

SERVING AMERICA'S NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK CITY

THURSDAY, September 9, 2010

City won't consider loan to save Solarium

SOS group was looking to city for \$350,000

By CHRISTOPHER SOUTH Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY – City Manager Bruce MacLeod said the city and city council support the idea of a maritime museum in Cape May, but they would not consider loaning the money to a group formed to save the Solarium as a museum and education center.

'The worst thing this council could do is approve (a loan) on a by gosh and by wow.'

– Deputy Mayor Jack Wichterman

The Save Our Solarium speaking on behalf of the group, the organization would partner with the Nature Center of Cape May, using their facilities and staff for (SOS) group proposed using the Solarium for a maritime museum they are now calling the Cape May Maritime Heritage Foundation and education functions. But they Education Center. According first needed to acquire from to Kevin Maloney, who was the city the Solarium, the

Delaware Avenue property between the Nature Center and the Rutgers Marine Center, and the \$350,000 loan.

On Tuesday, the group asked city council to sell them the Solarium, which is scheduled for demolition, for the token sum of \$1. They also asked the city to lease them for \$1 per year two 50x125 lots on Delaware Avenue where the Solarium could be relocated. Finally, they asked for \$350,000, of which \$107,000 is needed to move the Solarium, \$73,000 for permits, plans and site

preparation, and \$141,000 to renovate the Solarium and set up the heritage foundation and education center.

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Council went into closed session after Tuesday's work session meeting, and according to MacLeod the governing body reached two conclusions: one was they supported the idea of creating a maritime museum in Cape May, and the other was they could not agree to finance the project.

"We very much encourage this group to form and contin

Please see Loan, page A2

FAN-ECM wants a probe of city's letter to voters

By CHRISTOPHER SOUTH Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY – A group called Friends and Neighbors of East Cape May (FAN-ECM) formed to combat the city decision to extended the metered parking along Beach Avenue, has called for a probe of a letter asking voters to go to the polls, yesterday.

According to James A. Testa, a spokesman for the FAN-ECM group, City Manager Bruce MacLeod signed an undated letter set to voters urging them to vote on a referendum on two parking related ordinances. One would expand the area now being metered to include Beach Avenue from Madison to Wilmington Ave, where there are not presently parking meters. The second was to create back-in angled parking along Beach Avenue, which would create additional parking spaces.

According to a letter penned on behalf of FAN-ECM, there should be an inquiry regarding the letter. "We'll be asking for a review of the circumstances surrounding this so-called 'get out the vote' letter regarding legality and ethics issues as they involve city officials. Because the matters

by the previous council, we think that the inquiry should be conducted by an inde-pendent counsel under the direct supervision of Deputy Mayor Jack Wichterman and remaining newly elected Council members, Deanna Fiocca and Bill Murray,"

concern ordinances passed

Testa said. The FAN-ECM letter went on to say, "It's one thing to be civic minded and urge the public's exercise of voting rights generally and quite another to do so aiming to tip the voting balance when an ordinance is the subject of a vote the city tried to stop. We should remember the current city leadership has a political stake in the matter, and substantial taxpayer funds and city employees may have been used in the process.

Testa said the process was a waste of municipal resources. He said he would not have objected if supporters of the ordinances had contributed their personal money to a get out the vote effort, but he really questions the legality and the ethics of using public money and employees.



Christopher South/Cape May Star and Wave

Cape May Firefighters Alex Coulter, left, and Mike Eck were 24 when they were called upon to help at the site of the World Trade Center attack on Sept. 11, 2001. They spent three days working at the site. Coulter and Eck will take part in a 9/11 Memorial Ceremony, Saturday, at 6:25 p.m. at the Cove.

Cape May firefighers were at ground zero on Sept. 11

Surfers deal with Earl, **BI**

SPORTS

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INSIDE

Fluke season is over - what's next? BI

CAPE MAY

Community Events, see page A6

ARTS

Listings on page AII

SEPTEMBER 2010							
	T IDE TABLE						
	HIGH		LOW				
	am	pm	am	pm			
9/9	9:09	9:28	2:44	3:07			
9/10	9:58	10:18	3:30	4:00			
9/11	10:48	11:08	4:17	4:55			
9/12	11:40		5:06	5:51			
9/13	12:02	12:35	5:58	6:51			
9/14	1:00	1:35	6:54	7:54			

9/15 2:05	2:40	7:55	9:00
Last Quart	9/1,30		
New Moo	9/8		
1st Quarte	9/15		
Full Moon	9/23		
Apogee	9/21		
Perigee	9/8		

"Did they get an opinion in respect to this? There are codes of conduct and I would

Please see Probe, page A3

Bourbon Street comes to town

By JOHN ALVAREZ Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY - It is widely known when people speak of New Orleans, some will think of Bourbon Street, the most historic traditional jazz place to be in the country. It's also widely known when people speak of Mardi Gras; they see it as a party held in February right before Lent. However, to the members of the Cape May Traditional Jazz Society (CMTJS) historic traditional jazz is not known enough. So the members have a concept of a jazz festival where they can bring New Orleans to Cape May. Or, to be more accurate, they wish to bring Bourbon Street to Beach Avenue for a good cause.

On Sept. 17, three different venues, Carney's Cabana's and The Marquis de Lafayette Hotel will be hosting a different New Orleans style Dixieland band. The bands featured are the Atlantic City Jazz Band performing at

Cabana's from 7-10 pm, the Al Harrison Dixieland Band performing at Carney's 9-11 pm and the Barbone Street Jazz Band, which will per-form at the Marquis de Lafayette from 7-10 pm. There will be a \$20 ticket price for admission to hear the music at all three venues and patrons will be able to go from one place to another as long as they have their pass. When the festival is over, patrons can go to the Merion Inn's "After Glo Party" where members of all the bands are invited to jam with George Mesterhazy and friends from 10:00 pm till whenever with they get too tired to play.

The brain child, or in this case, children for this event are Bob Ashman, the president of the CMTJS, Charlie Logeman, vice president of CMTJS, on air host of the radio show "Crossroads" as well as the producer of a local interest show called "What's Going On" and Bernadette Matthews, executive director of Center for Community Arts (CCA) and

general manager of WCFA-LP101.5, the radio station for CCA and where you can hear both of Logeman's radio shows.

There are two reasons why CMTJS and CCA are sponsoring a festival like this. One, the members have a desire to keep this music alive. "We have several hundred members of the CMTJS in this area who love this style of music. And though we sponsor monthly Sunday afternoon concerts down at the VFW in West Cape May our members have been asking for something like this event for awhile now. We feel there was never a festival like this in Cape May before."

Second, with the way the economy is so bad today, Ashman, Logeman and Matthews felt the need to help the Community Food Bank of New Jersey. This idea came from Logeman, who had a previous contact with Margie Barham, the current director of the Food

Please see Street, pg. A2

By CHRISTOPHER SOUTH Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY – A handful of Cape May firefighters responded to the rescue and recovery effort after foreign extremists commandeered two airliners and flew them into the World Trade Center, Sept. 1, 2001.

Two of them, Mike Eck and Alex Coulter, both 24 at the time, arrived in the early hours of Sept. 12, staying for searching days, three through a mountain of debris

looking for survivors or any remains from the terrorist attack.

Cape May Fire Chief Jerry Inderwies went up with an ambulance crew including former chief Bruce Bieber and the late Dave Halbruner. They arrive two days after the attack and were there for 24.

"Mike and Alex were there the night of 9/11, they left in the afternoon when they were into more of an emergency basis - they hadn't had control of the scene yet, there were still buildings in danger of collapsing," Inderwies said.

Eck and Coulter responded to Cape May County's call for emergency personnel to volunteer at the site of the World Trade Center attack in New York.

"Initially Cape May County put out the request for an EMS task force. They were looking for guys with extrica-tion experience," Eck said. "We got permission from the

Please see Zero, page A11

CCA receives \$40k from Lowe's

By CHRISTOPHER SOUTH Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY - The Center for Community Arts was one of 10 schools to share in \$500,000 donated by Lowe's Charitable and Education Foundation for the rehabilitation of historic schools.

According to executive Bernadette director Matthews, CCA received \$40,000 for the Franklin Street School Rehabilitation project. Located next to the Cape May Fire Station on Franklin Street, the Franklin Street School was built as a segregated school for African American children. The school has been designated as a State Historic Site since 1997, and is currently being leased from the city by CCA. Matthews said CCA applied for a \$50,000 grant from



Special to the Cape May Star and Wave

CCA Trustees, left to right, Emily Dempsey, Gail Pierson, Milt Edelman, CCA Executive Director Bernadette Matthews and Trustee David Mackenzie in front of the Franklin Street School.

but with matching grant funds it comes to \$80,000, which is approximately the amount needed to complete

Lowe's and received \$40,000, Phase II of the restoration project.

Please see CCA, page A3

