



Lower volleyball wins its first playoff game

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House of the Week

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169th YEAR NO. 44 CAPE MAY, N.J. Serving America's National Historic Landmark City WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2023 \$1.00

Cape May plans to raise fees for 2024 beach tags

The costs would increase 25 percent to 33 percent

By JACK FICHTER
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY — City Council introduced an ordinance that would raise the price of beach tags to cover increased lifeguard salaries and future beach infrastructure needs.

Preseason seasonal tags would increase from \$25 to \$30. The ordinance would extend the sale of discounted seasonal tags through the end of April, an expansion beyond the current March 31 deadline.

Seasonal beach tags purchased after the end of April would rise from \$30 to \$40.

Weekly beach tags valid Saturday to Saturday would increase from \$20 to \$25. Daily tag fees would increase from \$8 to \$10. Three-day tags would increase from \$15 to \$20.

Commercial beach tag fees would increase from \$100 to \$125 for the season.

Beach tags ordered by mail would include a \$5 fee for postage plus any additional applicable fee from

the postal service.

At an Oct. 17 council meeting, Martin Van Walsum, of the city's Municipal Taxation and Revenue Advisory Committee, said MTRAC reviewed council's proposal and found it to be reasonable.

He noted all the increases would be in increments of \$5, which means some of the percentage increases are different but based on beach tag purchases being a cash business, any increases in other than \$5 increments would make it complicated for beach taggers.

"It would be very difficult for the beach tag officers to be able to have the number of dollar bills they possibly would need on any given basis," he said.

MTRAC agreed it would be difficult to have an even percentage increase across all the different fees, Van Walsum said.

MTRAC member Steve Bodnar said the preseason discount of seasonal tags

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Three candidates seek two seats in West Cape

By JACK FICHTER
Cape May Star and Wave

WEST CAPE MAY — Three candidates are vying for two Borough Commissioner seats in the Nov. 7 general election.

Two seats became available last year due to the resignations of Peter Burke and Dan Kurkowski, who became a Superior Court judge.

Commissioner George Dick and Deputy Mayor Alan Crawford were appointed to complete the

unexpired terms of the two commissioners. Voters will choose from a field of three candidates, with Dick and Crawford hoping to keep their commission seats and newcomer Giacomo "Jack" Antonicello hoping to unseat one of the incumbents.

The Star and Wave conducted phone interviews with Dick and Crawford. Antonicello chose to answer questions on his positions via email, so his responses are tagged here as "stated."

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Area's first cannabis shop opens in West Cape May

By JACK FICHTER
Cape May Star and Wave

WEST CAPE MAY — Shorehouse Canna, the county's first cannabis dispensary, held its grand opening Oct. 28 with a sizable crowd visiting the store throughout the day.

The celebration included live music and spilled onto the neighboring Exit Zero restaurant parking lot that held a barbecue and an autograph session with former Baltimore Ravens running back Ricky Williams, who was a proponent of cannabis use in the NFL.

Mayor Carol Sabo helped

cut a ceremonial ribbon. Cannabis suppliers from around the state set up tables providing information on their products.

Shorehouse Canna Operations Manager David Christian said the shop held a soft opening 30 days ago with very steady business throughout those four weeks without traffic issues or congestion.

"We've had over 9,000 customers come through the store in that time and it's been very controlled and calm," he said.

Christian said customers

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Craig D. Schenck/CAPE MAY STAR AND WAVE

The smokestack at the former B.L. England Generating Station in Upper Township was demolished Oct. 26 to make way for redevelopment of the industrial site in Beesleys Point.

Three for three: Smokestack goes down just like drawn up

Demolition follows cooling tower, boiler units

By CRAIG D. SCHENCK
Cape May Star and Wave

BEESLEYS POINT — It was another beautiful day for an implosion Thursday when Controlled Demolition Inc. brought down the smokestack at the former power plant in Upper Township.

"This went fantastic; couldn't have asked for anything better: beauti-

ful weather, great sight lines from everywhere, the wind was perfect," said Chris Wilson, founder of the Beesley's Point Development Group that now owns the 377-acre property where it plans recreational and residential development. "This time we had absolutely ideal conditions and the wind behaved as

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