



HOUSE OF THE WEEK
Real Estate Resource



IRISH POTATOES, LIVE MUSIC AND GREEN BEER

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Jack Fichter/CAPE MAY STAR AND WAVE

Time to get your green on

The Cape-Atlantic Police and Fire Irish Pipe Brigade participated in parades in North Wildwood and Sea Isle City on March 11 and will appear at Victoria Manor Nursing Home, the Red Brick Tavern, the C-View and 5 West on St. Patrick's Day. See our Waypoints section for more Irish delights.

Dune planned for Diamond Beach

By JACK FICHTER
Cape May Star and Wave

DIAMOND BEACH — The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is in the engineering and design phase of a project that will build a dune on the beaches from Hereford Inlet to Cape May Inlet, including Diamond Beach and Wildwood Crest. While those beaches are

wide, the Army Corps is constructing the dune to provide storm protection, according to spokesman Steve Rochette. He said construction would not begin until 2018.

Rochette said the dune would be constructed by moving sand already on the beach, known as backpassing, rather than bringing in sand offshore from a

dredge. He said the dune would be built to an elevation of 16 feet, not a height above an existing bulkhead or boardwalk.

Lower Township Planning Director Bill Galestock said the elevation of the current dune at Seapointe Village condominiums is about 12 to 13 feet, so the Army Corps would add sand to build it

up an additional 3 to 4 feet in height.

He noted dunes exist south of Seapointe Village but there is not much in the way of dunes to the north. Hotel Icona appears to have little or no dune. Galestock said the township has met with homeowners in Seapointe Village and their

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Cape May appoints new clerk, deputy

By JACK FICHTER
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY — Patricia Harbora has been appointed city clerk and Erin Burke deputy city clerk in Cape May.

During a meeting March 7, City Council voted unanimously to fill the po-

sitions with Harbora and Burke. County Clerk Rita Fulginiti administered the oaths of office.

Harbora, the city's former deputy clerk, has been serving as clerk since the retirement of Louis Cummiskey in December. Burke has been serving as an assistant to

the city's planning and zoning boards.

Deputy Mayor Shaine Meier said City Council spent a lot of time in interviews and discussion to fill the positions.

Harbora thanked the mayor and council for her appointment. She promised to serve the residents

and visitors of the city in every way possible.

Burke said she could not wait to get started in her new position. Interim City Manager Neil Young said Burke would be working in both the clerk's office and construction office until her replacement is found.



Jack Fichter/CAPE MAY STAR AND WAVE

Patricia Harbora, second from left, receives the oath of office as city clerk from County Clerk Rita Fulginiti.



Jack Fichter/CAPE MAY STAR AND WAVE

Erin Burke receives the oath of office as deputy clerk while her husband, CPO First Class Edward Burke, holds the Bible.

Services are available to help addicts, their families

CURE offers Helping, Healing and Hoping

By KRISTEN KELLEHER
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY COURT HOUSE — Addiction struggles are often hidden.

As a result, its prevalence surprises even those who live nearby and those who struggle with it do so with limited, if any, support.

Pastor Charlie Harrah, of the Lighthouse Church in Cape May Court House, knew there was a local problem when the church held an interest meeting three years ago to do something about opioid abuse in the community. He expected about 20 people to show up but was surprised when 70 people arrived for the meeting, which grew into Christians United for Recovery, or CURE, an addiction recovery ministry with nearly a dozen support groups and teams of volunteers.

At that meeting, three women told stories of how



addiction impacted their lives. Several index cards were passed out to share ideas for what to do.

"I was overwhelmed by the responses," Harrah said.

He asked Robin Hetherington, now CURE's administrator, to take the cards, spread them on a table and pray over them. Then she got to work sorting through them.

When she was done, she had three piles. These piles became the three aspects of CURE: helping, healing and hoping.

The helping part of CURE

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Upper Twp. group puts focus on families, unity

By KRISTEN KELLEHER
Cape May Star and Wave

SEAVILLE — Addiction can seem like an individual battle, an individual's struggle to control a disease that can keep them in a physical and psychological stronghold. But it is more than that.

Erick Giunta, a founder of Helping Families Find Hope support group, knows that "addiction is very much a family illness."

In Upper Township, a new support group has formed to help families heal and individuals take steps toward sobriety.

The group meets at 7 p.m. Wednesdays at Seaville United Methodist Church, 3100 Shore Road in Seaville.

It is hosted by Upper Cape Ministerium and has met for the last month and a half.

The group was born from Giunta's desire to help the community.

He described himself as a person in long-term recovery and said he has been active for about six years "trying to combat this disease and try to help people."

Giunta currently works for Advanced Recovery Systems treatment centers.

The idea for the group, however, came when Giunta had a different position.

He said he previously worked with a house-lifting company. Through this job, he met a man on the church's board.

"They were constantly thinking about what they could do to give back to the community," Giunta said. "At one point, I mentioned to him a really good way would be to do something for families who have loved ones struggling with alcohol and drug addiction."

They met and decided a weekly group is the best way to help.

"It's a great opportunity for parents to come, people going through addiction, to come and learn about the disease and understand positive boundaries and learn about how to get help for themselves," he said.

According to the 2015 National Survey on Drug Use and Health, about 20.8 million people ages 12 or older had a substance use disorder related to alcohol and illicit drugs in the last year of the survey.

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