSIAN
Cape May Star and Wave

Democrats Liz Casey and Joyce Gould, who are challenging incumbent Republican Freeholders Gerald Thornton and E. Marie Hayes in the Nov. 5 general election, say nepotism, spending and infrastructure are problems in Cape May County.

Casey, 54, has lived in Cape May County since 1995 and resides in the Beesleys Point section of Upper Township.



CASEY



GOULD

Originally from Morris County, Casey graduated from Dickinson College in Carlisle, Pa., and Drew University in Madison.

She practiced law for Birchmeier & Powell and

then Briggs Law Office in Marmora. She served on the Casino Control Commission as senior counsel before establishing her own law practice in Ocean City.

Gould, 76, was born and raised in Chicago in Oak Park River Forest, Ill., and attended the University of Miami.

She served as former mayor and deputy mayor of Wildwood Crest, and ran unsuccessfully for Cape May County freeholder in

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Freeholders Thornton, Hayes talk sanctuary, infrastructure, economy

By ERIC AVEDISSIAN
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY COURT HOUSE — Republican freeholder incumbents Gerald Thornton and E. Marie Hayes face Democrats Liz Casey and Joyce Gould in the Nov. 5 election.

The two incumbents sat for an interview with the Ocean City Sentinel and discussed immigration, infrastructure, the county's economy and other issues Sept. 24.

Thornton, 78, was elect-



HAYES



Thornton

ed freeholder in 1995. A former freeholder for 11 years, from 1976 to 1987, he is the current freeholder director. Thornton is an 11-year veteran of the U.S. Air Force and attended techni-

cal schools including Air Traffic Controller, Space Tracking and Telemetry, Automatic Radar, Management and Supervision and Non-Commissioned Officers Academy.

Hayes, 64, was first sworn into the freeholder board in 2013, and re-elected in 2014 and 2017. In the late 1970s, Hayes was hired by the Cape May County Prosecutor's Office as an investigator. She was assigned to Child Abuse and Sexual

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Congress Fall

FESTIVAL

Saturday, October 19th

12pm - 6pm

Come one, come all to Congress Hall's inaugural Fall Festival! This October, we're throwing a party on the Grand Lawn with fall festival favorites from Brats and Beer plus carnival games, s'more-making, face painting, and train rides on the Congress Hall Spook Express.

For more information visit congresshall.com/fallfestival