

# Cats

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Schatz was party to the lawsuit. Residents Bob Boyd and Dennis Crowley asked if it was certain the city was going to get beach replenishment funding under the agreement. Favre said that was the case. Boyd said the only reason

cats could reside on the beach was because there was a beach restoration project. "The nesting areas didn't exist until there was beach restoration," he said. Boyd said the beach restoration project was a matter of public safety.

City council voted 3-0 to pass the resolution approving the Beach Management Plan. Mayor Jerry Inderwies was on vacation, and Councilman David Craig was attending a funeral for a family member.

# Patios

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and if they found it acceptable. Corea said the idea had been presented to a subcommittee of the Mall Merchants Association, and they were in agreement; but the city did not contact all the patio users. Kurkowski asked if there should not be two tiers, one for liquor license owners and one for non-license holders,

as the previous proposal required. Corea said he had no direct input from any of the business owners with regard to fee tiers. Councilwoman Linda Steenrod said she would like to hear from mall business owners to learn if they would be paying more or less under the new system.

Deputy Mayor Niels Favre said he would prefer council pull all the fees out of the ordinance and introduce them in a separate fee ordinance at a later date. However, the rules for patio permits could be adopted at the next council meeting. The ordinance was passed as amended by a 3-0 vote.

# Lyle

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"There is a major concern...when we close Lyle Lane, we don't clear out the cars. I'm concerned about people backing out among people who are sitting. That's a blueprint for disaster," she said.

Sorantino said she would support a recommendation by Deputy Mayor Niels Favre to paint a clearly marked crosswalk between the mall near Casale's Shoes and the Rotary Park Gazebo. Councilman David

Kurkowski asked if rerouting traffic bound for West Cape May down Broad Street would help ease congestion near the mall. Sorantino said most of the people coming down Lafayette were going to the mall.

# CM gets grant to improve ramps

By CHRISTOPHER SOUTH  
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY - At Tuesday's city council work session, Cape May city manager Lou Corea announced the receipt

of a \$383,231 Small Cities Grant, which will be used for ADA improvements along the beachfront. The grant, awarded from the Department of Community Affairs, will allow the city to install 10

modular walkways, three ADA ramps on the Promenade, and up to 22 ADA ramps at beach entrances along Beach Avenue. Corea said the existing ramps are not ADA compliant, and the new ramps will meet ADA requirements. The city also plans to buy more beach wheel chairs. "With this Small Cities Grant the city can continue to enhance its abilities to allow those individuals with ADA requirement to utilize the city's fine beaches," Corea said.



Jennifer Kopp/Cape May Star and Wave

## Showing solidarity

Who says dogs hate cats? During Tuesday's rally to save Cape May's feral cats, this little pooch showed up in defense of his furry friends. After all, he likes the beach, too!

# Troops

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Afghani people, and thanking the women for their gift of phone cards.

"Once again, thank you for giving the people on my medical training team some free minutes to share our hearts with loved ones back in the USA," he wrote. "We love our country and you."

Air Force Technical Sergeant Robert Mills also sent a note thanking the women's group. He said most of his medical training team received one or two of the cards when they arrived in Kabul.

"The phone cards came in very handy in keeping touch with our friends and families," he said.

Halbruner said the Tabernacle United Methodist Women try to have a project each year around Christmas. For the past two years they decided to collect phone cards from their members and send them to servicemen and women.

"It just feels better when you can talk to someone rather than if you just get a letter," she said.

Halbruner said she found 125-minute cards being sold in a pack of seven for \$25, but each woman went out and bought her own cards. Additionally, there were two people who were not members of the group who donated \$25 to buy cards.

The women were told to purchase AT&T phone cards

and they put them in envelopes labeled with Tabernacle United Methodist Women and the address. The first year the women sent 90 phone cards and this past Christmas season they sent 70. They had no idea where the cards would end up, but this year they started getting more letters, some with photographs, thanking them for the phone cards.

"It meant so much we wanted to share them with people," Halbruner said. "We posted them on the backboard of the church."

Halbruner said she believes people should care about those who join the military and serve their country in a foreign land. She said they thought it would be nice to provide a way service members could talk to their husbands, wives and children.

She said other community groups could also send phone cards.

"There are a lot of groups around our community that could do this," she said.

The women's group got the names of three individuals from the letters and planned to send them another card. She said they would probably send more cards at Christmas time, and they would start collecting the cards in November to go out Dec. 1 in order to get on a plane to be overseas by Christmas.

Halbruner said she turned to Skip Hoffman to get the phone cards to service mem-

bers. Hoffman said he worked with Command Sergeant Major (Ret.) Michael Hughes, who got the cards to the Family Assistance Program run by the Air National Guard/Army National Guard.

Hoffman said he and Hughes belong to the 157th Field Artillery Battalion Association. The 157th, he said, was decommissioned and there is a group of guys who were in the unit who kept the organization going as a breakfast club.

Hoffman said he and Halbruner have known each other since high school, and Halbruner asked him if he could help get cards to the military.

"We meet once a month as a committee for the graduating classes of the early 50s, and we just happened to talk about one of the projects we do. Shirley said they could collect phone cards and asked if we could get them to the military," he said.

He turned the cards over to Hughes and since they received the letters they knew the cards were being dispersed.

"Now we know where they end up," he said.

Hoffman said there are going to be 3,000 more troops being deployed in the future from the state of New Jersey, and they would continue their support of the military until they come home.

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BY WAYNE ROOP

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15	56°	32°	
16	41°	26°	
17	51°	25°	
18	54°	38°	.22"
19	48°	32°	
20	37°	24°	.13/.2.3"
21	32°	23°	
22	39°	29°	.44/1.0"
23	39°	32°	
24	40°	27°	

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