



HOUSE OF THE WEEK

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JCP&L TO HOLD MEETING ON REMEDIATION

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Victorian Towers hosts election hopefuls

Lear wants to provide public a greater voice

By JACK FICHTER
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY — Chuck Lear, a lifelong resident of Cape May and a police officer for 37 years, is running against incumbent Mayor Edward Mahaney in the Nov. 8 election.

Lear attended Cape May City Elementary School and Lower Cape May Regional High School. He graduated

from Stockton University with a major in criminal justice.

Lear joined the Cape May Police Department in 1977 and retired last year as a lieutenant after 37 years of service. He said he was urged to run for mayor by a number of concerned citizens, who asked him to present a new and positive

See Lear, Page A3

By JACK FICHTER
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY — Seen as a powerful voting bloc, residents of Victorian Towers held a candidates night Oct. 11 featuring mayoral candidate Chuck Lear, incumbent Mayor Edward Mahaney and City Council candidates Patricia Hendricks and Zack Mullock.

Mullock and Hendricks are seeking to fill the seat vacated by Teri Swain.

Questions focused on issues central to the city's senior citizen population, such as the need for a ramp for the post office, a senior center

and a discount on beach tags.

On a question of increasing the number of paid police officers and firefighters, Mullock said families needed to be brought back to live in Cape May, particularly firefighters who reside in other towns.

Lear said the police and fire departments recently hired more personnel. He said the police department doubles its staff in the summer.

Hendricks said Cape May's volunteer firefighters are an aging group due in part to fewer families living in the

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Mahaney vows to hold tax increases in check

By CAROL R. EMMENS
Special to the Star and Wave

CAPE MAY — Mayor Edward Mahaney is seeking a third term in the Nov. 8 election. He has been a member of Cape May's governing body for a total of 16 years and the Planning Board for 21 years. He holds three degrees from Temple University, including a doctor of education.

Asked of his greatest achievement, Mahaney spoke of the development of a vision for the future of Cape May through a series of council and public meetings and a transparent process.

"It is comprehensive and we used it for a master plan, our affordable housing plan and our flood planning long

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City expects Acme to sign 20-year lease

By JACK FICHTER
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY — Acme is expected to sign a 20-year lease renewal of its store at Lafayette and Ocean streets.

During an Oct. 11 candidates night at Victorian Towers, Mayor Edward Mahaney said the lease of the store has been renewed with developer Curtis Bashaw, an owner of the building.

"We have a captive audience in town, you're a captive audience, I'm a captive audience, the people who live in the housing authority, many seniors, many local families don't want to or can't travel out of town. It's a necessary place," Mahaney said.

The mayor said he favored Acme taking over two adjacent vacant stores and widening the variety and pricing of products for affordability.

"Acme has committed so far to do \$1 million worth of improvements to the store and it will remain open during that time period," Mahaney said.

He said Bashaw informed him three weeks ago that instead of taking a one-year extension, Acme was taking a 20-year renewal. Mahaney said there was no guaranty it would extend the market into two adjacent empty stores.

Bashaw told the Star and Wave he signed a letter of intent Aug. 2 with Acme for a 20-year lease.

"We're looking forward to an ongoing partnership," he said.

Acme remaining in Cape May, following the end of its lease Dec. 31, has been the topic of much speculation and worry from Victorian Towers residents, who expressed fears of the city losing its only grocery store.



Jack Fichter/CAPE MAY STAR AND WAVE

Caught being cute

Regan Hand, 6 months, of Wildwood, participated in the 25th annual Pumpkin Festival and costume parade Oct. 15 on the grounds of Historic Cold Spring Village, sponsored by the Lower Township Rotary Club. See more photos on B7.

Carney's sues city, Mahaney for forcing it to close early

By JACK FICHTER
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY — Joseph Carney and Carney's Restaurant are suing Mayor Edward Mahaney and the city of Cape May for forcing the bar to close early following an altercation outside, according to the complaint filed in Superior Court.

According to Superior Court documents, on or about Sept. 14, 2014, a patron at Carney's "became unruly and engaged in a verbal dispute with Dominick DiGilio, a bartender employed by the plaintiff."

At about 1 a.m., DiGilio finished his shift and left the building. The unruly patron approached him and got into a verbal dispute with him that escalated into a physical altercation in which both were injured. According to court documents, security employed by Carney's separated the parties and ended the altercation. Police officers and EMTs responded to the scene.

According to the lawsuit, at about 1:30 a.m., Cape May Police Sgt. Eric Lashley advised "plaintiff Joseph P. Carney that defendant Mayor Edward Mahaney Jr. was ordering plaintiff to close the bar for the night. Plaintiff was on scene and in the midst of his own investigation as to what had occurred."

At about 1:35 a.m., Mahaney in his official capacity as mayor arrived at Carney's and "maliciously interfered with plaintiff's privileges" secured by a Plenary Retail License, "by ordering the plaintiff to close his business immediately, approximately an hour and half before the established time of

See Carney's sues, Page A4

Saint Mary by-the-Sea shore retreat likely to be demolished after 2021

By JACK FICHTER
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY POINT — The building referred to by locals as "the convent" may be demolished after 2021 and the property returned to nature.

The Sisters of Saint Joseph of Chestnut Hill, Philadelphia released a statement last week regarding the future of Saint Mary by-the-Sea, a congregationally

owned and operated retreat house in Cape May Point.

The Sisters of Saint Joseph have owned and operated the retreat house since 1909, providing retreats for sisters and laity.

"We foresee that Saint Mary by-the-Sea, the large main retreat house located at 101 Lehigh Avenue, will continue to function as a retreat house through at least 2021," stated the release. "As we engage in both

demographic and financial planning, we believe it is necessary for us to plan for the divestment of this property. Given its beachfront location and our congregational commitment to care for Earth, our desire is eventually to return this land to nature rather than use it for further development."

The sisters are consulting See Saint Mary, Page A4



JACK FICHTER/CAPE MAY STAR AND WAVE

The Sisters of Saint Joseph of Chestnut Hill, Philadelphia plan to stop using the retreat house known as Saint Mary by-the-Sea on Lehigh Avenue in Cape May and 'return this land to nature rather than use it for further development.'



REGISTER NOW TO SUPPORT OUR COMMUNITY

5TH ANNUAL "SOLEMAN" 5K RUN AND MEMORIAL WALK

Please join us for this community event. Free coffee for those that bring a can for the food pantry. Raise awareness of the importance of character in people and to raise money for the Gene Sole Scholarship Fund.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12TH AT 9:00AM
CAPE MAY CONVENTION HALL

Registration is \$25 for 5K Run & memorial walk is \$15. Veterans are Free! Pre-registration guarantees each runner to receive a tee shirt. Information and registration at SolemanRun.com. Local Business support needed and always welcomed for scholarship fund.