

# 'Sweet Charity' opening tonight at LCMR theater

ERMA - The students of Lower Cape May Regional High School will present the perennial audience pleaser, Sweet Charity, on the evenings of March 13-15 at 8 p.m. and Sunday afternoon, March 16 at 2 p.m. in the Paul W. Schmidchen Theatre at Lower Cape May Regional on Route 9 in Erma.

With book by Neil Simon, music by Cy Coleman and lyrics by Dorothy Fields, and based on an original screenplay by Federico Fellini, Tullio Pinelli and Ennio Plaiano, Sweet Charity tells the familiar story of Charity Hope Valentine, a hostess at New York's Fandango Ballroom, whose heart is broken weekly by some Johnny-Come-Lately who manages a formidable tug on her heart

strings and then skips out leaving her to pick up the pieces.

The time is the late 1960s, a time of social and political upheaval, and Charity's journey leads her to posh New York supper clubs, the arms of Italian movie heartthrob, Vittorio Vidal and eventually to sharing an elevator with accountant Oscar Lindquist where they get stuck between floors.

Unexpectedly, Charity finds her heart's desire in this predictable, stable and safe number cruncher.

Together, they roam the New York tundra, religious revivals in worn-out car garages, rides on the parachute drop at Coney Island, secret late night trysts at pizza parlors and eventually

Central Park.

Charity's girlfriends, Nickie and Helene, have seen all this before and caution her on the damage losing her heart once again is likely to cause; as always, their works fall deaf on Charity's ears, and she predictably follows her heart this time with surprising results.

In 1981 Michelle March, Marcia Arrington, Ruthann Hyson, Christine Back, Sylvia Guillod, Sharon Luck, Ruth Ann Kanady, Bob Scales, Carl Brown, Lisa Heminway, Sandy Moyer, Dominick Alliano, Eric Simmons, Kerry Axelsson and a gaggle of high-spirited high school students brought Sweet Charity to the Jersey Cape for the first time; this year's company and production promises

the same dazzle, verve and élan as its predecessor.

Leading the company are Kathryn Perez and Bethaney Titterence sharing the role of Charity, Cortnee Halbruner and Kayleigh LaMaina as fellow hostesses Nickie and Helene; Andrew Wampler as the shirt-pocket-protected accountant Oscar Lindquist, Pat Popialek and French exchange student Charline Grenet as foreign cinema star Vittorio Vidal and his on-again/off-again significant other Ursula; Anthony George as Pastor Daddy Brubeck, and Max Moran as the Fandango ballroom's steely-eyed proprietor, Herman.

Charity's friends at the Fandango are played by Rebecca Crossan, Bobbi

Beers, Lindsay Vendetta, Liz Brown, Alaina Fox, and Sarah Peck.

The Singing and Dancing Chorus is comprised of Rebecca Ackley, Emily Adams, Amanda Adesso, Susie Booth, Lauren Burke, Kaitlyn Corkery, Krystle Cranmer, Trevor Crookston, Victoria DeFrancesco, Megan Dougllass, Samantha Dougllass, Jacklyn Fazio, Dillon Gamache, Alexandra Gibbons, Maureen Hughes, Randi Isenhart, Kelsey James, Joyce Kauffman, Delsey Keech-Sosna, Adam Kleinschmidt, Heather Lesko, Monty LoSasso, Veronica Mahoney, Anne Marie McClintock, Jamie McDowell, Erin McGloin, Louise McKenna, Stephanie Moulder, Erin Pierce,

Destanie Pickin, Craig Pilczuk II, Daniela Powter, Allison Priole, Ran Protasi, Alexis Ramos, Daniela Rodgers, Noelle Roseman, Sarah Schifflbein, Kate Smith, Victoria Stackhouse, Stephanie Steelman, Chauncey Vasser, Casey Williamson, Justin Williamson and Chelsea Wilson.

General admission is \$10 and reservations may be made by calling 884-3475 during the school day.

Sweet Charity is produced and directed by Paul J. Mathis through special arrangement with Tams-Witmark Music Library, New York.

(Editor's note: Please see Sweet Charity preview photos on Page B1 and B2.)

## Hotel

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ney representing neighbors SPE Labrusciano LLC, Mark and John Lucas, and the Edythe C. Mitchell Trust, argued that the industry standard for national motel chains did not fit the West Cape May model. Furthermore, he said the definition was so broad any bed and breakfast in town could be classified as a hotel.

Board members indicated they were uncomfortable and uncertain about making the decision, but Brock advised them it was within their purview to make an interpretation as to whether the Wilbraham Mansion was a hotel or a guesthouse. Ultimately the board voted 7-0 that the Wilbraham was a hotel, and no density variance

was needed.

The board then granted relief from the parking requirement of one space per unit. The Wilbraham Mansion currently has 10 units and only three parking spaces. The plan is to have 13 new parking spaces, which would not eliminate the non-conformity, but would reduce it by one space. The board

agreed to grant the parking relief, despite neighbors' concerns about the lack of parking in the area. Five of the neighbors who attended the meeting talked about the difficulty in finding parking in front of their homes, particularly on weekends or when there were events in Wilbraham Park. The neighbors were concerned that

weddings or other events hosted in Wilbraham Mansion's new tea room would exacerbate the problem. The parking waiver was granted with the stipulation that the tea room would have no more seats than units (22) and no events would be held without first seeking a variance.

Carnes also sought relief

from the buffer requirement of five feet between his property and adjoining properties on York Ave. Carnes sought a two foot buffer, but an agreement was reached to provide the full, five-foot buffer. Mayor Pam Kaithern asked for more substantial vegetation in the buffer to afford the neighbors more privacy from the upper floors of the hotel.

## Mayor

Continued from page A1

summer time" she said. Kaithern asked how the state could cut aid to towns with low winter populations when in the summer the population explodes, and those people require the same services as the winter population. Kaithern said if Cape May, Cape May Point and West Cape May merged their com-

bined population would not be over 10,000. The only alternative would be to merge with Lower Township. She said that would not guarantee efficiency or savings.

"It's up to us to work together at this point...small towns united. Each community has its own special aspects, and this is a call to arms. We have

to be proactive. People have to send letters, make phone calls to the upper levels of government, to the governor, their assemblymen and state senator. All this talk about property tax reduction, are all these laws really necessary? We now have to do more with less, and do with less," she said.

"The governor said pigs would fly before we would see significant state cuts. The pigs are flying now," Kaithern said.

She said Gov. Jon Corzine has been very effective in getting people up in arms and making them pay attention.

Kaithern said it's not business as usual in the state and

it can't be. But she said the state also can't take arbitrary numbers and decide that is how it is going to be.

"People have to pay attention to this now and voice their concerns to their state representatives. This is directly in their pocket," she said.

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## HPC

Continued from page A1

in the Historic District but not in the survey of historic places. The plan is to demolish the old 66-room hotel and construct a new hotel with only 54 units; however the number of bedrooms would increase from 83 to 97.

Montano said Coachman Holdings would operate the old Coachman Motor Inn during the summer of 2008, and demolition is expected to take place in early fall. Once construction begins it is expected to take from 12 to 16 months

to complete the project. Montano, representing Congress Hall Operating Company, also received approval from the HPC for beach cabanas, which are the same fabric as last year, but which are reduced in height

from 12 feet down to eight, per the new ordinance.

Approval was also given for concrete pavers to replace poured concrete under the veranda. Montano said the original wood flooring was replaced with pavers in the

1920s, and pavers were replaced with poured concrete during a 2002 renovation. She said this year the goal was to restore the veranda to its 1920s condition, replacing some cracked and sunken concrete with pavers.

**WWFM/WWCJ 89.1 WISHES TO EXTEND AN APOLOGY TO ALL OUR MEMBERS OF THE CAPE MAY COUNTY AREA WHO RECEIVED NUMEROUS PLEDGE LETTERS.**

**WE HAD A COMPUTER GLITCH AND IT SENT MULTIPLE MAILINGS TO EACH INDIVIDUAL.**

**AGAIN APOLOGIES FOR ANY INCONVIENCE.**

**PETER FRETWELL  
 WWFM/WWCJ 89.1**

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