



## HOUSE OF THE WEEK

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## CAPE MAY WINS LIFEGUARD CHALLENGE

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# Cape May must pay full cost of special election

By JACK FICHTER  
Cape May Star and Wave

City trying to withdraw from Lower Cape May Regional School District

for the balance of the county's election expense shortly after the election," Fulginiti stated in the letter.

**CAPE MAY COURT HOUSE** — The city of Cape May will bear all the cost of a special election for a voter referendum on the question of whether Cape May should be permitted to withdraw from the Lower Cape May Regional School District.

Voters in Cape May, Lower Township and West Cape May will go to the polls in a special election Dec. 9. Lower Township Mayor Michael Beck complained last week that the special election could cost the township as much as \$40,000. County Clerk Rita Fulginiti

in a July 24 letter to Cape May City Manager Bruce MacLeod informed him "the cost of holding a special election must be borne by the entity which has requested it."

She included an estimate of the costs associated with hosting a special election in

the Lower Cape May Regional School District at \$40,587.

Of that estimate, \$14,000 is to be paid to the municipal clerks for direct disbursement to poll workers. The estimate is based upon recent election orders and contract pricing, according to the letter.

Fulginiti also requested an advance payment in the amount of \$21,270.

"This amount represents 80 percent of the county's estimated cost of obtaining the necessary poll books, supplies, legal advertisements, ballots and postage. We will bill you

She advised that funds for the municipal clerks to pay the poll workers should also be set aside. The municipal clerks may have additional expenses for overtime, she noted.

See Election, Page A5

# Forecast 2034: Retirees likely will dominate entire county

By JACK FICHTER  
Cape May Star and Wave

The loss of casino jobs in Atlantic City may be a game changer for Cape May County over the next 20 years, with fewer full-time jobs available to residents. In addition, a projected sharp increase in flood-insurance rates for year-round residents and owners of second homes could change the demographic of that group.

The county's population dropped 4.5 percent between 2000 and 2010, according to the U.S. Census Bureau — the largest population loss in the state — and is projected to drop this decade.

In consideration of a number of seemingly negative factors for future growth, the Star and Wave sought the opinions of the county's leading economic forecaster — Richard Pernicaro of the Atlantic Cape Community College Center for Regional and Business Research — as well as state Sen. Jeff Van Drew and mayors of Cape May and Lower Township.

While decisions made today will affect Cape May County in 2034, there are other factors associated with being a tourist-driven area in a somewhat remote area of the state that cannot be changed. The experts offer their opinions of how our county will look in 20 years.

See Forecast 2034, page A2



# Group tries to raise funds to bring PBS show to Cape May

By JACK FICHTER  
Cape May Star and Wave

**CAPE MAY** — Local businesses are hoping to team up and raise \$50,000 to bring a PBS Television crew to the city for a half-hour episode of "Getting Away Together."

According to a letter from local merchants, a group of individuals from the Cape May community met with the producer of "Getting Away Together." The group of supporters consists of merchants, bankers, representatives of nonprofit arts and nature organizations, accommodations, real estate agents, county and city chambers of commerce and the city of Cape May.

"Getting Away Together" is broadcast on PBS throughout the U.S. and Canada. The series is also distributed internationally by a company in Toronto called Canamedia. Other locations that have been featured on the television series include Hilton Head Island, S.C., Lake Tahoe, the Outer Banks and 18 other destinations.

According to the letter, producer Jerry Smith, of Pine Ridge TV, "fell completely in love with our

See Getting Away Together, page A5

# Chugging along at Historic Cold Spring Village



Kim Royster/Special to the CAPE MAY STAR AND WAVE

At top, Greg's Train, engineered by Tim Laing, gives children a ride through Historic Cold Spring Village on July 26 during its Railroad Days weekend of events, which featured operating model railroads and merchandise. Above, members of the South Jersey Garden Railroad Society Bob Beare, Anita and Tom Brown, John Blait, Larry Grady and Al Schmidt. At right, Jaxson Miller and Ryan Anderson enjoy the model trains.



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