

Cape May Easter Fashion Stroll winners announced

CAPE MAY — The Cape May Civic Affairs Department has announced this year's winners of the Cape May Easter Fashion Stroll.

Girls 3 and younger: 1. Maya Moryakova, of Cape May; 2. Julianna Hurd, of Ivyland, Pa.; 3. Fiona Bailey, of Sewell.

Boys 3 and younger: 1. Gavin Bailey, of Sewell; 2. Cooper Dimaino, of North Cape May; 3. Ryan Lodge, of Hazlet.

Girls 4-6: 1. Julianna Polonco, of Cape May; 2. Madison Gomes, of Cape May Court House; 3. Danielle Rivicci, of East Brunswick.

Boys 4-6: 1. Carter Kuswendra, of Villas; 2. Johnny Jackson, of Wildwood Crest; 3. Gavin McGarrity, of Cape May Court House.

Girls 7-9: 1. Mahogany Kelly, of Villas; 2. Aubrey McGarrity, of Cape May Court House; 3. Jessica Hurd, of Cape May.

Boys 7-9: 1. Matteo Buccu, of Cape May; 2. Ryan and Justin Lakofsky, of Glen Mills, Pa.; 3. Max Schmittman, of Exton, Pa.

Girls 10-12: 1. Elise Heim, of Cape May; 2. Grace Simpson, of Nashville, Tenn.; 3. Amanda Moran, of Cape May.

Boys 10-12: 1. Wyatt Moor, of Philadelphia; 2. John Gattone, of Middletown, Del.; 3. Ronnie Pilla, of Williamstown.

Girls 13 and older: 1. Sabrina Kratochwill, of Mount Laurel; 2. Gianna Pilla, of Williamstown; 3. Madeline Ard, of Swedesboro.

Boys 13 and older: 1. Patrick Watter, of Jackson Township; 2. John Kratochwill, of Mount Laurel.

Best Dressed Lady: 1. Eileen Kratochwill, of Mount Laurel; 2. Mary McGovern, of Swedesboro; 3. Dolores Davis, of Cape May.

Best Dressed Man: 1. Joseph Cosden, of Bensalem, Pa.; 2. John Gattone, of Middletown, Del.; 3. Jeron Jackson, of Wildwood Crest.

Best Dressed Couple: 1. Lisa and Jeron Jackson, of Wildwood Crest; 2. John and Alice Fox, of Philadelphia; 3. Joseph and Catherine Cosden, of Bensalem, Pa.

Best Dressed Family: 1. Fox Family, of Philadelphia, Pa.; 2. Coppedge Family, of Media, Pa.; 3. Jackson Family, of Wildwood Crest.



Frank Scott/Special to the STAR AND WAVE
Jersey and Mahogany Kelly visit with the Easter Bunny during Cape May's annual Easter Fashion Stroll on April 5 on the Washington Street Mall.

Best Easter Bonnet: 1. Alexandra Moor, of Exton, Pa.; 2. Julianna Hurd, of Ivyland, Pa.; 3. Skylar Novak, of Philadelphia.

Wichterman

Continued from Page A1

ing on council at this time. She also offered the name of Diane Hutchinson, but said she was unable to contact her.

Pessagno said she had an open mind for candidates to fill the council seat.

Deputy Mayor Terri Swain said the new councilperson would be serving seven to eight months and her preference was to have someone who had previously served on council.

"The person that comes to mind with me would be Jack Wichterman," she said.

Councilman Shaine Meier said he was open to anybody who was willing to serve.

Mayor Edward Mahaney said City Council did not create the vacancy and 99 percent of the time; the public elects those to serve on council.

"I'd like to continue that," he said. "There's been very few times in my memory that someone has been appointed to serve on council."

The mayor said there has been a nationwide trend of fewer people willing to serve on governing bodies due to lack of time, the need for training and exposing their entire life and family to public scrutiny.

Mahaney said he sounded out some possible candidates for the vacant council seat but they indicated they did not wish to serve at this time. He noted council functioned in the past with four members.

Deanna Fiocca's council seat remained open after she resigned from council after moving to Lower Township. Mahaney expressed concerns about creating an unfair advantage for a candidate if they are appointed to serve on council.

The mayor said he agreed with Swain that Wichterman had an ongoing knowledge of issues.

Meier said he preferred to see the council vacancy filled. "I don't really mind who fills it as long as they have Cape May's best interest at heart," he said.

He said it seemed Wichterman was the only person interested in filling the seat. Meier said while he had differences in opinion with Wichterman, he was offering a motion to nominate him for council.

Pessagno said she had the same differences in opinion with Wichterman as Meier. She said the regional school funding formula issue is unresolved but advisers have told council they could wait until similar cases in northern New Jersey were decided.

"That might be something we could hold in abeyance until the new election because it was supposed to be decided by the newly elected council," Pessagno said. "I also believe Mr. Wichterman has said he would not run again. Therefore, we're not giving anyone an unfair advantage."

She suggested Wichterman agree to put the school issue on hold until the city has a "fully, newly elected council." Attorneys have advised council to wait for the outcome of litigation in North Jersey," Pessagno said as she offered a second to Meier's motion to nominate Wichterman.

During public comment, former Mayor Jerry Gaffney questioned when Wichterman would receive his oath of office since he was absent from the meeting. Monzo said there was no time limit to be sworn

into office under state statutes.

Gaffney said Wichterman was not present "to say yes or no," or to be sworn in, which did not seem logical or accurate. Monzo said Wichterman expressed an interest publicly to fill the seat. Wichterman told the Star and Wave for its March 7 edition he would serve if asked.

The Star and Wave spoke with Wichterman April 2 prior to his receiving his oath of office in the City Clerk's Office. He said he was looking forward to again serving on council.

"I'm not going to make any comments on the issues right now until I get back into it," he said. "For an example, with (former Police Chief Robert Sheehan), I'm not going to make any comments whatsoever until I read all the information that's available and find out exactly what went on."

"I was apprised of this back in probably November when I was still on the council," continued Wichterman.

Concerning holding off on any action on the school funding issues as suggested by Pessagno, he said he would speak with the city's special attorneys for the litigation, Vito Gagliardi and Kerri Wright, shortly.

Wichterman said he had spoken with Wright three weeks ago and she explained they were waiting for a decision from another case before Cape May proceeds any further.

"Hopefully this thing will be all settled by the time I get off the council in November," he said. "We are right where we have to be right now is what it amounts to."

Wichterman said he had received oaths of office seven times in his lifetime.

LTMUA to transfer \$205,000 to Lower Township

Continued from Page A1

the MUA to protect the work zones during construction, repair and maintenance projects. This is not done now unless the MUA pays the township. Further, Lower Township police will provide a Class II officer to be present at all public meetings of the MUA.

The agreement includes police increasing patrols on the MUA property. This will require the police to enter the property through the gates, not just check the outside of the fencing. Commissioners noted that the property has been subject to vandalism and illegal use by dirt bikers and had considered hiring private security.

The township will assist the MUA in applying for grants through the use of the Township Grants Coordinator. This will be more successful than the MUA doing it, according to O'Connor. In addition the township Department of Public Works will continue to provide asphalt restoration and repairs for minor projects, maintenance and repair.

The township Construction Code office will provide information to the MUA about payment of connection fees for water and sewer permits issued. It will also protect the MUA's underground piping systems. Some of these services would cost the commission more if not available through shared services, ac-

ording to O'Connor.

"Council tried to take us over last year. This is a way to work with the council. This is a one-year thing," O'Connor said. "The MUA has to defend itself. If the township took over the rates would skyrocket. The council and the commission think this is the best way to go."

MUA Chief Financial Officer, Steve Testa, reported that the formal audit is completed. In an overview he stated that the audit reported operating revenues of \$8.2 million for 2014. Operating expenses were \$5.9 million. The operating income was \$2.3 million. The year ended with a net position of \$30,745,000 up from \$27,316,000 in 2013. Of that 2014 figure, \$8.1 million is in non-restricted funds. In 2015 \$2.128 million of that has been designated for capital improvements.

The water operation realized a net income \$1,078,000. The sewer operation had a net income of \$971,000. Revenues exceeded the budgeted amounts and expenses

were less than the budgeted amounts in both operations. The complete report will be posted on the MUA web site as required by law.

"There are no findings or recommendations (on the audit). Therefore the authority is not required to prepare or file a corrective action plan. In other words, the authority did a very good job this year," Testa said.

After approval of the report, Mike Chapman, new MUA executive director, said that an MUA works hand-in-hand with the township it is a component of the township which guarantees its payments and bonds. He was pleased to see that the audit report was more than satisfactory.

In further comments by Chapman, he referred to the authority's charter being included in the audit report. Copies of the charter were available at the meeting. O'Connor read the charter as part of the resolution to transfer \$205,000 to the township. The document states: "Under the rules and regulations passed by the State Legislature, municipal and county governments are able to create entities such as a Municipal Utilities Authority. These utilities are created to provide specific services, examples of which include

providing electric, water and sewer and solid waste services."

It also states that a law was enacted in 2004 by the state senate and general assembly that permits local authorities to transfer funds from their undesignated funds balance to the municipality or county that created the authority. The amount is not to exceed 5% of the annual costs of operation of the authority. This action is common among municipal and county agencies, according to the document.

The Notes to Financial Statements states the charter guidelines. The Township of Lower Municipal Utilities Authority (LTMUA) was created in 1968 for the purpose of acquiring, constructing, maintaining and operating water facilities for and for accumulating supplying and distributing water. It also constructs, maintains and is improving operating sewerage facilities for collecting, treating, purifying and disposing of sewage and other wastes.

"It is a public body corporate and politic created by virtue of an ordinance of the Township of Lower entitled 'Ordinance creating the Township of Lower Municipal Utilities Authority,' adopted by its governing body on July 24, 1968... Set forth in Section 2100 of

the Government Accounting of Standards Board (GASB) the authority is a component of the township," the charter further states.

This is based on the following criterion. The organization is legally separate meaning it can be sued in its own name. The primary government holds the corporate powers of the organization. The primary government appoints a voting majority of the organization's board. The primary government is able to impose its will on the organization. The organization has the potential to impose a financial benefit/burden on the primary government. And lastly, there is a fiscal dependency by the organization on the primary government.

In other reports to the commission, Chris Eaton, representing Remington Vernick and Walberg Engineers, gave a report on the progress of two projects. The East Villas water connection project is in the final step before approval. That should come in 30 days, he said. The Wissahickon Avenue project on Schellengers Landing has been expanded because of a break in the pipe.

Chapman reported that he was given a tour of the facilities by Superintendent Craig Loper. He said Loper showed him where the MUA is headed with improvements to the infrastructure of the facilities. Chapman noted that most of the pump stations are of "1960s vintage." The proposed capital improvements will be on the web site.

A Healthy Smile

THAT WILL LAST A LIFETIME!

- Same day emergency appointments
- Extended after-hours care available
- Convenient scheduling – no double booking
- Free transportation to and from appointments
- Extensively and thoroughly trained staff
- State-of-the-art office and technology

JERSEY CHOICE
TOP DENTISTS
2014
New Jersey Monthly

—741 Washington Street • Cape May, NJ 08204—

LOUIS J. FELDMAN, DDS

EXCEPTIONAL GENERAL DENTISTRY
609.884.4260 • WWW.DRLOUISFELDMAN.COM

FRANK THEATRES

APR. 10th THRU APR. 16th

RIO STADIUM 12

3801 Rt. 9 South #1 • Rio Grande, NJ 08242
Additional Pricing for 3D Features
24 Hour Movie Hotline 609-889-4799

** The Longest Ride PG-13 12:10, 3:30, 7:10, 9:55
7:00, 8:00, 10:00

** Furious 7 PG-13 11:00, 1:00, 2:00, 4:00, 5:00, 9:10, [9:40]

2D Home PG-13 11:20, 1:50, 1:40, 4:20, 4:50, 6:50, 9:10, [9:40]

3D Home PG [2:20, 7:20]

** Paul Blart: Mall Cop 2 PG (7:00, 9:20) Thursday Premier

Get Hard R 11:40, 2:10, 4:40, 7:40, 9:55

The Divergent Series: Insurgent PG-13 11:10, 1:50, 4:30, [7:30, 10:05]

** Unfriended R (8:00, 10:00) Thursday Premier

Cinderella PG 11:00, 1:30, 4:10, 6:40, 9:20

** No Passes • [] Fri-Wed • [] Thurs

VALENTINO'S

COINS, MILITARY & MORE

"Cape May County's Most Intriguing Coin Gallery"

WE BUY AND SELL

RARE COINS • ESTATE JEWELRY • ANTIQUES
MILITARY & HISTORICAL MEMORABILIA

609-889-1165

WWW.COINSMILITARYANDMORE.COM

Washington Commons • 315 Ocean St. #15 • Cape May, NJ

AART's
Cape May Taxi
www.capemaytaxi.com

We're on your side

CALL 898-RIDE (898-7433)

- safe and reliable
- airports
- All local communities
- local and distance
- clean, comfortable
- child safety seats

Brighton.

Worldly Fashionista

You're off and running... stylishly.

SeaWeeds By the Sea

Open Daily from 10am • 609-898-9300 • Washington Common Shops • Cape May, NJ

LUCKY BONES

BACKWATER GRILLE

LUNCH & DINNER DAILY FROM 11:30AM

Coldest Beer in Cape May!

30 ON TAP

"You're guaranteed a good time — and good food — at this 'new' Cape May classic. No lucky charms needed."

— NJ Monthly 12/15/14

Featuring All Natural ORGANIC BEEF & CHICKEN PLUS! Healthy Kids Menu

BEST GLUTEN FREE MENU AT THE SHORE

THIN CRUST BRICK OVEN PIZZA

1200 RT. 109 SOUTH CAPE MAY, NJ • 609-884-BONE (2663) • WWW.LUCKYBONESGRILLE.COM